

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 15-616

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Table Mesa Ranch Cooperative Water Development Project

Region and Game Management Unit: Region VI, GMU 21

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):

Was the project presented to the LHPC?

YES[] NO[x]

Has this project been submitted in previous years? YES[] NO[x]

If Yes, was it funded? YES[] NO[] → **Funded HPC Project #(s):**

Project Type: Cooperative Water Development with Rancher

Brief Project Summary:

The purpose of this project is to work cooperatively with Cody McCleve/Coulter Cattle Co., LLC, current operator and grazing permit holder of the Table Mesa Ranch (Tee Ranch) just north of New River to increase wildlife populations by providing dependable, long-term, self-sustaining quality water sources. The addition of these water sources will improve animal distribution and habitat utilization by increasing the use of otherwise unavailable forage resources. Hunter opportunities will also increase in the area.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit (% benefit per species): Mule Deer and Javelina primarily, some benefit to White-tailed Deer and Mountain Lion. Quail populations also to benefit.

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date:

October 1, 2015

Project End Date:

September 30, 2017

Environmental Compliance:

NEPA Completed: Yes[] No[] N/A[x]

Projected Completion Date: _____

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:

\$ 121,200.00

-15,000.00 Landowner Relations Program

\$ 106,200.00

Cost Share or Matching Funds:

\$ 121,200.00 (Coulter Cattle Co., LLC)

-15,000.00 Cost-Share LRP

\$ 106,200.00

Total Project Costs:

\$ 212,400.00

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print): Cody McCleve	Address: Coulter Cattle Co., LLC 10575 N 114 th Street, Suite 103 Scottsdale, Arizona 85259	E-mail: cody@coultercattle.com
Telephone: (480) 225-0047		Date: 8/31/2015
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):		
Project has been coordinated with:		

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Perennial water sources for wildlife and livestock on the 50,000 acre Table Mesa Ranch (formerly the Tee Ranch) were severely compromised as a result of the torrential rains which created the back to back 100-plus year floods of August and September 2014. Dirt tank dams were breached and those basins are now so deeply silted that no waters can be retained. Four (4) windmills near otherwise seasonal washes were severely damaged and remain inoperable, and the adjacent storage tanks were destroyed. At least three (3) of these windmill wells will need to be re-drilled due to silt contamination (see asterisks below). As a consequence, habitat for big game wildlife species (mule deer in particular) is severely limited by the lack of water sources in this area. This project will assist in supplying water to wildlife and livestock where water is currently unavailable. In turn, this will allow for better management of livestock and the implementation grazing strategies which will improve vegetative cover.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The overall objective of this proposal is to re-develop seventeen (17) Water Sites comprised of five/5 dirt tanks, ten/10 windmills, two/2 drinkers all of which will benefit wildlife habitat. More specifically, Mule Deer and to some extent in the higher elevations, White-tailed Deer, will benefit by being ensured access to perennial water sources and the ability to use this part of GMU 21 habitat which is now significantly under-used.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

As stated above, the purpose of this project is to provide water for wildlife and livestock in order to meet their respective daily water requirements and improve animal distribution and habitat utilization. First, this project will begin with the remediation of several dirt tanks, that is, the rebuilding of earthen levies and the removal of hundreds of tons silt and debris. This part of the project is a current priority as we are trying to have them completed in time to take advantage of the winter rains that typically fall in the area. Second, the renovation of the windmills and the wells which feed them will begin and upon their completion, new storage tanks will be brought in. However, before the work on the dirt tanks or windmills can begin, the maintenance roads to these sites has to be repaired and/or rebuilt to allow for access. This is a significant undertaking since we have a number of major washes and their tributaries to cross.

