

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 13-605

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Morgan City (#435) Water Catchment Redevelopment

Region and Game Management Unit: Region VI, GMU 20B

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):

- Payson Natural Resources Committee

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: Water Catchment re-development

Brief Project Summary:

A complete redevelopment of a mule deer and javelina water catchment. The area also supports numerous small game and non species, including Gambel's Quail, Mourning Dove, and White-winged Dove. The water catchment is nonfunctioning, redevelopment would include larger capacity storage tanks and a larger 4' x 4' walk in drinker and bring the exclusion fence to current standards.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Mule Deer, Javelina, Mountain Lion

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date: Spring 2014

Project End Date: Spring 2015

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: December 2013

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

To be Completed by: R. BABEL

Projected Completion Date: December 2013

PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:

\$ 25,914.00

Cost Share or Matching Funds:

\$ 3,736.70

Total Project Costs:

\$ 29,650.70

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print):

Ryan Babel

Address:

7200 East University Drive
Mesa, AZ 85207

E-mail:

RBabel@azgfd.gov

Telephone: (480) 528-6139

Date: 8/14/2013

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

Applicant is AGFD personnel

Project has been coordinated with:

Codey Carter, BLM Biologist; Joe Currie, AGFD Habitat Planning Program Manager; Dustin Darveau,

Region VI Game Specialist; Bradley Olson, President of Quail Forever; Terry Herndon, Regional Director of Mule Deer Foundation

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Morgan City Catchment is one of six water catchments built between 1987-1988 by the BLM and funded by the Bureau of Reclamation by an intra-agency agreement from mitigation resulting from Castle Hot Springs Road.

Morgan City is nonfunctioning. The current Wildlife Manager has never observed any water in the drinker or the storage tank. The tank is a 24' metal ring tank and the liner is collapsed inside of it. The drinker is a smooth fiberglass without any steps or ramps to facilitate wildlife using it; it is also considerable bowed from the weight of the soil around it. The enclosure footprint is small, 70' x 150' and puts the drinker in close proximity to the fence.

Knowledge of this group of water catchments started as incidental observations from patrols and surveys by the current Wildlife Manager. The AGFD and BLM did an inventory of the six catchments in 2013 and has entered them into the AGFD's Development Branch's water catchment database and issued them all AGFD catchment numbers.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

To provide a reliable and perennial water source for mule deer, javelina, and other game and nongame species in an area prone to draught conditions. Redeveloping with current designs and materials will minimize future water hauling and maintenance.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

To bring the entire catchment to current wildlife water development construction standards. This includes replacing the old single storage tank with new polyethylene tanks, replacing the drinker with a new polyethylene drinker, a functioning apron, and making the new enclosure fence ½ inch steel pipe and extending the footprint to 150' x 150'.

The location and proximity of the catchment to the AGFD headquarters (approximately 30 minutes) and the Phoenix metropolitan area gives staff and volunteers the option to travel back and forth to their residences and has been an appealing component to this project for those in the discussion. The proximity also allows greater flexibility in scheduling with staff and volunteers.

PROJECT LOCATION:

Hieroglyphic Mountains, Maricopa County. (T.6N, R.1W, Sec. 15) (N 33° 52.133' W 112° 21.572')

LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

Bureau of Land Management, Hassayampa Field Office

HABITAT DESCRIPTION: Sonoran Desert scrub: predominate species are Palo Verde, Ocotillo, Saguaro cactus, cholla cactus . Catchment elevation is at approximately 1,960 feet

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

\$7,580.00	24' x 72' Apron (Estimate includes metal studs, channel, cold rolled, R-panel, screws, minimal support steel, concrete, and a fiberglass gutter)
\$ 3,390.00	150' X 150' Exclosure Fence
\$1,000.00	Plumbing (pipes, fittings, misc.)
\$3,294.00	4' X 4' Polyethylene standard walk-in trough/drinker
\$10,650.00	Four 2,500 Gallon Polyethylene Storage Tanks
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\$25,914.00	Total estimate

