

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 15-505

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Little Ramon Tank

Region and Game Management Unit: GMU 32

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):
• Safford

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

Has this project been submitted in previous years? YES[] NO[X]
If Yes, was it funded? YES[] NO[] → **Funded HPC Project #(s):**

Project Type: Dirt Tank Renovation

Brief Project Summary:

Little Ramon tank consists of a dirt tank with a concrete/rock dam. Objectives of the project will be to provide a year round permanent water source for wildlife and livestock by removing minimal amounts of sediment from the tank and resealing the dam with thorseal, cement based coating material.

Labor will be provided by USFS employees, ranch employees and/or Southeastern Arizona Sportsman's Club volunteers.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit (% benefit per species) : White-tailed Deer 30%, Gould's Turkey 30%, Mule Deer 30% and Black Bear 10%.

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date:
May 2016/2017

Project End Date:
July 2016/2017

Environmental Compliance:

NEPA Completed: Yes[] No[] N/A[X]
Projected Completion Date: Project occurs in foot print of existing improvement, NEPA will not be needed.

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:
(Provide Attachment)

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: _____

PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested: \$ 1250.00

Cost Share or Matching Funds: \$ 9758.00

Total Project Costs: \$ 11,008.00

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print): John Bacorn	Address: AZ Game and Fish Dept. 555 N. Greasewood Road Tucson, AZ 85705	E-mail: jbacorn@azgfd.gov
Telephone: 520-591-1485		Date: August 10, 2015
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):		
Project has been coordinated with: John Bacorn (AGFD), Joe Currie (AGFD), John McDonald (USFS Lessee), Ann Casey (USFS) and John Wilson (SEAZ Sportsman Club).		

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Wildlife and livestock depend almost entirely upon springs and dirt tanks on the National Forest along the east side of the Galiuro Mountains. Given the changing climate conditions and ongoing drought conditions, these springs and dirt tanks are no longer a dependable year round water source, especially during the months of April, May and June. Many of the dirt tanks were constructed during the 1950's and utilizing rock and concrete dams. Over the years, the permeability of the dams have diminished and only hold water for a few months after the monsoon season and for a few months during the winter months. Without a permanent water source, wildlife species are forced to travel longer distances to water or temporarily disperse from their habitat to areas closer to a permanent water source, especially during the summer months of April, May and June. All creeks in this mountain range, with a few exceptions are ephemeral, only providing water during or shortly after the raining season and therefore provides little water to wildlife.

AGFD have attempted to reestablish Gould's turkeys into the Galiuro Mountain Range, turkeys were released in the High Creek-Ash Creek vicinity in 1994 and as late as 2010. A small flock of Gould's turkey continues to use the Ash Creek area as a home territory.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

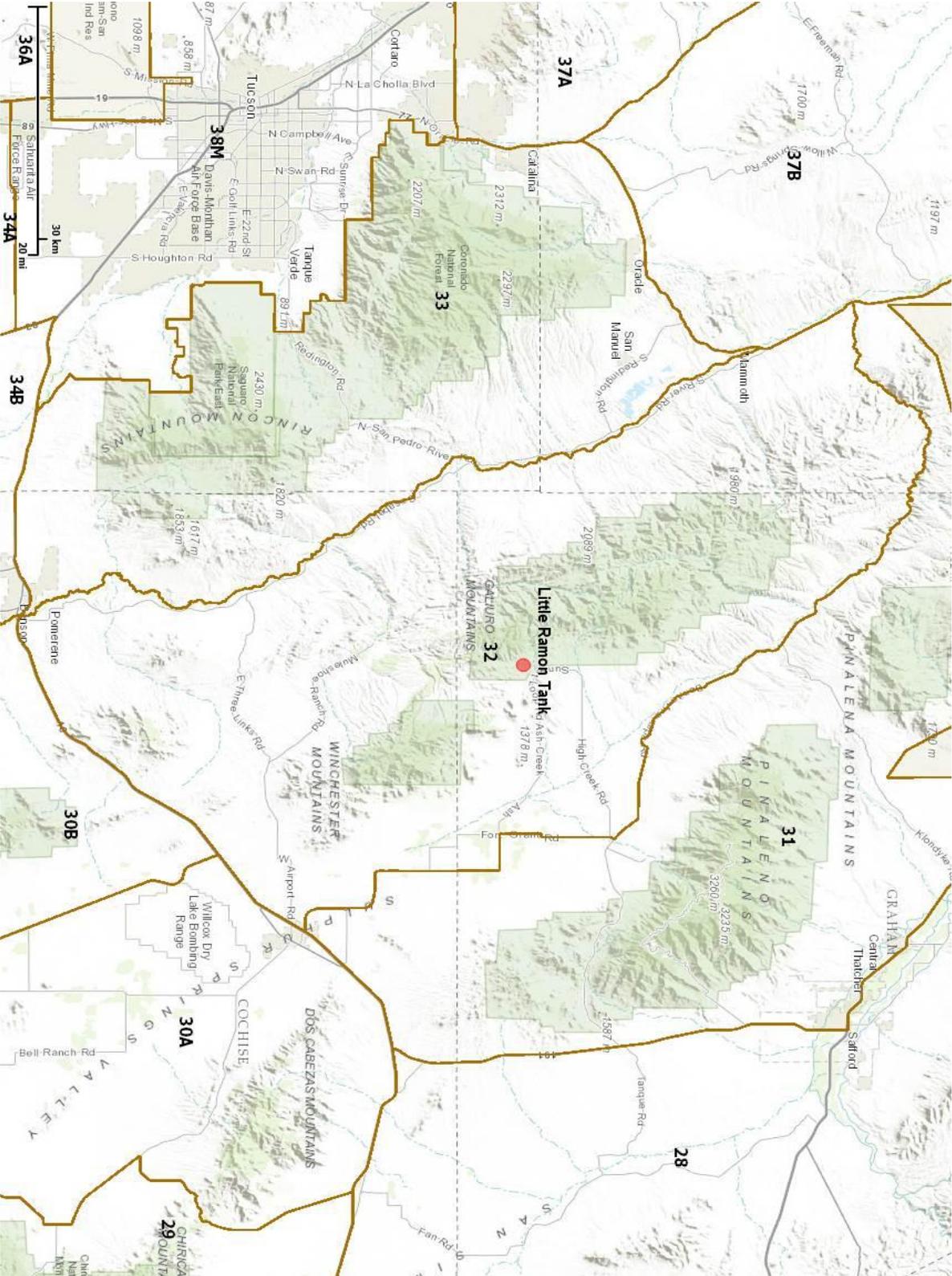
- To provide adequate and dependable year round water source for all wildlife species, including Chiricahua leopard frogs and waterfowl.
- To increase deer and Gould's turkey populations by providing a dependable, self-sustaining, water source.
- To refurbish a water system that will be accessible and require minimal maintenance.
- To increase hunter opportunity.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

