

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 12-602

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Payson Campgrounds Bear-Proof Food Lockers

Region and Game Management Unit Region IV/Unit 22

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: Materials Purchase – Bear Food Storage Containers

Brief Project Summary: Provide bear-proof food lockers in Ponderosa Campground (A Loop), where two bear attacks occurred in summer 2012.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Black Bear

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date: Spring 2013

Project End Date: Summer 2013

Environmental Compliance:

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

Projected Completion Date: no ground disturbance

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

Yes[] No[] N/A X

Projected Completion Date: _____

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A To be

Completed by:

Projected Completion Date: _____

PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:

\$ 10,000 (or amount available)

Cost Share or Matching Funds:

\$ 21,264

Total Project Costs:

\$ 31,264

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print):
Rachael Hohl, Recreation
Staff

Address:
Payson Ranger District, Tonto NF
1009 E. Highway 260
Payson, AZ 85541

E-mail:
rhohl@fs.fed.us

Telephone: 928-474-7930

Date: 8/4/2012

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

Dave Daniels, 480-528-8774

Project has been coordinated with: Payson Area AZGFD officers: Dave Daniels, Henry Apfel, & Natalie Robb

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

In the summer of 2012 there were 2 bear attacks in the within Ponderosa Campground and a 3rd attack on private land in the immediate vicinity. As a result and in an effort to euthanize the problem bear, 3 bears were trapped and euthanized by AZGFD which resulted in inconclusive DNA evidence. After both attacks the campground was closed down and after the third attack (June 24, 2012), the campground was closed for the remainder of the season. The lack of bear proof facilities in conjunction with the extreme drought conditions may have been factors leading to the attacks.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The objective is to provide facilities for people to store their food so bears can't access it. This campground is one of the more popular campgrounds in the area and it is important to allow outdoor recreationists access to their public lands in as safe a manner as possible, and prevent/minimize potential for bear/human conflicts in the future.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

Install a total of 42 bear food storage lockers at each campsite at Ponderosa Campground. The food lockers will be purchased using HPC funds (14 lockers) and 28 lockers have been purchased by the Forest Service (\$20,000). Please note, the only provider of the lockers is Bearsaver and lockers cost \$711.00 per locker. We are pursuing working with a local metal fabrication company to have lockers made at reduced prices. The labor for installation will be provided by USFS employees and volunteers and is estimated to cost: \$1264 [\$592 (2 employees for 8 hours) + \$672(3 volunteers for 8 hours)].

PROJECT LOCATION: Ponderosa Campground, Payson Ranger District (T11N, R12E, Section 32)

LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

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

- All lands are Forest System Lands owned by the US Forest Service.

IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A COOPERATIVE BIG GAME STEWARDSHIP or LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?

YES[] NO[] N/A[]

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

Ponderosa Campground is predominately Ponderosa Pine with a low mix of Douglas Fir.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

14 bear food storage lockers @ \$711.00 each = \$10,000.

Note: If less funds are available/awarded, fewer bear food storage lockers will be purchased!

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

USFS: 28 bear food storage lockers @ \$711 each = \$20,000
Volunteer Labor: 3 volunteers at \$14.14/hour x 16 hours = \$672.00

Employee Labor: 2 employees at 8 hours day rates are \$334 and \$258 respectively = \$592.00

Total Cost Share / Matching Funds = \$21,264

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

- USFA and AZGFD
- We frequently get requests for Eagle Scout projects and installing of the food storage containers would be a great project
- Recreation Resource Management (RRM) – Campground Concession

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

YES X NO[] N/A[]

It is probable the campground and/or sites without food storage lockers will remain closed until it is fully outfitted with food storage lockers at every campsite and bear dumpsters (already in place).