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

\$2,535.20	(15 Volunteers at \$14.14 Volunteer Labor Rate X 12 hrs)
\$1,201.50	(15 Volunteers at \$0.445 mile X 180 miles)

\$3,736.70 Total Matching Funds and Cost Share

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Bureau of Land Management is continuing to pursue match dollars from the Bureau of Reclamation, per their Intra-Agency Agreement for these water catchments. BOR's contracting/agreement submissions are closed for the end of their fiscal year and were unable to make a monetary commitment by the HPC deadline. Matching funds may be provided by BOR during their next fiscal year, which would still be within the time frame of HPC work to be completed within the current cycle.

Mule Deer Foundation has committed volunteers for manpower.

Quail Forever has committed volunteers for manpower and has already assisted with a half day improvement project on another sister catchment in this group of six catchments.

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

YES NO N/A

Morgan City Catchment is within the area that will be included in the BLM Phoenix District's Hassayampa Field Office's next Travel Management Plan. Improvement of Morgan City Catchment in collaboration with the BLM prior to the TMP should increase probability of continued access to the catchment.

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

The water will be monitored by the district Wildlife Manager. This includes at least once a month during the summer months and at least once over the winter months.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

Minor maintenance, checking water levels, and cleaning the drinker will be done by the district Wildlife Manager. Water hauling if needed and other maintenance will be done the AGFD Development Branch.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Ryan Babel, Region VI GMU 20B Wildlife Manager

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

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

PROJECT TITLE: All Day (#435) Water Catchment Redevelopment

- 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 Currie, multiple dates in 2013.
- 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: Syenite Water Catchment (#437)
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank): Catchment
Ownership of water source: AGFD recently adopted water on BLM
Distance in miles from project: 1.95 miles
- 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.** None
- 8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**
Type of access (mark one): 2x4 vehicles 4x4 only foot only**

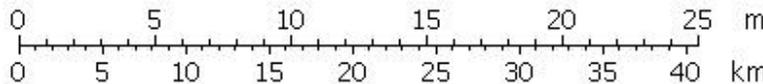
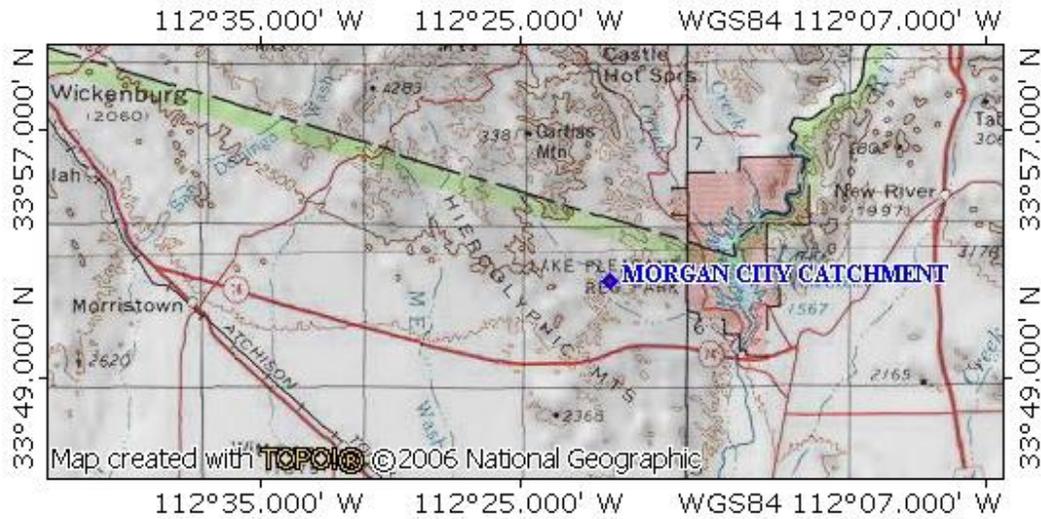
**If foot access only: Distance in miles: _____ Approximate hiking time: _____

-- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES NO

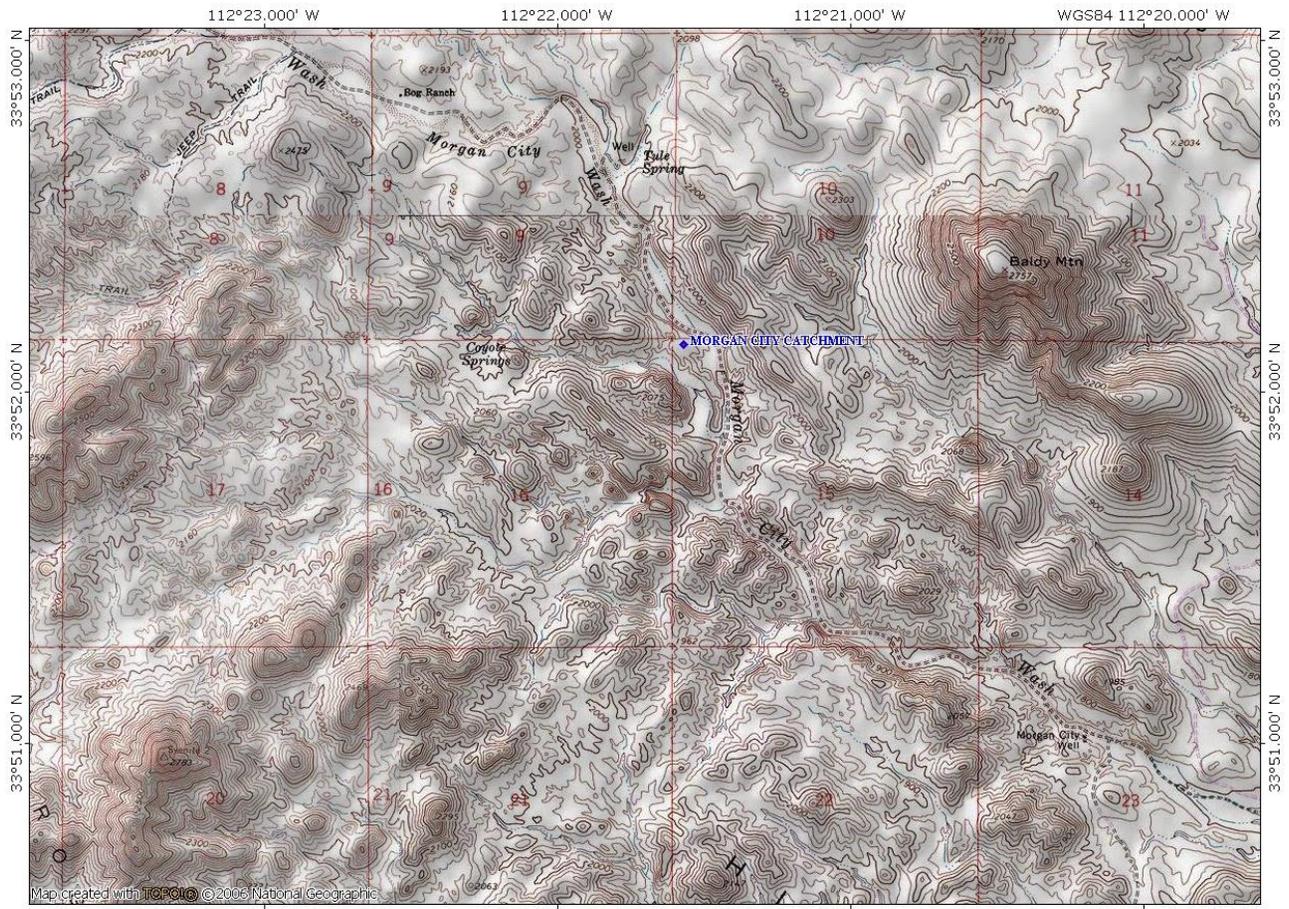
-- Please describe any restrictions to public access: None
- 9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**
24' x 72' Metal Frame and R-panel apron will replace the 30' x 80' Nonfunctioning tin apron
150' x 150' Standard Piperail Fence will replace 70' x 150' Non-standard Exclosure Fence.
4' x 4' Polyethylene standard walk-in trough/drinker will replace a 3'x 4' Fiberglass drinker.
Four 2,500 Gallon (10,000 gallons total) Polyethylene Storage Tanks will replace a 9,300 gallon
24' Corrugated metal ring tank with liner.

