

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 15-405

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Burro exclusion fencing for Weaver Wash and Dome Rock Mtn. bighorn sheep waters

Region and Game Management Unit: Region IV, GMU 43A

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC): • SWAHPC	Was the project presented to the LHPC? YES[] NO[X]
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Has this project been submitted in previous years? YES[] NO[X]
If Yes, was it funded? YES[] NO[] → **Funded HPC Project #(s):**

Project Type: Install burro exclusion fencing around two different sheep waters in GMU 43A.

Brief Project Summary: This project, if funded, would be to install wildlife friendly livestock exclusion fencing around water catchment #530 and Weaver Wash Catchment in GMU 43A to prevent usage by wild horses and burros.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit (% benefit per species) : Bighorn Sheep (75%), mule deer (25%)

<p>Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):</p> <p><u>Project Start Date:</u> Winter 2015 – Spring 2016</p> <p><u>Project End Date:</u> Winter 2015 – Spring 2016</p>	<p>Environmental Compliance:</p> <p>NEPA Completed: Yes[X] No[] N/A[] Projected Completion Date: <u>YPG record of decision complete</u></p> <p>State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance: (Provide Attachment) Yes[X] No[] N/A[] Projected Completion Date: <u>Completed by YPG</u></p> <p>Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A[] To be Completed by: <u>Courtney Shanley</u> Projected Completion Date: <u>Winter 2015 – Spring 2016</u></p>
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PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:	\$ 4,400
Cost Share or Matching Funds:	\$ 5,085
Total Project Costs:	\$ 9,485

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print): Courtney Shanley	Address: 9140 28th St, Yuma, AZ 85365	E-mail: cshanley@azgfd.gov
Telephone: 928.856.0702		Date: 8/15/2015

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

Project has been coordinated with: Wildlife Program, Region IV AZGFD

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

There is an ever increasing wild horse and burro population in Region IV. Very recently, some of these burros have been documented on two different wildlife water catchments on the Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) in GMU 43A. These catchments are #530 Dome Rock Mountain #2, and #835A Weaver Wash Tank. Water is scarce in this region, and these wildlife waters are critical to the survival of the bighorn sheep population in times of drought. Mule deer and numerous small game species also benefit from these waters. Both of these waters are very remotely located, and require significant time and effort to haul water to when needed. If the burro population continues to increase, which is nearly guaranteed, their water consumption will cause undue stress on the competing bighorn sheep and mule deer populations, as well as Arizona Game and Fish's ability to maintain these water catchments at suitable levels.

This problem has only recently been discovered and documented through camera data taken at these waters in the summer of 2015. Therefore, this project has not been presented to the local HPC or to any sportsman's groups yet.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The project objective is to install a perimeter of wildlife friendly livestock exclusion fencing at two water catchments (#530 and #835A) in GMU 43A. This would ensure that sufficient water levels can be maintained in these water catchments for use by bighorn sheep and mule deer, and would reduce the costs associated with hauling water to these catchments.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

(How will you implement project)

AZGFD and volunteers will transport fence materials and equipment to the project sites. They will then construct a wildlife friendly perimeter fence with approximately a 75 foot radius around the drinker of each water catchment. This project should be completed over the course of three days, including equipment transport and volunteer travel time.

PROJECT LOCATION

(Please provide lat/long in decimal degrees of project area using datum WGS84. If project is larger than one point, please provide multiple lat/long points or an existing shapefile of the project area)

Weaver Wash (#835) – latitude 33.475616, longitude -114.365133

Dome Rock Mtn. #2 (#530) – latitude 33.518531, longitude -114.340306

LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

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

- Department of Defense, Yuma Proving Ground (YPG)

This project is located on U.S. Military land operated by the Yuma Proving Grounds under a federal land withdrawal. The areas where this project is located are open to bighorn sheep hunting

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: Lower Colorado River Sonoran Desert scrub.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

\$4, 400 to purchase steel for wildlife friendly livestock fence

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

Environmental and Archeological Clearance completed by Yuma Proving Ground.

Volunteer labor and miles - \$3, 085.00

Volunteer equipment use - \$2,000.00

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Yuma Proving Ground – Coordination and clearance.

Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club – Volunteer labor and equipment.

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

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

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN: Courtney Shanley (WM) is currently monitoring these waters according to Region IV water maintenance protocol. This includes checking the water catchment monthly during the summer and at least once during the winter.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE: Project should not require maintenance.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY: Courtney Shanley, wildlife manager 43A

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (please use the worksheet below):

N/A

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

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

(Please provide cultural clearance documentation from land management agency, e.g., FONSI, Inventory Standards, etc. Also attach any project pictures)



Picture of burros at Weaver Wash, with mule deer in the background.

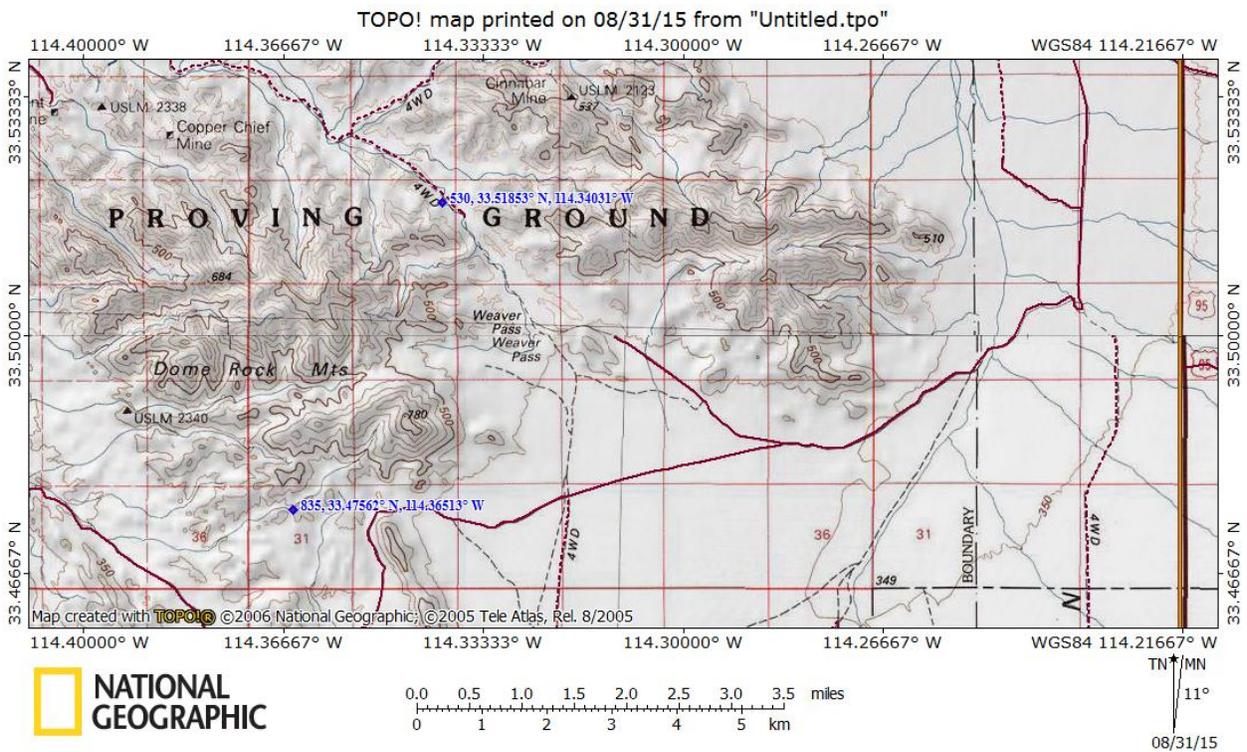
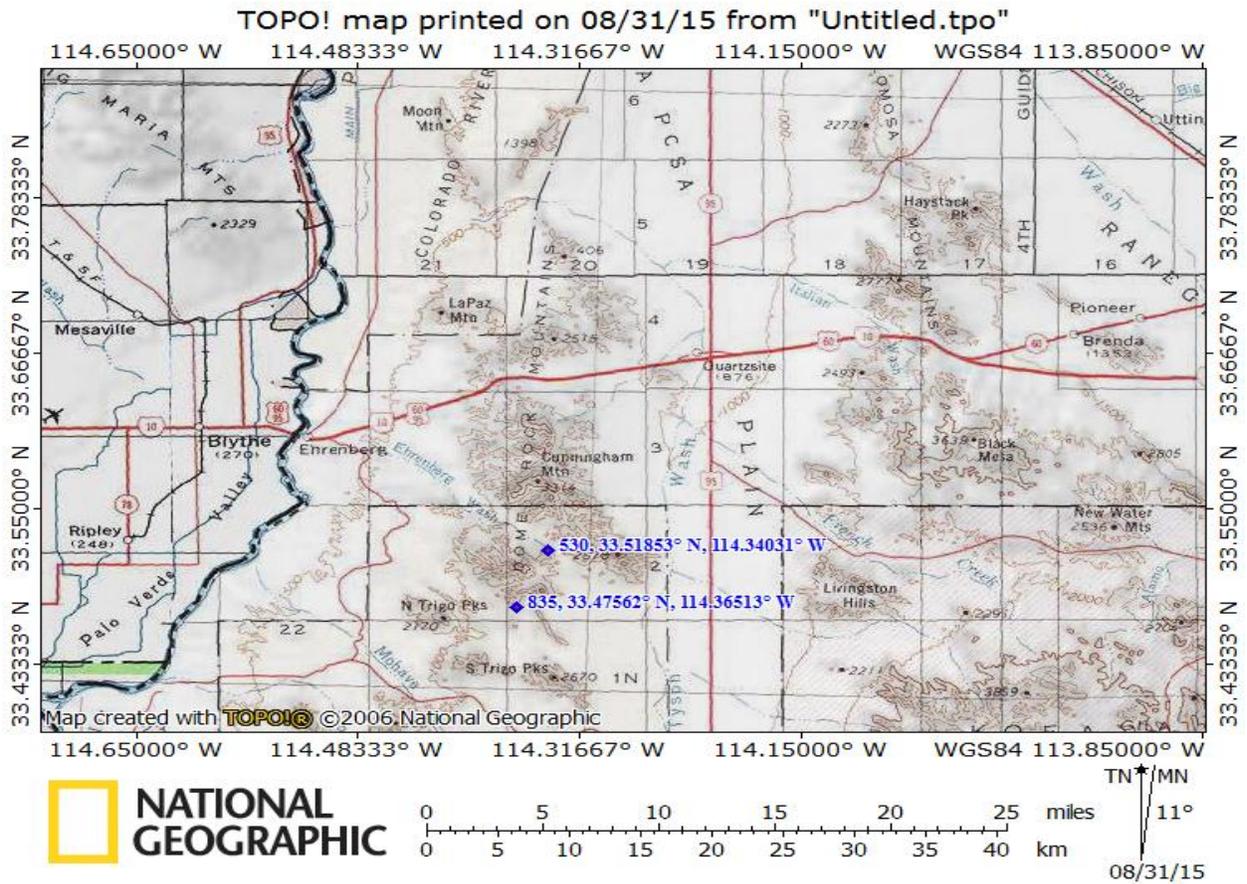


Picture of burros at Weaver Wash with mule deer moving away from drinker



Picture of burros frequenting Weaver Wash Tank July 2015

Project Maps



ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: _____

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”**
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**
- 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:

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

Ownership of water source:

Distance in miles from project:

- 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.

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

VOLUNTEER HOURLY RATES AND CLASSIFICATIONS WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Burro fencing for Weaver Wash and Dome Rock Mtn. bighorn sheep waters

The value of volunteer labor should be calculated at the hourly rate of an employee doing similar work, or using hourly rates from the Arizona Department of Administration's Human Resource web site, plus a standard ERE rate of 35%. http://www.hr.state.az.us/ClassComp/CC_Job_Titles_with_Ranges.asp

\$0.445/mile should be the calculation used for mileage.

Water Development	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
	180	1200	\$14.14	\$3,085.00
Habitat Restoration and Clean Up	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Fisheries	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Nongame Branch Project	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Misc/office work	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			varies	
Community Services	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$7.44	
Events and Other	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Research Branch	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Wildlife Area Hosts	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$17.44	
Education Programs	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$16.07	
Totals				\$3,085.00