

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number:	15-215
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**PROJECT INFORMATION**

<b>Project Title:</b> 2016 Old Arizona COOP Drinker/ Tank Lid	
<b>Region and Game Management Unit:</b> FOR2/ GMU 12B	
<b>Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arizona Strip Habitat Working Group</li> </ul>	<b>Was the project presented to the LHPC?</b> <b>YES</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>NO</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Has this project been submitted in previous years?</b> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>If Yes, was it funded?</b> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> → <b>Funded HPC Project #(s):</b>	
<b>Project Type:</b> COOP Water Redevelopment	
<b>Brief Project Summary:</b> Improve the water storage capabilities, water availability and lifespan of the Old Arizona COOP Water (9774) Catchment in GMU 12B. This project will involve the installation of a metal cover over the current above ground water storage tank. A new 4' polyethylene walk in style trough will replace the existing nonfunctioning drinker. A metal pipe-rail fence will replace the existing barbed wire fence. The redevelopment of this COOP water is necessary to meet AZGFD statewide strategic goals, water development implementation plans, Arizona Strip Mule Deer Plan objectives, and BLM objectives for management of mule deer and wildlife habitat.	
<b>Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:</b> Mule Deer	

<b>Implementation Schedule</b> (Month/Day/Year):  <u>Project Start Date:</u> June 30, 2016  <u>Project End Date:</u> June 30, 2018	<b>Environmental Compliance:</b> NEPA Completed: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Projected Completion Date: <u>See Attached Email</u>  State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Projected Completion Date: <u>See Attached Email</u>  Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> To be Completed by: <u>Ed Jahrke</u> Projected Completion Date: <u>April 2018</u>
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**PROJECT FUNDING**

<b>Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:</b>	\$ 19,000.00
<b>Cost Share or Matching Funds:</b>	\$
<b>Total Project Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 19,000.00</b>

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

<b>Applicant</b> (please print): Timothy Carlson	<b>Address:</b> 3500 S. Lake Mary Road Flagstaff, AZ 86001	<b>E-mail:</b> tcarlson@azgfd.gov
<b>Telephone:</b> 480-216-3130		<b>Date:</b> August 28, 2015

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

**Project has been coordinated with:**

Arizona Strip BLM

**NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:**

Old Arizona COOP (9774) water is located on the western side of the Buckskin Mountains in northern GMU 12B. The western slope of the Buckskin Mountains contains multiple benches before flattening out into dry sage flats, all of which being utilized by wintering mule deer. Old Arizona COOP water is located on the lowest bench, closet to mule deer utilizing the sage flats.

This water is located on the wintering ground used by two mule deer herds, the Kaibab deer herd out of GMU 12A and the Paunsaugunt deer herd out of Utah. The current state of the wildlife water portion of this COOP water is nonfunctioning. Water from this source is currently available to wildlife only when the permittee has his cattle grazing in the allotment and his cattle drinker turned on. Multiple sources have stated that the wildlife water portion of the COOP water has been nonfunctional for a minimum of 5 years. It is hoped that redevelopment of the wildlife drinker will allow mule deer greater access to water and utilization of their wintering grounds.

The above ground storage tank in its current state creates a drowning hazard to wildlife and allows for water loss due to evaporation. Previous modifications, such as wire fencing around the top of the tank, have been made in an effort to ensure the tank possess less of a threat to wildlife. Modification have also been installed, such as cloth tank covers, to try to limit water losses from evaporation. Both of these previous modifications have worked in the short term, but they are in need of replacement. The old cloth tank cover covers only a small portion of the water, while there were numerous reports during the 2014 early general hunt of a group of fast acting hunters who pulled a trapped doe out of the storage tank. The implementation of a metal tank lid would reduce both water loss from evaporation and the drowning hazard to wildlife.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

