

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 15-518

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Dutt Water Catchment Construction

Region and Game Management Unit: Region 5, GMU 37A

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC): • Tucson	Was the project presented to the LHPC? YES[X] NO[]
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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: Wildlife Water Catchment Construction

Brief Project Summary: Many areas within GMU 37A lack perennial water sources and receive limited wildlife use as a result. The Dobbs Butte Ranch is planning on installing a pipeline, storage tank, and livestock drinker in the west pass pasture of the ranch. However, the livestock water would only be available 3-4 months a year. Therefore, a separate storage tank and wildlife trough in a fenced off area is necessary to make water available to wildlife year-round. This new wildlife water catchment system will use the Dobbs Butte Ranch pipeline as the main source of water.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit (% benefit per species): mule deer (50%), javelina (30%), bighorn sheep (10%), mountain lion (10%)

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year): Project Start Date: September 1, 2015 Project End Date: September 1, 2017	Environmental Compliance: NEPA Completed: Yes[] No[X] N/A[] Projected Completion Date: <u>When funded</u> State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance: (Provide Attachment) Yes[] No[X] N/A[] Projected Completion Date: <u>When funded</u> Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A[] To be Completed by: <u>Joe Currie</u> Projected Completion Date: <u>When funded</u>
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PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:	\$25,657.46
Cost Share or Matching Funds:	\$15,165.60
Total Project Costs:	\$40,823.06

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print): Allison Dutt, AGFD	Address: 555 N. Greasewood Rd Tucson, AZ 85745	E-mail: adutt@azgfd.gov
Telephone: 520-240-1019		Date: 8/19/2015

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

Project has been coordinated with:

John Patton, ASLD Range Con; Joe Currie, AGFD Development Branch, Alisha Phipps, NRCS; Terry Herndon and Clyde Weekly, Mule Deer Foundation; Pat Whillock, Dobb Butte Ranch

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

The Dobbs Butte Ranch is planning on installing a pipeline to run water from Middle Tank to the western pasture of the ranch. The rancher plans on having cattle in the west pass pasture for only 3-4 months a year, and only having water available when the cattle are using the pasture. Therefore, a separate storage tank and trough in a fenced off area is necessary to make water available to wildlife year-round. This new wildlife water catchment system will use the Dobbs Butte Ranch pipeline as the main source of water.

The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) Mule Deer Working Group found that rainfall and availability of water were the two biggest limiting factors for wildlife in the Southwest Desert Ecoregion. The number one recommendation of the Group to improve mule deer management in the Southwest Desert Ecoregion was to create sources of water in areas where water is limiting and where other potentially limiting factors are being addressed. Also, consistent with the Group's recommendation is the Department's Species Management Guidelines (SMG) which provides goals, objectives, strategies and procedures for a specific species. The SMG outlines four ways to improve and enhance deer habitat to accomplish the overall goal of increasing mule deer populations to levels that provide diverse recreational opportunities. Number one on the list is: protect and maintain current water sources.

There is not currently a resident population of bighorn sheep in the Roskrige Mountains. However, a pair of rams have been seen at Catchment #724 and a GPS collared ram was recently recorded traveling south from the Waterman Mountains through the Roskruges. An increase in reliable water sources in the Roskrige Mountains could possibly encourage the Waterman and Silverbell bighorn sheep populations to extend their range to the south. The area could also serve as a travel corridor to the Coyote Mountains Wilderness and Baboquivari Peaks Wilderness both in Unit 36C.