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

We will work with AZGFD to monitor calls and input from the public on bear encounters and sightings. Additionally, the campground hosts live in the campground during the operating season and will monitor/report bear activity in the area.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

The bear food storage containers will become property of the US Government and thus the USFS will be responsible for their maintenance.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Rachael Hoh, Recreation Staff, Payson Ranger District, Tonto National Forest

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

N/A

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

N/A

Food Lockers



BearSaver

Campground Food Storage

BearSaver Bear-Resistant Food Storage Lockers are rugged, high quality metal enclosures designed for safe and convenient food storage in campgrounds, picnic areas and trailheads. Our intermediate sized lockers are 15 (FS15) and 20 cubic feet, which are perfect for smaller campsites and trailheads. The 24 (FS24) and 30 (FS30) cu/ft lockers are large enough to hold an entire family's food supply including two large ice chests.

The **BearSaver** latching system uses a pocket style touch latch with double spring bolt actuation on its standard enclosures. Our pocket style, self-closing touch latch is composed of zinc plated steel components and hardware. A child safety release handle on the inside of the enclosure is provided. The design is very simple for users to operate but is beyond the capabilities of bears. It has a clean, attractive appearance and is ADA compliant in terms of height, reach and required pounds of operating force.



Model FS15

15 Cubic Foot Capacity Food Storage Locker

This small to intermediate sized food storage locker is perfect for trailheads, day use areas, tent cabin areas and small campsites. There is a center shelf built in to take advantage of the 15 cubic foot capacity. With provisions to bolt side-by-side, these lockers can easily be lined up for group usage.



Model FS20

20 Cubic Foot Capacity Food Storage Locker

This is an economically priced, intermediate sized food storage locker with enough capacity (20 cubic feet) for a regular sized cooler and room left over for a few dry goods. Primarily used in campsites, the FS20 can also be used at trailheads and public use areas.



1390 S. Milliken Avenue, Ontario, California 91761
Phone (909) 605-1697, Fax (909) 605-7780
www.bearsaver.com, Sales@bearsaver.com



Model FS24

24 Cubic Foot Capacity Food Storage Locker

One of most popular models, the FS24 has enough capacity (24 cubic feet) for a family who is camping for a week. There is room for two regular sized coolers and plenty of space left over for dry goods.

Always paying attention to detail we have added hooks on the ceiling of the locker for hanging bags of dry goods. These heavy-duty enclosures with easy to use, self-latching doors will provide years of reliable services in all weather conditions.



Model FS30

30 Cubic Foot Capacity Food Storage Locker

Our largest and best selling food storage locker, the FS30 has a full 30 cubic feet of interior space to accommodate large families on extended stays.

With the capacity to hold the largest of coolers and lots of dry provisions, this big locker removes the worries associated with keeping food in your car overnight.

