

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 12-408

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Red Cliffs #996 Water Development

Region and Game Management Unit: Region 4/ GMU 44A

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):
• Southwest

Was the project presented to the LHPC?
YES NO

Has this project been submitted in previous years? YES NO

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

Project Type: Water Redevelopment

Brief Project Summary:

Existing development is a 4500 gallon fiberglass ring tank buried flush with the ground using a natural collection in a large drainage. Proposal is to add an additional point of water collection in a nearby smaller drainage that would more efficiently collect water. The new collection system would connect into existing structure and feed into the existing tank and eliminate costly and frequent wilderness intrusion to fill this system with a helicopter. This water was built as mitigation for the construction and paving of SR 95 and is very important to the bighorn sheep herd that resulted from transplants in the mid 1980's. All materials would be hiked in from the wilderness boundary and no mechanized equipment will be used on this project.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Bighorn Sheep

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date:
1-15-14

Project End Date:
4-15-14

Environmental Compliance:

NEPA Completed: Yes No N/A

Projected Completion Date: 5-1-13

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

Yes No N/A

Projected Completion Date: 5-1-13

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A

To be Completed by: Suzy Ehret

Projected Completion Date: 9-1-13

PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested: \$ 2,000

Cost Share or Matching Funds: \$ 2,483

Total Project Costs: \$ 4,483

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print):
Suze Ehret

Address:

E-mail:
sehret@azgfd.gov

Telephone: 928-301-0393

Date: 8-28-12

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

Project has been coordinated with:

Project was discussed with BLM at the BLM LHFO/AZGFD Coordination meeting on February 28th, 2012. And a meeting is scheduled in Sept. of 2012 to start the NEPA process. Coordination has also been conducted with ADBSS.

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Existing development is a 4500 gallon fiberglass ring tank using a natural collection in a large drainage. This water development is frequently used by desert bighorn sheep and other wildlife. The existing collection point is in a large drainage that takes both a large and sustained rain event to fill the system. Because these large, sustained rain events are too infrequent this development requires persistent water hauling via helicopter. Red Cliffs water development typically needs supplemental water hauling via helicopter 2 out of 3 years.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The objective is to augment the old water development with a more efficient, reliable and cost effective water collection/diversion point in a nearby smaller drainage. The collection point will eliminate wilderness intrusion and costs associated with helicopter water hauling.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

The AZGFD Region 4 proposes to construct a new collection point and feed line that will partially utilize existing structure to increase the amount of water collected during rain events. Experience has shown that using small drainages with relatively large diameter feed lines allows the collection of short duration intense rain events that are relatively common rather than relying on the large and sustained rain events required by the existing structure. The proposed collection point will have a small diversion made out of ready mix cement and native rock to eliminate visual impact. The diversion will be approximately 4' long and 8" high with a width of approximately 2-6". There will be 100' feet of 4" diameter pipe that will be buried and run from the proposed collection point to the current above ground feed line. The existing above ground feed line is a pair of 2" steel pipes. The new feed line will lie on top of the pair of existing pipes and be camouflage painted to match the surrounding substrate. All materials will be supplied by Region 4 from existing inventory and will be packed in by people with no mechanized equipment used. All surface rocks with patina will be saved and replaced with proper orientation to minimize visual obtrusion.

PROJECT LOCATION:

Buckskin Mountains, La Paz Co., AZ, (34° 12' 52.4" 114° 7' 14.4") Refer to enclosed maps.

LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

Bureau of Land Management (Lake Havasu City Field Office)

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

The Buckskin Mountains have elevations ranging from near the Colorado River at approximately 400' to about 1888' at Giers Mountain. The topography ranges from gentle bajadas and rolling hills to high benches, rugged cliffs, ridges, and mesas. Both Arizona Upland and Lower Colorado River subdivisions of Sonoran desertscrub occur in the proposal area.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

Water Rights Application Fee.....\$2,000

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

Volunteer labor @ \$113/day x 20 man days (cost share).....\$2,260

Volunteer mileage @ \$.445/mile x 500 miles.....\$223

TOTAL COST SHARE.....\$2,483

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

AGFD Region IV in conjunction with Habitat Branch and BLM personnel will complete the needed environmental and cultural clearances for project completion and Development Branch will complete the Water Rights application. AGFD Region IV will provide construction coordination including transport of necessary tools and material to and from the staging area. Coordination has taken place with local Region 4 volunteers and the ADBSS.

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

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

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

AGFD Region IV will monitor water levels according to the Regional water development protocol.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

AGFD Region IV or Development Branch will conduct any needed maintenance.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Suzy Ehret

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Red Cliffs #996 Water Development

1) Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent "Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?"

Yes (2012 version)

2) Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.
Ed Jahrke (8-20-12)

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: Lamb Spring

Type of water source; spring

Ownership of water source: State Parks

Distance in miles from project: 2 miles NW

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;

Wilderness

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: 2 Approximate hiking time: 40 min.

-- 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.

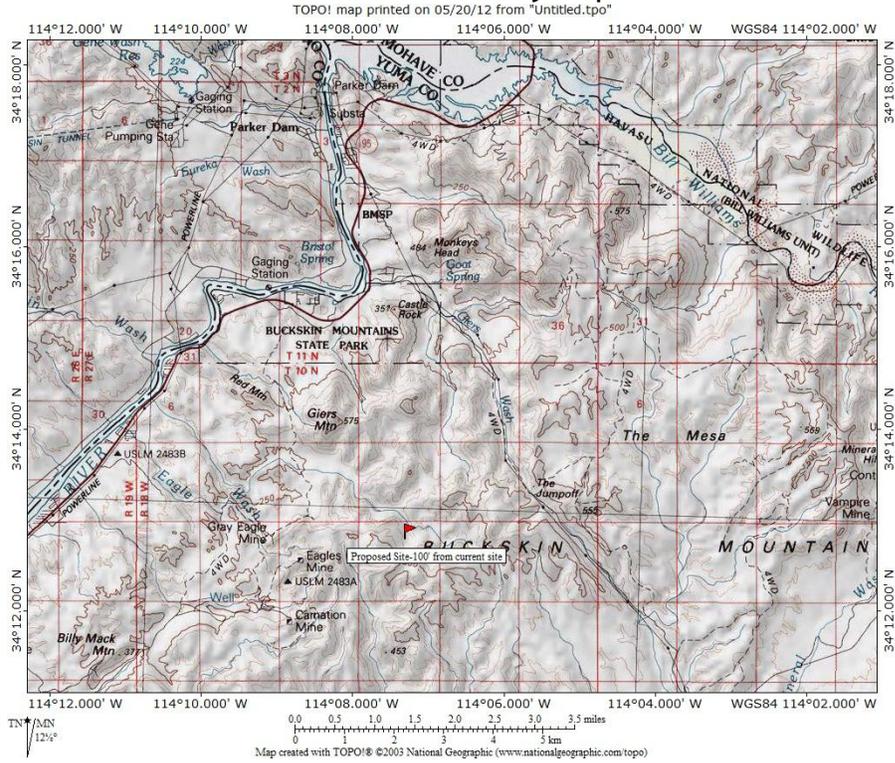
Attached

10) Was a site visit completed? Yes No

If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

Dave Conrad, John Hervert, Suzy Ehret (4-4-12)

Red Cliffs Vicinity Map



Red Cliffs Redevelopment Schematic

