

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number:	14-602
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**PROJECT INFORMATION**

<b>Project Title:</b> Region 6 Water Maintenance and Operation Supplies	
<b>Region and Game Management Unit:</b> Region VI, GMU 21	
<b>Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):</b> •	<b>Was the project presented to the LHPC?</b> YES[] NO[X]
<b>Has this project been submitted in previous years?</b> YES[] NO[X] <b>If Yes, was it funded?</b> YES[] NO[] → <b>Funded HPC Project #(s):</b>	
<b>Project Type:</b> Supply	
<b>Brief Project Summary:</b> The North Valley Chapter of the Mule Deer Foundation has been highly active redeveloping and fixing waters on the Horseshoe Ranch after adopting the ranch in 2013. The MDF has spent over 1400 volunteer hours on projects and has spent considerable money purchasing parts like brass float valves, solar pump batteries, pipes and fittings etc. The NVC-MDF is seeking funding to purchase miscellaneous supplies for water maintenance.	
<b>Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:</b> Mule Deer, Whitetail, Pronghorn, Javelina	

<b>Implementation Schedule</b> (Month/Day/Year):  <u>Project Start Date:</u> Ongoing  <u>Project End Date:</u>	<b>Environmental Compliance:</b> NEPA Completed: Yes[] No[] N/A[X] 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[X] To be Completed by: _____ Projected Completion Date: _____
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**PROJECT FUNDING**

<b>Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>
<b>Cost Share or Matching Funds:</b>	<b>\$ 19,000</b> Match on 1400 Vol. hrs. from 2013
<b>Total Project Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

<b>Applicant</b> (please print): Mule Deer Foundation - Jim Lawrence	<b>Address:</b> 21633 N. 14 <sup>th</sup> Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85027	<b>E-mail:</b> jim@mdf.nvchapter.org
<b>Telephone:</b> 632-764-0249		<b>Date:</b> August 11, 2014

<b>AGFD Contact and Phone No.</b> (If applicant is not AGFD personnel): Micah White, 928-821-6057
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**Project has been coordinated with:**

John Holbrook, Horseshoe Ranch Permittee

**NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:**

The Cave Creek Complex Fire of 2005 damaged nearly the entire southern half of unit 21. The fire directly damaged many different water sources rendering them inoperable. Following the fire, the Tonto National Forest closed many of the allotments to grazing for several years allowing adequate time for the landscape to heal. Consequently the livestock operators did not have any interest in fixing or maintaining these waters that wildlife had depended on.

The North Valley Chapter of the Mule Deer Foundation (NVC-MDF) adopted the Horseshoe Ranch in 2013. Since then, the NVC-MDF has spent more than 1400 hours volunteering on projects on the Horseshoe Ranch as well as other units around the state. Over the course of the last year, the NVC-MDF members have spent their own money purchasing a wide array of supplies necessary to maintain waters on the landscape. Just one example of this, is the NVC-MDF has spent a lot of time replacing expensive brass float valves at windmills that were damaged by black bears, and subsequently trying to make them bear proof.

Funding this proposal would provide the NVC-MDF the ability to purchase the more commonly needed parts/supplies ahead of time, or the ability to purchase the more critical and expensive parts that might otherwise take time to purchase. This would allow the NVC-MDF the ability to repair these critical waters more rapidly and assist local livestock operators. This will improve relationships between sportsman and livestock operators, which may lead to things like improved hunter access.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

The objective is to provide a dependable water sources for multiple wildlife species. The emphasis would be in unit 21, but project efforts will be focused wherever needed. Making use of existing developments would reduce replacement costs, minimize the need for expensive compliance analysis and increase the availability of water for wildlife. This project will provide the NVC-MDF the ability to purchase parts and supplies critical for maintaining water on the landscape.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:**

A team of dedicated volunteers provided by the North Valley Chapter of the Mule Deer Foundation will be working with various Wildlife Managers and other key Department personnel to determine and prioritize critical waters that are in need of maintenance or repair. This project will mesh nicely with the current Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Initiative currently underway in unit 21, since a detailed list of waters had been created, their need, and any NEPA clearances that may be required. Data is currently being collected from various sources, including existing Department inventories, WM's knowledge, USFS databases and other field observations. Ongoing repairs will be limited to minor fence, apron, windmill, water troughs, valves, floats etc. It is estimated that volunteers may spend approximately 600-1000 hours annually providing these services with a total of 1,400 hours in the field last year. Water hauling by the volunteers to critical locations identified by Department personnel would be included in these tasks utilizing Department equipment available under the Department Volunteer program.

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

Unit 21, or other areas as needed.

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

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

- Tonto National Forest-Cave Creek Ranger District

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

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

**HABITAT DESCRIPTION:**

N/A

**ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

1. \$4,000

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

1400 hours spent in 2013 @ \$14.14 per hour = >\$19,000 in federally matched dollars not including mileage, or personal money spent on parts.

**LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:**

Terry Herndon, Jim Lawrence, North Valley Chapter of the Mule Deer Foundation

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

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

**PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:**

AZGFD will continue working with the NVC-MDF and local ranchers to coordinate needed projects or maintenance.

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

Maintenance will be performed by the North Valley Chapter of the Mule Deer Foundation.

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A