

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number:	15-613
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PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Juniper Canyon tank #3935 cleanout and bentonite sealing	
Region and Game Management Unit: Region 6/ GMU 23 South	
Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC): • Payson Natural Resource Committee	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 cleanout and bentonite sealing	
Brief Project Summary: This project will clean out and seal with bentonite a dirt stock tank. This tank will provide vital water to the numerous deer, quail, javelina and other wildlife that frequent this area. The site has been cleared by the forest service to be part of maintenance on an existing range improvement.	
Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Mule deer, Whitetail deer, Javelina	

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year): <u>Project Start Date:</u> Spring/summer 2016 <u>Project End Date:</u> End of 2016	Environmental Compliance: NEPA Completed: Yes[X] No[] N/A[] Projected Completion Date: _____ State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance: Yes[X] No[] N/A[] Projected Completion Date: _____ Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A[] To be Completed by: <u>Joe Sayer</u> Projected Completion Date: <u>Fall 2015</u>
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PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:	\$ 7,900
Cost Share or Matching Funds:	\$ 4,000
Total Project Costs:	\$ 11,900

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print): Joe Sayer, WM	Address: 7200 E. University Mesa, AZ 85207	E-mail: jsayer@azgfd.gov
Telephone: 480-639-9970	Date: August 26, 2015	

AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):
Project has been coordinated with: Eric Hoskins, Tonto Basin Ranger District

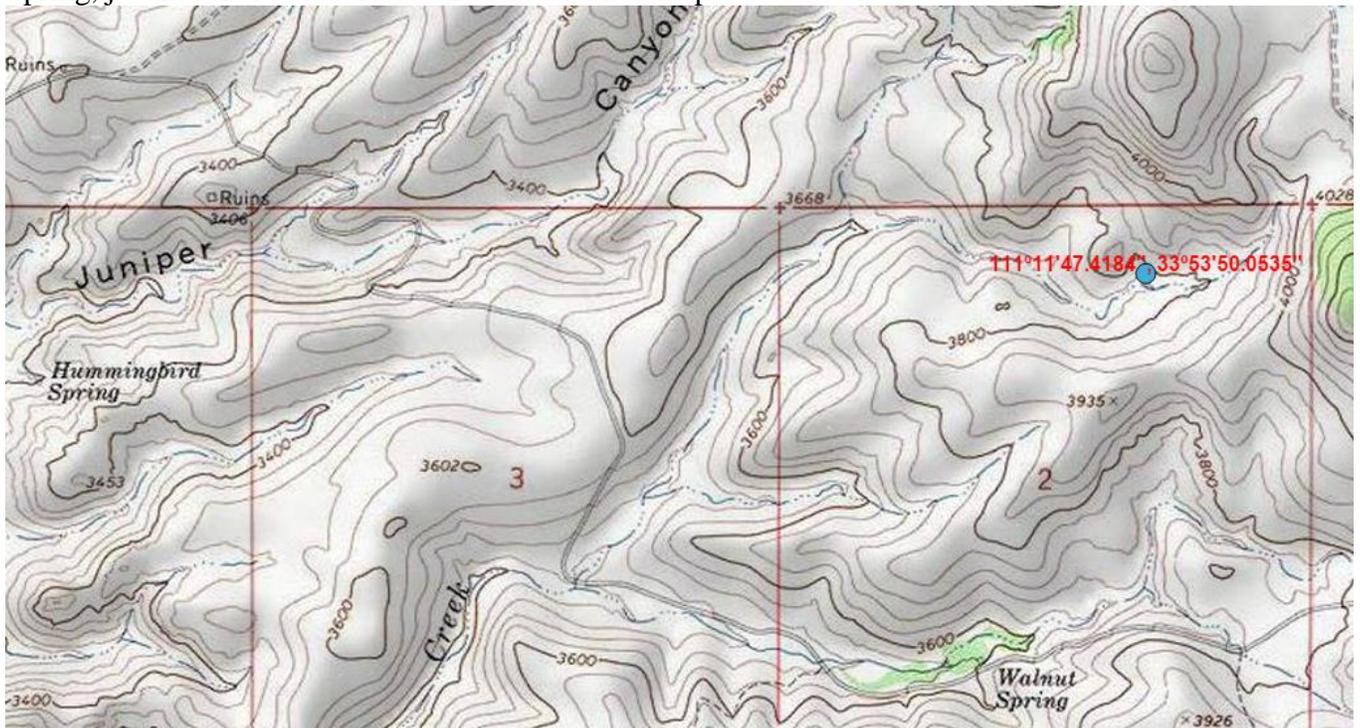
NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS: The need of water sources in 23S is part of the overall long-term habitat needs that will improve deer habitat and sustain a viable to growing population. GMU 23 South used to sustain a much larger deer population. Part of the problem with the depressed population that currently exists is water availability. The Juniper and Walnut areas have a growing mule deer herd. This herd will benefit from this water source in a key forage area and hopefully increase fawn survival as it is located away from high pressure areas. White tail deer are also located in the hills adjacent to the tank location and will utilize this water source.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES: This project will clean out and seal a dirt tank to provide water for wildlife.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES: This project will clean out and seal a dirt tank. The tank is silted in and does not hold water. The tank historically has not held water and will benefit from bentonite application. The tank will be cleaned of excess silt via dozer and bentonite will be applied and mixed into the soil. The tank is approximately 8,000 sq ft. It has been determined that the tank will need bentonite applied at 4lbs per sq foot for a total of 32,00lbs of bentonite needed.