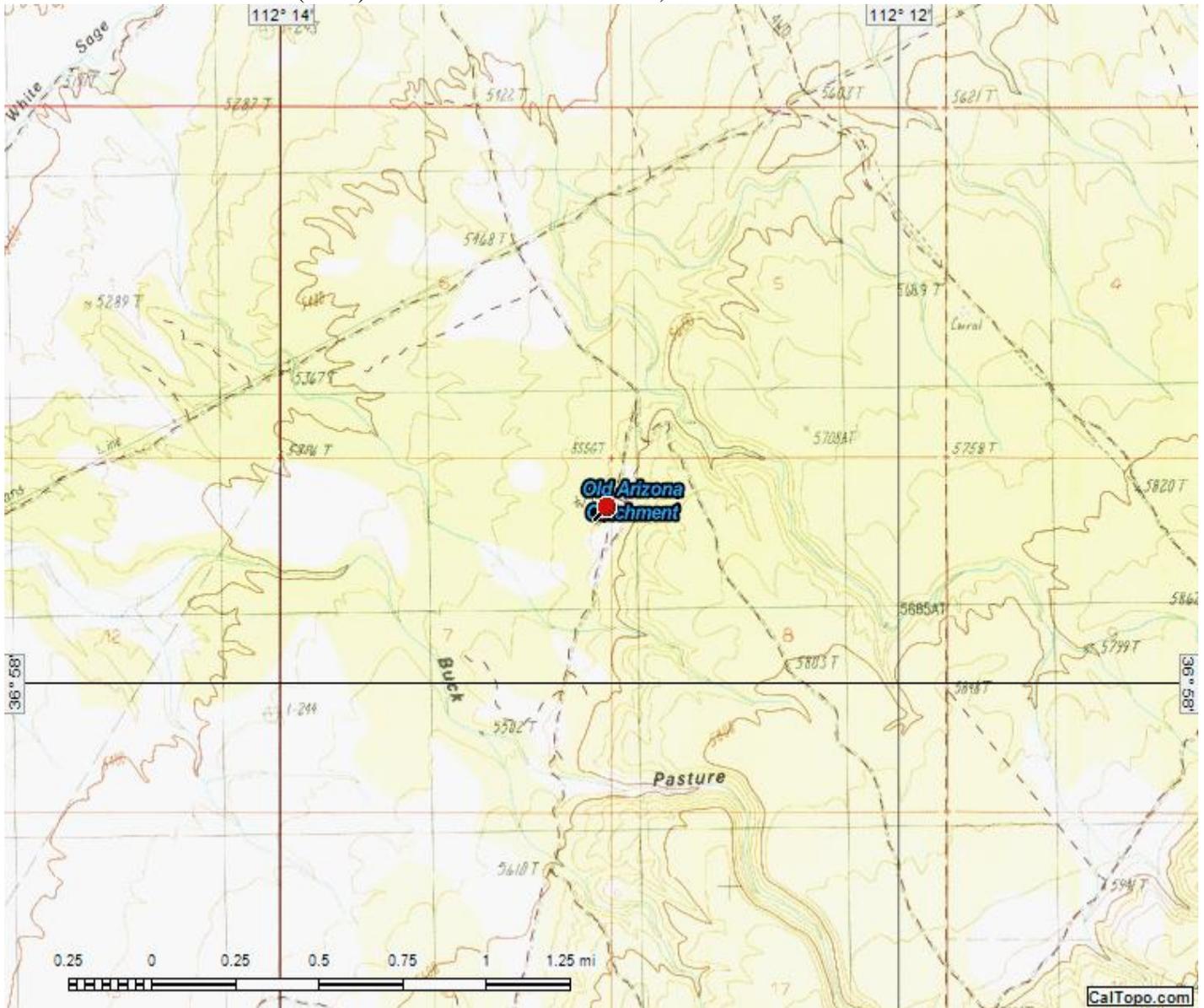
1. Continue Statewide efforts of maintaining existing catchment facilities across the Arizona Strip to meet wildlife and livestock needs.
2. Improve water distribution for mule deer and other wildlife
3. Minimize evaporative losses of the cooperative livestock/wildlife catchment
4. Improve safety by eliminating drowning danger of mule deer and other animals
5. Continue to meet objective in the Arizona Strip Mule Deer Management Plan
6. Continue to foster positive working relationships between Permittee, BLM, and AZGFD

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:**

1. Install metal tank cover over current above ground water storage tank
2. Install a 4' polyethylene walk in trough to replace the existing nonfunctioning ground level drinker.
3. Replace existing plumbing components.
4. Install new 150' x 150' metal pipe-rail.