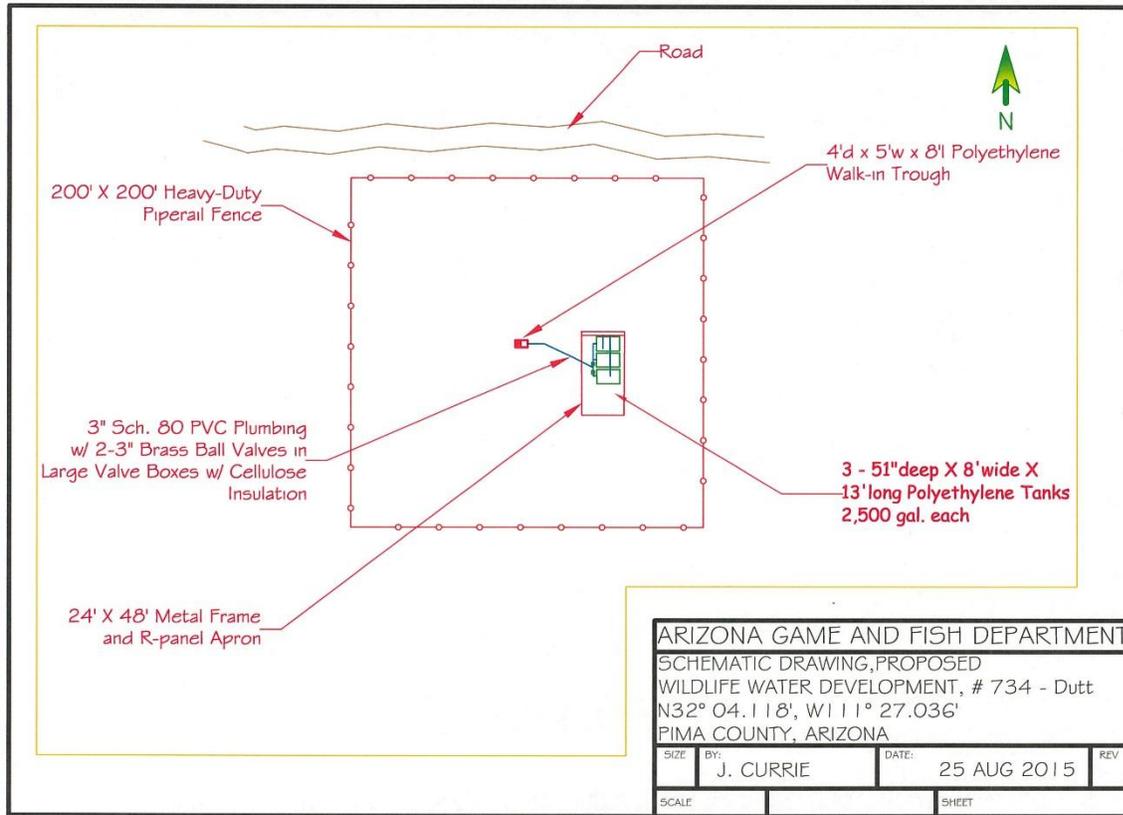
PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

This reliable water source will:

- Increase mule deer, bighorn sheep, and javelina populations by providing dependable, long term, self-sustaining, quality water sources.
- Increase hunter opportunity
- Install a system that has a long lifespan (40-50 years for storage and collection systems, 25 years for drinking troughs)
- Install a system that does not require supplemental hauling except in rare or exceptional circumstances
- Install a system that is accessible and that requires minimal routine maintenance
- To work cooperatively with ranchers to better manage both wildlife and livestock.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

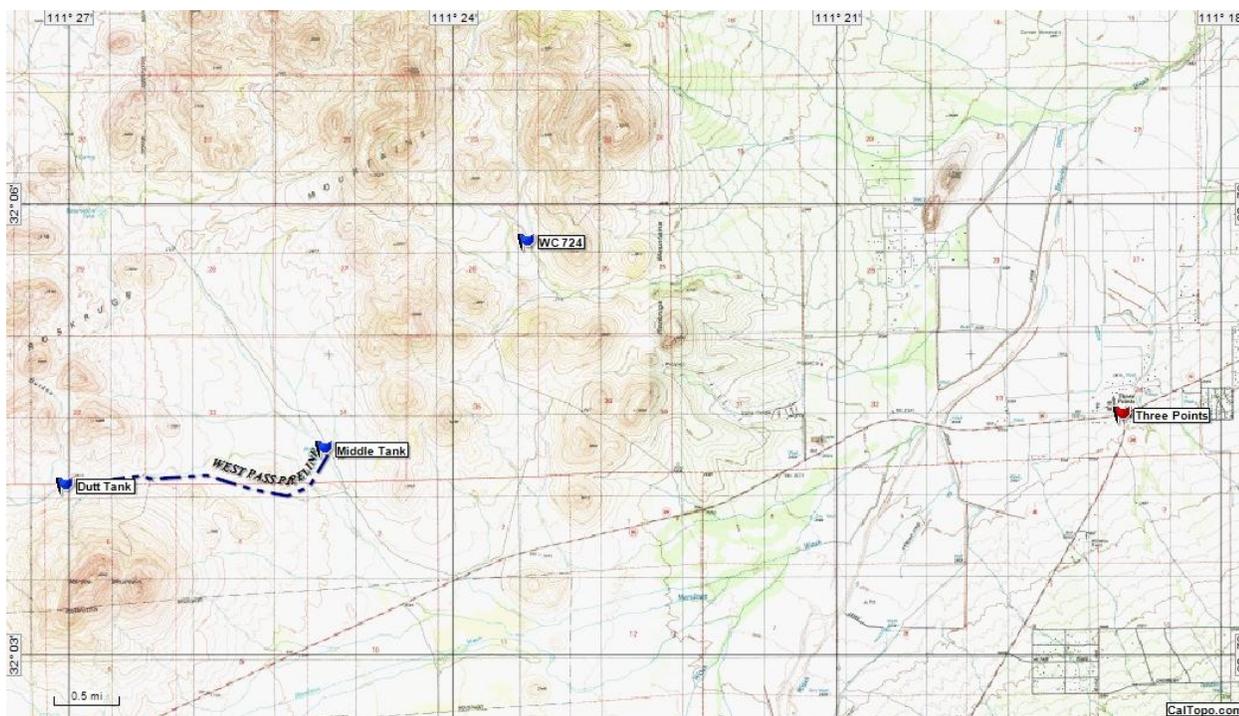
The a new wildlife water development system will be installed with a 24' x 48' R-panel apron over storage tanks for UV protection, three 2,500 gallon polyethylene water storage tanks, a 4' deep x 5' wide x 8' long polyethylene walk-in trough, and a 200' x 200' heavy duty piperail fence. A trail camera and protective case will be added to observe and document wildlife using the updated catchment.