This project is NEPA ready. The EAC is to be completed. Archeological Clearances and Categorical Exclusions are in the process of being completed by the Forest Service. The route to the tank needs to be walked and archeologically cleared to bring the equipment in due to there not being a pre-existing road. The author will submit a revised proposal once this is complete.

PROJECT LOCATION: This project is located in the Tonto Basin Ranger District near Walnut Spring, just north of Forest Road 71. See attached map.



LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

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

- United States Forest Service, Tonto Basin 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:

Semidesert Grassland with mixed juniper, mesquite and scrub oak. The elevation is about 3700 feet.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

TOTAL GRANT FUNDS REQUESTED: \$7,400

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

Anticipated Costs are:

Dozer rental and delivery	\$2,500
Dozer Fuel	\$500
Sodium Bentonite 32,000 lbs @ \$7.66 per 50lb bag	\$4,900

Materials and equipment rental Total: \$7,900

USDA Forest Service, T.N.F –NEPA and Archeological Clearances :	\$2,000
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Arizona Game and Fish project origination and coordination	\$1,000
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Permitee Labor costs:	\$1,000
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Cost Share Total: \$4,000

Total Costs: \$11,900

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Arizona Game & Fish Department: Labor, in-kind labor writing proposal and coordinate completion report, site visits and maintenance after completion.

USDA T.N.F, Tonto Basin Ranger District: NEPA and Archeological Clearances.

Permittee (O bar C Ranch): Implement project and perform maintenance. Provide labor to operate dozer and provide fuel for dozer.

Non-Profit Organization (possible funding partners): Mule Deer Foundation (MDF)

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

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

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN: No monitoring will be required other than regular water level checks and maintenance, to be conducted by the Permittee.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE: To be performed by the permittee.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY: Project Author

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

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

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?”**
Project not presented to Game Branch
- 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: Walnut spring
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank, etc.): Spring
Ownership of water source: USFS, Tonto Basin Ranger District
Distance in miles from project: about .75
- 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: After completion it will have access by foot only.
- 9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**

Dozer rental and delivery	\$2,500
Sodium Bentonite 32,000 lbs	\$3,000

Materials and equipment rental Total: \$5,500

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

If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

Eric Hoskins, 2015