

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT  
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE  
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 13-206

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project Title:** GMU 5B and 6A Dirt Tank Renovation

**Region and Game Management Unit:** Region 2, GMU 5B and 6A

**Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):**  
 • Flagstaff/Williams HPC

**Was the project presented to the LHPC?**  
 YES[] NO[x]

**Has this project been submitted in previous years?** YES[] NO[x]  
**If Yes, was it funded?** YES[] NO[] → **Funded HPC Project #(s):**

**Project Type:** Renovation of existing dirt tanks on Apache Maid Allotment

**Brief Project Summary:** Many of the water sources in GMU 5B and 6A include dirt tanks. On Forest Service land, many of these tanks have become silted in over the years and only provide water for a short duration. This project would increase water storage in 6 dirt tanks on the Apache Maid Allotment. The availability of dependable water will help evenly distribute the elk and mule deer populations helping ensure adequate distribution of forage use by wildlife.

**Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:** Elk, Mule Deer

**Implementation Schedule** (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date:  
 Summer 2014

Project End Date:  
 Summer 2017

**Environmental Compliance:**

NEPA Completed: Yes[x] No[] N/A[]

Projected Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

Yes[] No[] N/A[x]

Projected Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A[]

To be Completed by: Erin Brown

Projected Completion Date: Spring 2014

**PROJECT FUNDING**

**Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:** \$ 8,700

**Cost Share or Matching Funds:** \$ 1,600

**Total Project Costs:** \$ 10,300

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

**Applicant** (please print):  
 Erin Brown

**Address:**  
 3500 S. Lake Mary Road  
 Flagstaff, AZ 86001

**E-mail:**  
[EBrown@azgfd.gov](mailto:EBrown@azgfd.gov)

**Telephone:** 928-606-6822

**Date:**

**AGFD Contact and Phone No.** (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):  
 NA

**Project has been coordinated with:**

**NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:**

The Apache Maid allotment contains areas of ponderosa pine forests and pinyon/juniper forests. Most of the available water in the area can be found in dirt tanks scattered throughout the allotment. Dirt tanks are an inexpensive way to distribute water throughout an area; however, the tanks require periodic maintenance. Reliable surface water is an issue in some areas of the Allotment due to silt loads in some tanks. The Red Rock Ranger District approved the maintenance of 12 tanks to improve water distribution in the area of the Apache Maid Ranch.

Elk and mule deer frequently utilize the Apache Maid allotment for grazing and access to dirt tanks. Improving the capacity of existing stock tanks throughout the allotment will distribute the elk, mule deer and many other wildlife species.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

The objective of the project is to improve the distribution and duration of water availability for wildlife and livestock in portions of units 6A and 5B by removing sediment from four tanks and sealing two tanks. Improved water availability will have the result of enhancing range conditions by better distributing wildlife and livestock across the range.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:**

Six dirt tanks located on the Apache Maid Allotment that have reduced water capacity will be renovated. Heavy equipment will be used on 4 tanks to reduce the silt load. All work will be performed within the bowl of the tank. The remaining two tanks will be sealed with bentonite to improve water retention.

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

Six dirt tanks (listed below) located on US Forest Service land, in GMU 5B and 6A, within the Apache Maid Allotment. See attached map.

Tanks to be cleaned out:

Hard Luck – GMU 5B  
Sarah Jane – GMU 5B  
Interchange (Winter Cabin) – GMU 6A  
Round Mountain – GMU 6A

Tanks to be sealed with Bentonite:

Jones – GMU 6A  
Rays – GMU 6A

**LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):**

(if the project area is private property, please state specifically and provide the landowner’s name)

- US Forest Service, Maughan Ranches (permitted)

*IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A COOPERATIVE BIG GAME STEWARDSHIP or LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?*

YES[] NO[] N/A[]

**HABITAT DESCRIPTION:**

Ponderosa pine and pinyon/juniper habitat with large grassland openings

**ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

Tank Name	Labor and Equip per hour	Fuel cost per hour @ \$4/gallon	Cost of Bentonite (including shipping)	Hours to Complete	Total cost
Sarah Jane	\$50	\$25	--	8	\$600
Hard Luck	\$50	\$25	--	16	\$1200
Interchange (Winter Cabin)	\$50	\$25	--	16	\$1200
Round Mountain	\$50	\$25	--	16	\$1200
Jones	\$50	--	200 bags @ \$15.00	16	\$3800
Rays	\$50	--	100 bags @ \$15.00	16	\$2300
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$10,300</b>

Cost Share or Matching Funds (for volunteer labor rates please refer to the worksheet below)

Permittee will perform the labor. The funds for this project are to cover the cost for the operator (\$50/hour for operator and machine) plus diesel which is 50 gallons per 8 hour day at \$4 per gallon, and the cost to purchase Bentonite.

Labor and equipment to spread bentonite will be paid by permittee

**LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:**

Maughan Ranch, permittee and contractor to perform work

US Forest Service, land owner

**WOULD IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT ASSIST IN PROVIDING, MAINTAINING, OR FACILITATING RECREATIONAL ACCESS?**

YES[] NO[x] N/A[]

**PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:**

AZGFD will monitor for project completion

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

N/A

**PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:**  
AZGFD Wildlife Manager Erin Brown

**WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS** (*please use the worksheet below*):

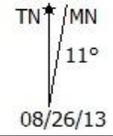
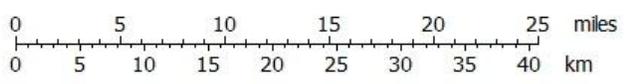
**TREE CLEARING/REMOVAL PROJECTS** (*please use the worksheet below*):



TOPO! map printed on 08/26/13 from "map.tpo"



Map created with TOPO! © 2010 National Geographic



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