

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 13-212

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project Title:** East Slide Trick Tank

**Region and Game Management Unit:** Region 2 / GMU 12A

**Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):**  
• None

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

**Has this project been submitted in previous years?** YES[X] NO[]

**If Yes, was it funded?** YES[] NO[X] → **Funded HPC Project #(s):**

**Project Type:** Construction of New Water Catchment

**Brief Project Summary:** As part of the finalization of a master water development plan for GMU 12AW, two new water developments will be proposed for construction in 2014. The East Slide Trick Tank is the 12th of these developments to be proposed. A water catchment will be constructed for wintering mule deer in order to improve the distribution of wintering deer in an effort to alleviate forage utilization concerns and to reduce density dependent stressors on the 12AW wintering deer herd.

**Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:**

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

Project Start Date: 2014

Project End Date: 2014

**Environmental Compliance:**

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

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

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

Yes[X] No[] N/A[]

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

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

To be Completed by: Joe Curry

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

**PROJECT FUNDING**

**Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:** \$ 36,768.96

**Cost Share or Matching Funds:** \$ 24,200.00

**Total Project Costs:** \$ 60,968.96

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

**Applicant** (please print):  
Todd M. Buck

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

**E-mail:** TBuck@azgfd.gov

**Telephone:** 928-856-0740

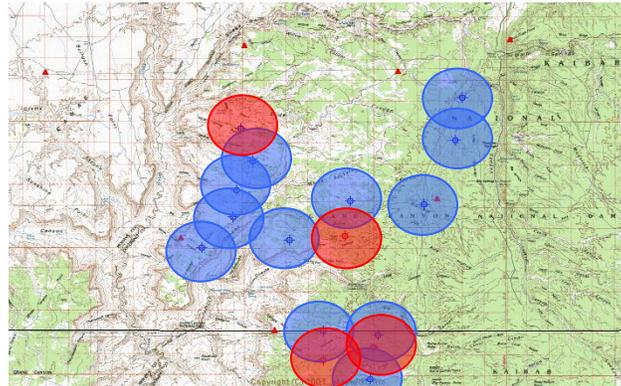
**Date:** 09/01/13

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

**Project has been coordinated with:** Joe Curry and Ed Jahrke, AZGFD. Angela Gatto, USFS.

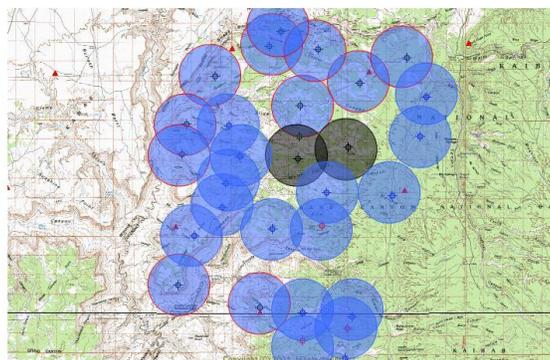
**NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:**

In 2004 large tracts of the GMU 12AW winter range are without perennial water sources (Fig. 1).



**Figure 1.** Current 12AW winter-range water distribution. Blue indicates functioning water development, red indicates development in need of repair or reconstruction.

As of 2004 there were only 16 winter range water developments in GMU 12AW of these 13 were currently functioning. Only 10 of the 16 waters are at elevations which make them useful to the wintering deer herd (Fig. 1). As a result of a change in the timing of cattle use in the area, a pipeline which had historically been operated during the winter months, to the great benefit of the 12AW wintering deer herd, is now not used during the deer herd's winter tenure. Essentially all dirt tanks within the 12AW winter range have been dry during the winter months for the past 10 years. As a result of this substantial decrease in reliable water sources the deer distribution had become very concentrated around the few water developments which are providing water. In an effort to mitigate these concerns a comprehensive water development plan for GMU 12AW was developed and 13 locations for new water developments were identified. To date, 11 of these new waters, shown in Blue with Red outline, have been constructed with 2 remaining, shown in black (Fig. 2).



**Figure 2.** Proposed new 12AW water developments.

Five of these developments are combination sheep/deer waters with the remaining 8 catchments being solely for deer. The end result of this effort will be a more uniform water distribution on the winter range of GMU 12AW (Fig. 2).

The 12th of these waters, East Slide Trick Tank, will be constructed in an area considered winter mule deer range and will fill a void of approximately 7 square miles. This water will also allow for better distribution of wintering deer in an effort to alleviate forage utilization concerns and to reduce density dependent stressors on the 12AW wintering deer herd.

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this project is to construct a new Wildlife Water Development to provide wintering Mule Deer with a perennial water source in central 12AW. This water development will also mitigate a substantial loss of other water sources in 12AW and to allow for a more even distribution of wintering deer in an effort to combat high forage utilization levels. This development is the 12th in a series of 13 developments being constructed to address the overall water distribution concerns on the winter range of GMU 12AW.