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

Old Arizona COOP Water (9774) GPS location: 36.9298186, 112.1617794



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

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

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*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 Buckskin Mountains are a representative of Pinyon Juniper woodland. Vegetation surrounding the water are juniper, sagebrush, and various grass species.

**ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

2016 – Old Arizona COOP Water (9774)

<b>Costs Category- Equipment, Labor, Administrative, Material</b>	<b>Grant Dollars Requested – Special Tag</b>
Metal Tank lid	\$15,000.00
4' Polyethylene Walk-in trough	\$1,000.00
Plumbing Materials	\$800.00
150' x 150' Pipe rail Fence	\$2,200.00
Total	\$19,000.00

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

**LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:**

**Arizona Strip BLM:** NEPA and Archeological clearance compliance has been completed through the BLM Attached are the E-mails exchanged with Shawn Langston (Wildlife Biologist for the BLM-Arizona Strip Field Office) stating the NEPA is up to date and Cultural Clearance is complete.

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

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

History has shown that during travel management planning of the land management agencies, roads that have historic use and provide access to wildlife facilities receive priority in remaining open to the public.

**PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:**

After completion of this project, this wildlife catchment will continue to be monitored as part of the Region II/GMU 12B water development protocol. This protocol outlines facility inspection schedules, as well as maintenance schedules if needed. It is anticipated that this wildlife catchment will be inspected at least twice each year.

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

The Wildlife Manager, AZGFD development crew, livestock permittee, and BLM staff will maintain the water as needed.

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

Timothy Carlson – 12B Wildlife Manager

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

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

**PROJECT TITLE:** Old Arizona COOP Catchment

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”**  
No
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**  
Joseph Currie- June 8, 2015  
Ed Jahrke- August 13, 2015
- 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: Buck Pasture

Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank): Catchment

Ownership of water source: AZGFD

Distance in miles from project: 1.67 miles

Name of water source: Franks WLC

Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank): Catchment

Ownership of water source: AZGFD

Distance in miles from project: 2.7 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.**
- 8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**

Type of access (mark one): 2x4 vehicles 4x4 only foot\*\*

\*\*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.**

Large Metal Tank Storage Tank Lid
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4' walk in style Polyethylene trough
150' x 150' Pipe rail Fence
New plumbing from tank to drinker

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

If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

A formal site visit with all parties has not been completed yet. Both the Wildlife Manager and Field Supervisor visited the site together, as well as separate visits from members of development branch while working on other catchments in the area.

**From:** Langston, Shawn [<mailto:slangston@blm.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2015 10:48 AM  
**To:** Timothy Carlson  
**Subject:** Re: Buckskin COOP Water

Tim,

Lorraine said we're good to go as far as NEPA goes. I thought we might need to do a CX but she's comfortable just going forward as is. So feel free to move forward as you see fit. Sorry it took a while to get back to you on this!

Shawn Langston  
Wildlife Biologist  
Arizona Strip Field Office-BLM  
345 E. Riverside Dr.  
St. George, UT 84790  
Office: 435-688-3239

On Wed, Jul 1, 2015 at 3:05 PM, Timothy Carlson <[TCarlson@azgfd.gov](mailto:TCarlson@azgfd.gov)> wrote:

Hi Shawn,

I was looking at possibly putting in a grant for the repair of a water on the west side of the Buckskins and wanted to see if the paperwork was up to date. The water is the COOP water that I believe is called Old Arizona Road Tank. The GPS coordinates for it are 36.9298186, -112.1617794, and it is located in Buck Pasture Canyon area. I was thinking the tank could use a cover to minimize evaporation lost and keep deer from jumping in it. I was also thinking about a new wildlife drinker because the old one isn't functioning and the permittee claims it hasn't worked for many years. I just checking to see if the NEPA and all the required paperwork is still good for working on the water. Thanks, TC

Tim Carlson  
Wildlife Manager for GMU 12B  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
3500 S. Lake Mary Road Flagstaff, AZ 86001  
Phone: 928-774-5045