- Use of heavy equipment (backhoe) to remove sediment from around the dam itself and minimal amounts of sediment from the tank.
- Power-washer to clean dirt and debris from the dam
- ThoroSeal (waterproof cement-based coating) and Thoro-Waterplug will be manually applied to the clean concrete-rock surface of the dam.
- Products will be applied as manufacture's recommendations and applied with two coats.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project site is located in GMU 32, Graham County, approximately 28 miles northwest of Willcox, AZ.



LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

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

- Project site is entirely on National Forest lands.

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:

The project site and surrounding area consists of Madrean Oak-Woodland community type at an elevation of 4800 to 5500 feet and Chihuahuan Pine community type occur in the creek bottoms and at higher elevations. Highest peaks in the mountain range are from 7000 to 7600 feet.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds:
 \$1250.00

Cost Share or Matching Funds (for volunteer labor rates please refer to the worksheet below)
 \$9758.00

Item	Dimensions	HPC Funds	Cost Share Funds	Total Costs
Thoro-seal (50 lb.)	5 @ \$50.00	\$250.00		\$250.00
Thoro-Waterplug (50 lb.)	4 @ \$100.00	\$400.00		\$400.00
Acryl 60 (1 gal)	2.5 @ \$100.00	\$250.00		\$250.00
Power-washer Rental	7 days	\$350.00		\$350.00
Volunteer Crew (10 people)	7 days @ \$14.14/hr.		\$7920.00	\$7920.00
5 Volunteer Vehicles (100 mile/day)	7 days @ .445/mile		\$1558.00	\$1558.00
Backhoe and operator	8 hrs. @ \$35.00/hr.		\$280.00	\$280.00
Totals		\$1250.00	\$9758.00	\$11,008.00

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

The USFS lessee/rancher (John McDonald) will provide the use of a backhoe and operator for the sediment removal. Labor for project will be provided by AGFD, USFS and Southeastern AZ Sportsman's Club volunteers.

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

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

Public access is available through USFS lands.

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

The dirt tank water level and permeability of the rock dam will be monitored at least annually and usually 2-3 times per year by either AGFD, USFS or lessee/rancher.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

Maintenance will depend upon the success of this project. But in most situations, the lessee/rancher is responsible for dirt tank maintenance. Some of the dirt tanks within this area, have not received any maintenance for over 20 years.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY: John Bacorn

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (please use the worksheet below):

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)

4/22/2015

Hey, John—

I checked with Kent on those, and neither one requires NEPA to do dam repairs, so that's a nice start! And I'm assuming you're suggesting this for next summer, since the next HPC dollars wouldn't come until around February of 2016?

It's a good idea, though I would suggest incorporating the YCC to do some of the reno work, if possible. If it is a project for next year, I'd be happy to work with Carlos on getting the YCC for a couple or more days to do the repair work. It would be nice to have them work alongside the Sportsmen's Club.

As for the engines and fire crews, you'll have to check with Scott and Buddy (they're cc'd on this). It would be putting the crew out a ways in terms of being able to respond to fires, though not as far out as Saddle/Cave tanks, so it may be possible. Scott and Buddy, how would you feel about this?

Take care,

Anne



Anne L. Casey
District Biologist

Forest Service

Coronado National Forest, Safford Ranger District

Little Ramon Tank





ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Little Ramon Tank

- 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.**
Joe Currie 5/19/2014.
- 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:
- 6) **Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts?** YES NO
One of the target wildlife species is Gould’s turkey.
- 7) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument). If private land, list landowner.**
No special land status.
- 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.**
Rock/cement dam 52’ x 6’ repair
- 10) **Was a site visit completed?** Yes No
If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.
John Bacorn (AGFD) and Joe Currie (AGFD) 5/19/2014
John Bacorn (AGFD) and John Wilson (SEAZSC) 4/28/2015

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

VOLUNTEER HOURLY RATES AND CLASSIFICATIONS WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Little Ramon Tank

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
	560	3500	\$14.14	\$9478.00
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				