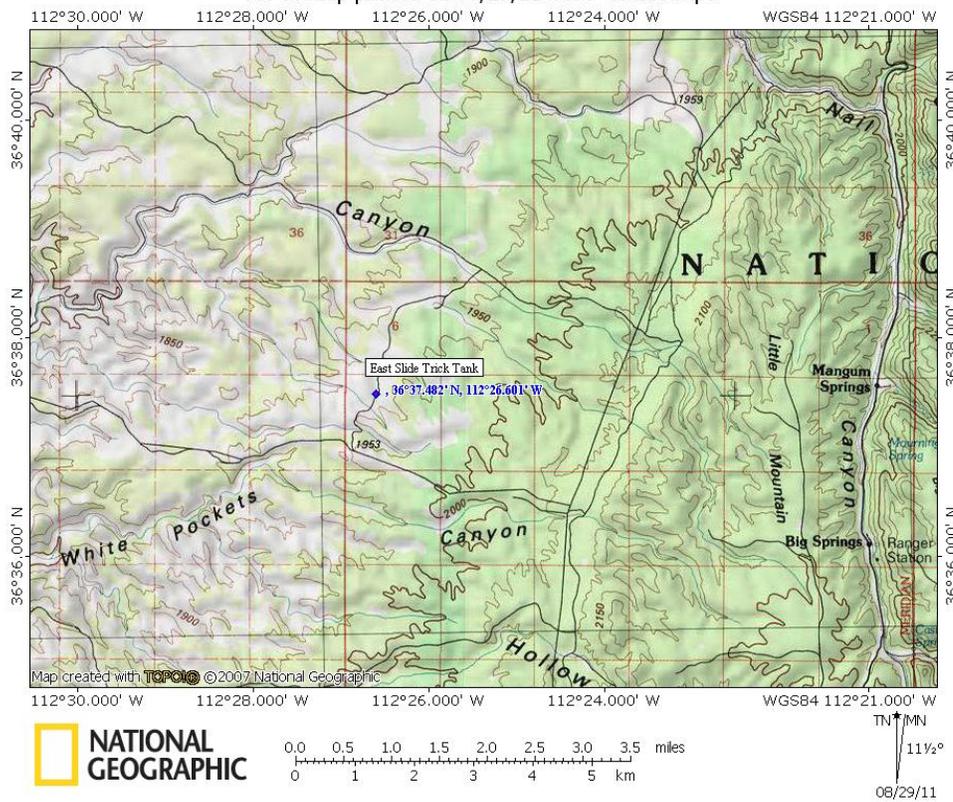
### PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

Utilize SBG Funds and an Arizona Game and Fish Department contractor to construct a new development consisting of a 24' X96' metal apron which will collect water into two 5000 gallon fiberglass storage tanks which, in turn, supplies a 5' gravity fed walk in drinker box.

### PROJECT LOCATION:

**N 36°37.486' W 112°26.635' (NAD 83)**

TOPO! map printed on 08/29/11 from "Untitled.tpo"



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

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

Entirely United States Forest Service ownership

*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:**

The habitat type is typically referred to as mule deer winter range. The East Slide Trick Tank is at an elevation of approximately 6352' and the primary vegetation consists of various grasses and forbes, sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), and cliffrose (*Cowania mexicana*), pinion trees (*Pinus sp.*), and Utah juniper trees (*Juniperus utahensis*).

**ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

2 – 3' deep X 18' dia. Fiberglass Ring Tanks =	\$20,019.48 (\$ 10,009.74 each)
1 – 3' deep X 5' wide Fiberglass Standard Walk-in Trough =	\$ 3,293.94
1 – 24' Fiberglass Standard Gutter =	\$ 735.54
1 – 24' X 96' Steel Frame and R-panel Apron =	\$ 7,580.00
1 – 150' X 150' Livestock Exclosure Piperail Fence =	\$ 3,390.00
1 – 3" Sch. 80 PVC Plumbing Package =	\$ 750.00
1 – Miscellaneous Materials =	\$ 1,000.00
<b>TOTAL =</b>	<b>\$36,768.96</b>

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

Labor (2 work periods, 5 man crew)	\$17,600	
Subsistence and miscellaneous		\$ 2,400
Equipment Depreciation		<u>\$ 4,200</u>
Total Matching Funds		\$24,200

**LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:**

The USFS North Kaibab Ranger District has **completed all NEPA documentation** for the facility.

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

YES[] NO[X] N/A[]

**PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:**

As mandated by the District Water Protocol, the district wildlife manager or USFS personnel will check the development annually. In addition, animal use at the site will be documented by the district wildlife manager during survey efforts and during all incidental visits to the site.

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

The district wildlife manager or USFS personnel will perform minor maintenance.  
The Arizona Game and Fish Department Development Crew (SSDV) will perform major maintenance.

**PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:**

Joseph Currie, AZGFD SSDV

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

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

## **ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT** **WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET**

**PROJECT TITLE:** East Slide Trick Tank

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?” YES**
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**  
Joe Curry and Ed Jahrke multiple dates over last several years
- 3) **What is the estimated annual inches of precipitation for the area? (mark one)**  
2-4 4-6 6-8 8-10 10-12 12-14 14-16  >16
- 4) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**  
  
YES (please complete #5 below) NO (skip #5 below)
- 5) **For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:**  
Name of water source: Slide Canyon Wildlife Catchment  
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank): Catchment  
Ownership of water source: USFS/AZGFD  
Distance in miles from project: 3.5 Miles HOWEVER THIS WATER IS AT 7000’ IN ELEVATION AND IS UNAVAILABLE TO WINTERING DEER DUE TO SNOW DEPTHS
- 6) **Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts? YES NO**
- 7) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument). If private land, list landowner.**
- 8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**  
Type of access (mark one): 2x4 vehicles 4x4 only foot only\*\*  
  
\*\*If foot access only: Distance in miles: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate hiking time: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
-- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES NO  
  
-- Please describe any restrictions to public access:
- 9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**
- 10) **Was a site visit completed? Yes No**  
If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.