PROJECT LOCATION

This project is located in the Roskrige Mountains west of Tucson, and northwest of the town of Three Points, in Game Management Unit 37A. The project will be located at GPS coordinates 32°04.121'N, 111°27.036'W.

(SEE MAP ON NEXT PAGE)



LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

- The project site is on State Trust Land, administered by the Arizona State Land Department.

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 primary biotic community in the Roskrige Mountains is Sonoran desert scrub. Common vegetation around the project area includes, palo verde (*Cercidium microphyllum*), saguaro (*Carnegiea gigantea*), ocotillo (*Fouquieria splendens*), and creosote (*Larrea tridentata*). Average rainfall is 10-12", and the elevation is approximately 2,700'.

(SEE PICTURES ON NEXT PAGE)



ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

3- 2,500 Gallon Polyethylene Water Storage Tanks	\$9,960.32
24' x 48' Metal frame and R-Panel Apron	\$5,000.00
200' x 200' Heavy Duty Piperail Fence	\$3,725.00
4' deep x 5' wide x 8' long Polyethylene Walk-in Trough and Gutter	\$4,697.14
Plumbing	\$1,000.00
14 Rubber Mats (for under tanks)	\$775.00
<u>Remote Digital Monitoring Camera</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>
Total	\$25,657.46

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

Volunteer Labor (20 volunteers [16 hours + 72 miles RT])	\$5,165.60
<u>SSDV Crew and Vehicles</u>	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
Total	\$15,165.60

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

AGFD SS Development Branch (Design and Installation)
AGFD Region 5
Arizona State Land Department (Permits)
Mule Deer Foundation (Volunteer Labor)

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

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

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

Project would be monitored by SSDV up to and during redevelopment, to include all required federal and state compliance paperwork; all project material; all state and federal volunteer paperwork and a final construction completion report with 'as built' drawings. This information will be housed in AGFD SSDV Water Development hard files and the SSDV Water Development database located at the AGFD Headquarters, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086.

Regular welfare monitoring will occur as deemed appropriate by the GMU 37A Wildlife Manager.

A remote digital camera will be used to monitor density and frequency of wildlife water use. This will enable the Wildlife Manager to make better informed decisions for the management of wildlife within GMU 37A.

Water levels will be monitored at least twice per year with emphasis during the warmer drier months by the Wildlife Manager. Additional monitoring will be conducted as needed.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

Any project maintenance will be assumed by the AGFD SSDV Branch and AGFD Region V. Minor maintenance will also be conducted as needed by the Wildlife Manager. The AGFD Development Branch will be responsible for major maintenance issues

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

A. Dutt, AGFD Region V GMU 38M/37A Wildlife Manager

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (please use the worksheet below):

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

PROJECT TITLE: Dutt Water Catchment Construction

- 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 and Tobbie McMillan, July 22, 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:
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: 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.**
3- 2,500 Gallon Polyethylene Water Storage Tanks
14 Rubber Mats (for under tanks)
24' X 48' Metal Frame and R-Panel Apron
200' X 200' Heavy Duty Pimperail Fence
4' deep X 5' wide X 8' long Polyethylene Walk-in Trough and Gutter
3" Schedule 80 PVC Plumbing w/ 2 3" Brass Ball Valves in Large Valve Boxes

10) Was a site visit completed? Yes No

If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

June 19, 2015: Allison Dutt, AGFD Wildlife Manager 38M/37A; John Patton, ASLD Range Con; Alisha Phipps, NRCS; Darrel Tersey, BLM; Terry Herndon and Clyde Weekly, Mule Deer Foundation; Pat Whillock, Dobbs Butte Ranch

July 22, 2015: Allison Dutt, AGFD Wildlife Manager 38M/37A; Joe Currie and Tobbie McMillan, AGFD Development Branch

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT **VOLUNTEER HOURLY RATES AND CLASSIFICATIONS WORKSHEET**

PROJECT TITLE: Dutt Water Catchment Construction

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
20 Volunteers	16 per volunteer	72 miles RT	\$14.14	\$5,165.60
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				