FEATURES AND BENEFITS

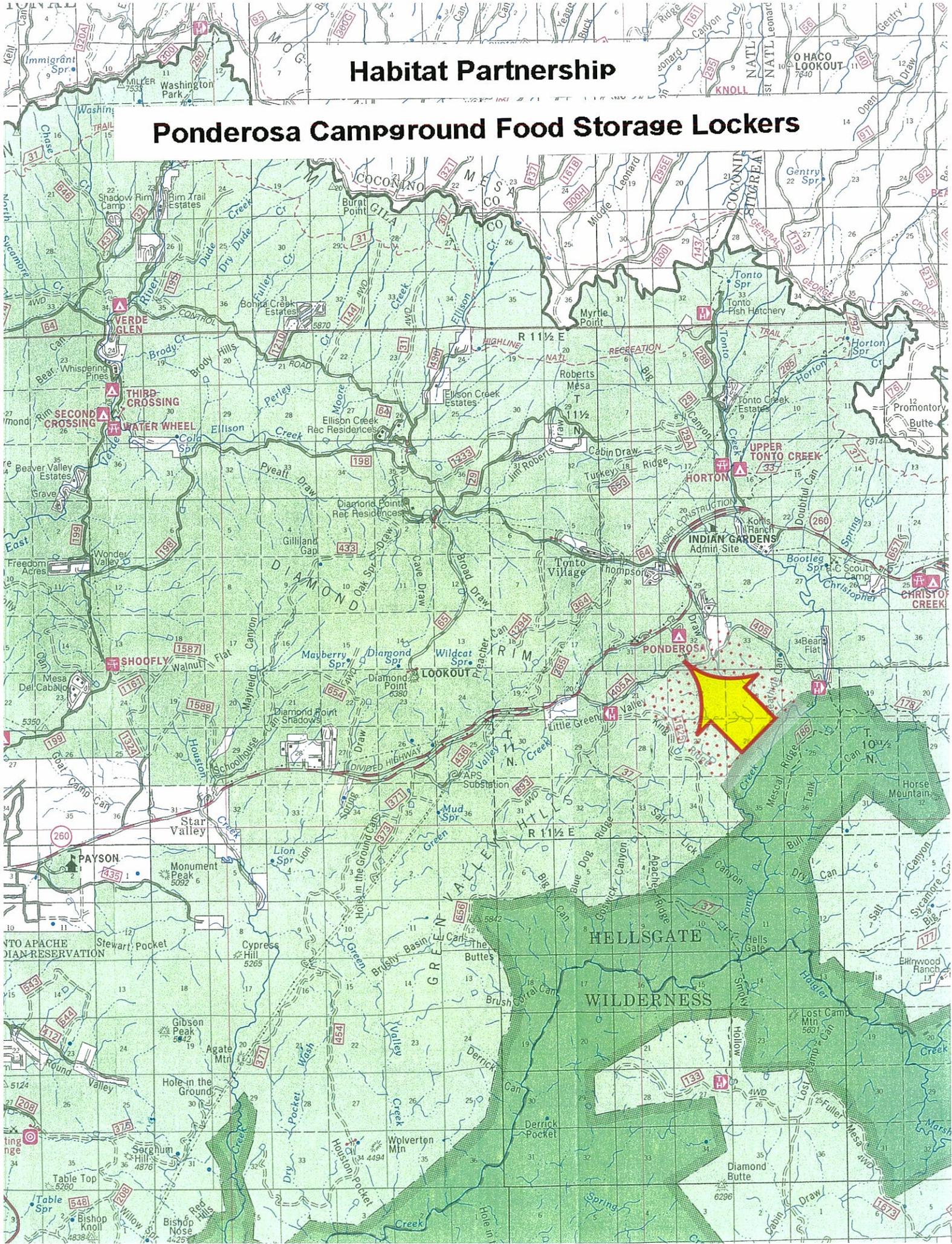
Bearsaver Food Storage Lockers are designed for user friendly, accessible operation to ensure a consistent, high level of animal resistance. Large cupboard style doors ensure easy access for even the largest coolers. With enough room inside to open the cooler lids, the need for pulling heavy coolers out of the enclosure is eliminated, thus preventing back injuries. The doors can be opened with one hand and can be shut by simply swinging them closed. Constructed of 12-gauge galvanized steel to withstand the abuses of weather, animals and campers, the BearSaver Food Storage Locker is designed to last for years. Using UV resistant powder coating and zinc coated hardware, these enclosures are meant to withstand the harshest of environments.

MECHANICAL SPECIFICATIONS

All hinges, handles, striker plates and hardware are zinc coated for corrosion resistance. The door hinges are heavy-duty piano hinge material using stainless steel pins. The housing and doors are made from corrosion resistant 12-gauge steel and are finished using a textured powder coat process. The finish is resistant to humidity, salt spray, fog, ultraviolet rays, abrasion and chemicals. Standard powder coat colors are Forest Brown and Fir Green. Other colors, such as camel or tan for hot weather areas are available upon request. Reference our website for sizes and weights.

Habitat Partnership

Ponderosa Campground Food Storage Lockers





Ponderosa Campground

USFS Payson Ranger District