PROJECT LOCATION:

This Water Development Project is located within the areas noted below (see attached maps)

T6N, R2E (TMarker) Description
Sect. 8 (T18) Bull Pen Windmill*

T7N, R2E (TMarker) Description
Sect. 10 (T3) Pipeline Windmill
Sect. 14 (T20) Preserve Windmill
Sect. 14 (T4) Preserve Tank
Sect. 16 (T2) Doe Springs (Spring Box/Drinker)

T7N, R2E (TMarker) Description - continued
Sect. 17 (T21) Powerline Windmill
Sect. 30 (T17) Sweat Spring Windmill

T8N, R3E (Marker) Description
Sect. 5 (T14) Squaw Creek Tank
Sect. 6 (T13) Black Canyon Windmill*
Sect. 6 (T16) Squaw Ridge Tank
Sect. 10 (T10) Little Squaw Windmill*
Sect. 17 (T8) Fig Spring Windmill
Sect. 19 (T11) Muley Tank
Sect. 29 (T12) Orizaba Mine Windmill
Sect. 32 (T7) North Mountain Tank
Sect. 36 (T6) Moore's Gulch Windmill

The following Water Development Sites have already been completed/renovated:

T7N, R2E, Sect. 33 (T1) 51st Avenue Tank
T7N, R2E, Sect. 1 (T5) HQ Tank

LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

- 90%: State Trust Land (ASLD)
- 10%: Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

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 area is primarily located in northern Maricopa County and straddles Interstate 17 from Anthem Way to Rock Springs (Black Canyon City) just over the Yavapai County line. The two main biotic community types are Sonoran Desertscrub in the lower elevations and Semidesert Grassland in the higher elevations.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

\$106,200.00 To be used for the repair and/or replacement of project components and bentonite. (See attached Material/Component Cost Sheet).

Rancher Cost Share

\$106,200.00 To be used for road repair, diesel fuel/oil, rancher’s own equipment use and maintenance, heavy equipment rental, operator labor, administrative time, and project oversight. In summary, the bulk of this cost-share obligation is attributable to the following expenses:

<u>Equipment Rental, Fuel, Labor</u>	<u>Road Days</u>	<u>Tank Days</u>
JD 3y Front Loader \$400 day		
Diesel Fuel \$ 50 day		
Operator \$200 day		
\$650 day	<u>19.0</u>	<u>38.0</u>
	\$12,350	\$24,700
JD D5 Series Bulldozer \$300 day		
Diesel Fuel \$ 50 day		
Operator \$200 day		
\$550 day	<u>19.0</u>	<u>38.0</u>
	\$10,450	\$20,900
Case570 Tractor/Gannon \$200 day		
Diesel Fuel \$ 50 day		
Operator \$200 day		
\$450 day	<u>19.0</u>	<u>38.0</u>
	\$8,550	\$17,100
SubTotals	\$31,350	\$62,700
	<u>Total Projected Estimate</u>	<u>\$94,050</u>

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Ranchers: Cody McCleve – Coulter Cattle Co., LLC, Managing Member, and Ted Morales – to oversee project completion.

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

YES[x] NO[] N/A[]

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

Ranchers will oversee this.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

Ranchers will oversee this.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Cody McCleve

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (please use the worksheet below):

See attached.

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

Not Applicable

ATTACHMENTS:

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

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

PROJECT TITLE: Table Mesa Ranch Cooperative Development Project

- 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.**
Unknown
- 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.**
N/A
- 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.**
See cost sheet below
- 10) **Was a site visit completed?** Yes No
If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

Material/Component Cost

<u>#</u>	<u>Item/Description</u>	<u>Projected Cost</u>
3	Water Well Drilling (@ \$35.00 per lf, 100-300 ft depth= \$10,500.00 ea.) Bull Pen (T18) Black Canyon (T13) Little Squaw (T10)	\$31,500.00
3	Windmill/Tower/Tank and Trough (Complete Unit @ \$10,000.00 ea.) Bull Pen (T18) Black Canyon (T13) Moore's Gulch (T6)	\$30,000.00
3	Windmill Repair Kits (Various Components @ \$2,500.00 ea.) Orizaba Mine (T12) Fig Spring (T8) Pipeline (T3)	\$7,500.00
1	Water Storage Tanks/Piping (Poly: 1,000 gal. ea.) Doe Springs (T2)	\$1,200.00
6	Bentonite (30 tons per @ \$200.00 per ton) Preserve (T4) Cline (T15) Squaw Creek (T14) Squaw Ridge (T16) Muley (T11) North Mtn (T7)	\$36,000.00
Total Projected Estimate		\$106,200.00

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER HOURLY RATES AND CLASSIFICATIONS WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: N/A

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
			\$14.14	
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				