10) Was a site visit completed? Yes[X] No[]

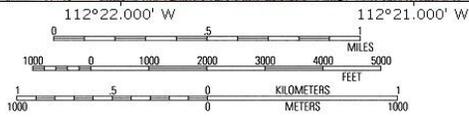
May 9th 2013 site visit: Ryan Babel, Wildlife Manager; Codey Carter, BLM Biologist; Joe Currie, AGFD Habitat Planning Program Manager; Dustin Darveau, Region VI Game Specialist



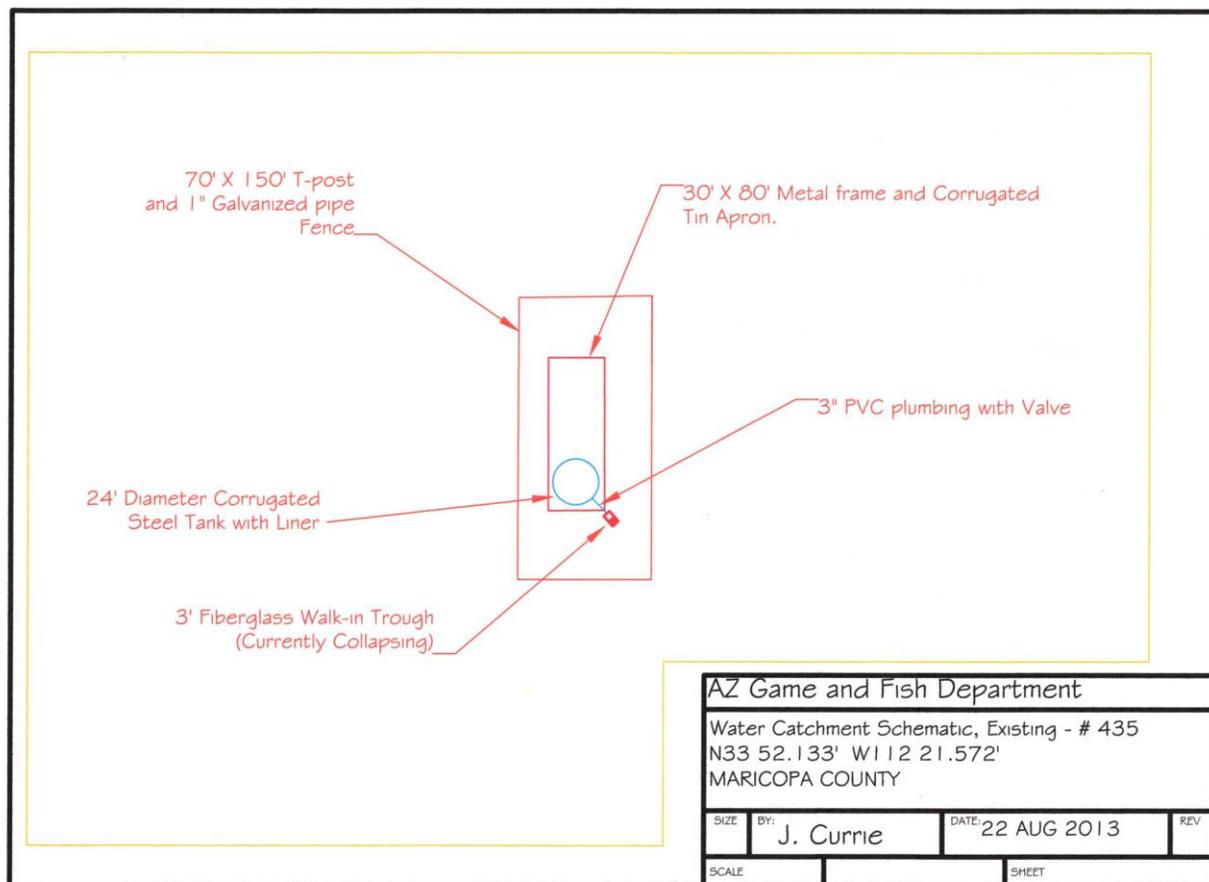
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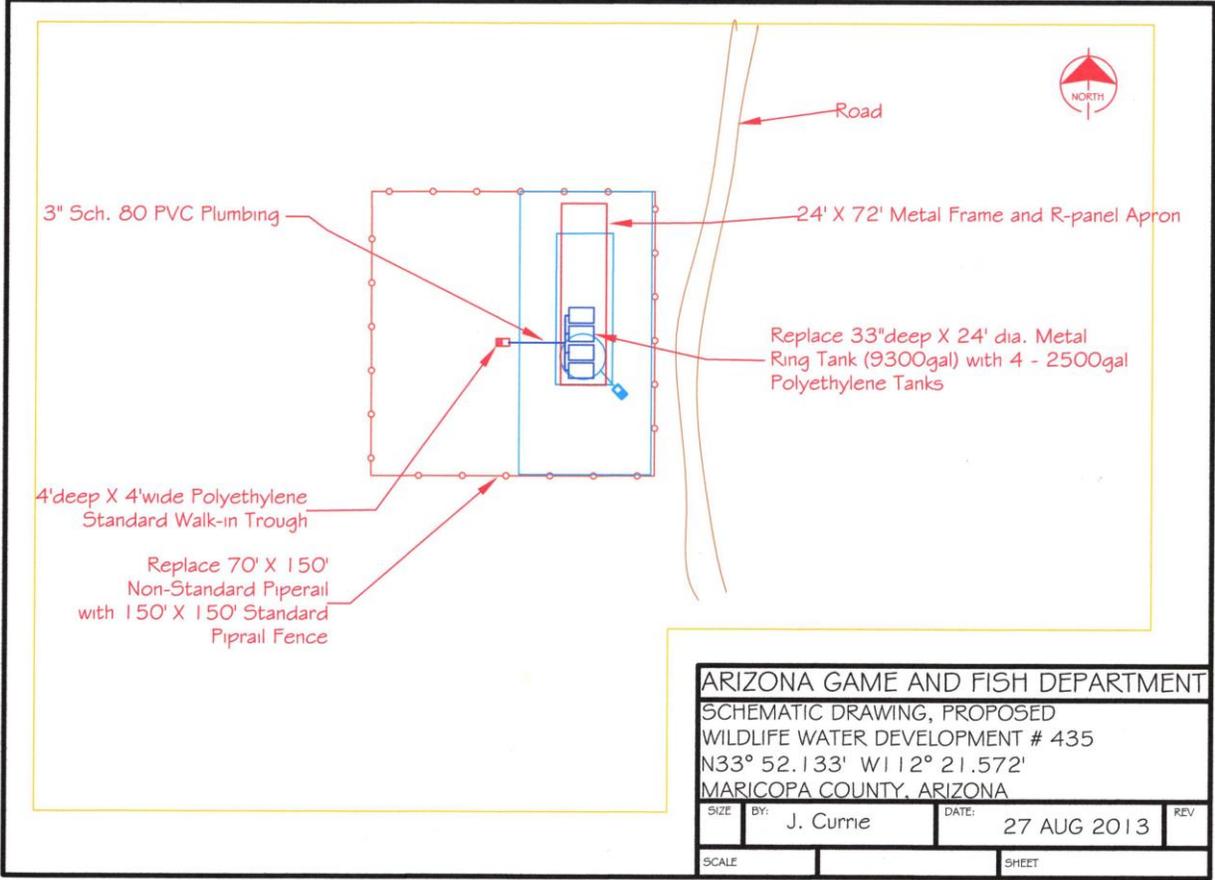
Map created with TOPOGIC © 2006 National Geographic



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Existing



Proposed