

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number:	12-307
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PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Sugarloaf Wildlife Water Catchment Redevelopment

Region and Game Management Unit: Region 3/Game Management Unit 18A

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):

- Kingman no longer has a local HPC

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[] → **HCP Project #:**

Project Type: Redevelopment of Wildlife Water Catchment

Brief Project Summary:

Installation of two new buried 18' X 3' fiberglass tanks with walk-in trough(s) and buried pipelines for most of the distance to the new tanks. Removal of the existing catchments, replacement of tank covers, soil re-contouring and fence replacement (with three-rail, black-pipe fence) would also occur as needed. Internal fencing to prevent elk damage to catchment aprons would also be installed. Catchment aprons and fencing would be camouflaged to blend into the surrounding landscape. All renovations would occur within the existing fenced areas surrounding the catchments.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Elk, Mule Deer, Pronghorn Antelope, Mountain Lion, Javelina

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date: October, 2013

Project End Date: April, 2014

Environmental Compliance:

NEPA Completed: NEPA is not needed for State Trust Land within existing project footprint.

Projected Completion Date: N/A

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

YES[] No[X]

Projected Completion Date: Not needed for State Trust Property.

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A[]

To be Completed by: Joseph Currie/Dee Kephart AZGFD

Projected Completion Date: May, 2013

PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested: \$39,074

Cost Share or Matching Funds:

Total Project Costs: \$39,074

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print):

Brandon Carley AZGFD

Address: 5325 N. Stockton Hill Road

Kingman, AZ 86409

E-mail: bcarley@azgfd.gov

Telephone: (623)252-8700

Date: August 16, 2012

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

Project has been coordinated with:

AZGFD- Brandon Carley, Deanna Kephart, Trevor Buhr

BLM- Rebecca Peck, Ammon Wilhelm

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

The primary purpose for redeveloping Sugarloaf water catchment is to provide a reliable and permanent source of water for wildlife. Currently the closest department water source is Rincon Wildlife Water over 13.4 miles to the west, and Coffee Lake Catchment 15 miles to the southeast. There are no perennial water sources close to this catchment. Sugarloaf is located within the eastern section of GMU 18A; prime big game habitat for elk, mule deer, pronghorn and mountain lion surround this catchment. One of the most productive pronghorn areas for Region III, Seventy Four Plains, is located just east of this catchment. A large portion of this pronghorn population relies on waters in stock tanks that dry up by the hot summer months, and often do not even hold water when it becomes available. Currently Sugarloaf catchment is entirely non-functional, with an outdated tin storage tank, ripped liner, broken connection pipes and a tin apron which is curled and separated.



Storage tank and liner for Sugarloaf Water Catchment #1033.



Collection apron for Sugarloaf water catchment #1033.



Sugarloaf catchment drinking trough.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The Department proposes to construct a wildlife water development to create a permanent year-round water source for wildlife. It is the objective of the Arizona Game and Fish Department to reduce the effects of drought and thermal stress on game species and other wildlife by constructing, redeveloping and maintaining wildlife water developments. The Sugarloaf Wildlife Water re-development would provide a much needed water source for the varied species of wildlife, particularly pronghorn, mule deer and elk around the Seventy Four Plains area. Traditionally, big game species have struggled in this habitat, often moving to private property areas which are inaccessible to area sportsman. The creation of a year round water source increases the potential to allow big game accessibility to hunters and improve pronghorn

population numbers and fawn survival rates within the northern section of GMU 18A.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

At each catchment site:

- 1) Removal of existing storage tank, concrete drinker and old pipeline.
- 2) Excavate a hole approximately 5' deep X 20' wide X 40' long to install two 18' diameter (5700 gallon) fiberglass ring tanks.
- 3) Dig a 3' to 5' deep X 20' to 60' long trench to place a 3" Sch. 80 PVC pipeline between the tanks and trough.
- 4) Dig a 3' deep X 6' wide X 11' long hole to accommodate new fiberglass walk in trough. The trough would have mortar and concrete steps, and an escape ramp (installed after setting) to accommodate all wildlife.
- 5) Install a 24' wide X 96' long metal frame and R-panel apron over the tanks and along the ground where the apron will be placed.
- 6) Install a 150' X 150' wildlife friendly pipe rail perimeter fence to exclude livestock.
- 7) Install a 30' X 80' elk enclosure fence around the apron and tanks to prevent damage to the apron, and injury to the wildlife.

PROJECT LOCATION:

Sugarloaf Catchment #1033- Township 23 North, Range 9 West, Section 23

LAND OWNERSHIP AT PROJECT SITE (Please state specifically if PRIVATE PROPERTY and provide landowner's name):

State Land owns the land at the catchment site.

IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A STEWARDSHIP or LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?
YES[] NO[]

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

The Sugarloaf catchment is located in Mojave Desert scrub habitat. This habitat consists of a vast and diverse expanse of shrubs, Joshua trees and cactus on desert uplands. The vegetation is dominated by Creosote Bush, White Bursage and mixed with shrubs such as Nevada Jointfir, Fremont's Dalea, Salt-bush, Brittlebush, Spiny Menodora, White Burrobush, Box Thorn, Spiny Hopsage, Littleleaf Ratany, Mormon Tea and Rabbitbrush. A number of yucca and yucca-like species can be found in this habitat, including Joshua trees, Mojave Yucca, Banana Yucca and Soaptree Yucca. Agave can be found in the rocky areas. Several types of cactus are common here, including Cholla, Pricklypear, Hedgehog Cactus, and occasionally Pincushion and Cottontop Cactus. Elevation at the Sugarloaf catchment is 5400 feet.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

License and permit fees:

- 1) State Trust permit fee- \$150.00

For the catchment:

- 1) Two 3' deep X 18' diameter fiberglass ring tanks- \$20,020
- 2) One 3' deep standard walk-in trough- \$3,934
- 3) One 24' X 96' metal frame and R-panel apron- \$7,580
- 4) One pipe-rail fence package (150' X 150')- \$3,390
- 5) One 30' X 80' elk enclosure fence around the apron and tanks- \$3,000
- 6) Misc. plumbing and concrete- \$1,000

Total Cost per Wildlife Catchment = \$39,074

Cost Share or Matching Funds

No cost share funds have been allocated to this project as of submittal date.

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

AGFD Development Branch, AGFD Region III, State Trust Land Department

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

Periodic checks will be made by the local Wildlife Manager to ensure that the catchments are functional and holding water properly.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

The AGFD development branch will do any maintenance or repairs that need to be completed on these catchments.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Dee Kephart, Habitat Specialist AZGFD

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (*see attached worksheet*):

Attached worksheet

TREE SHEARING (AGRA-AXE, PUSH) PROJECTS (*see attached worksheet*):

Non-Applicable

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PROJECT NAME: Sugarloaf Catchment Redevelopment

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”**
Yes....Priority for Region III

- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**
Joseph Currie, AZGFD August 2012

- 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: N/A**
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.**
No special land management status.

- 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:
No restrictions to access, property is State Trust Land.

9) Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.

- 1) Two 3' deep X 18' diameter fiberglass ring tanks
- 2) One 3' deep standard walk-in trough
- 3) One 24' X 96' metal frame and R-panel apron
- 4) One Pipe-rail fence package (150' X 150')
- 5) Elk enclosure fence 30'X80'

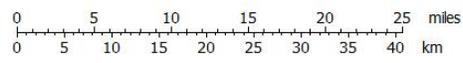
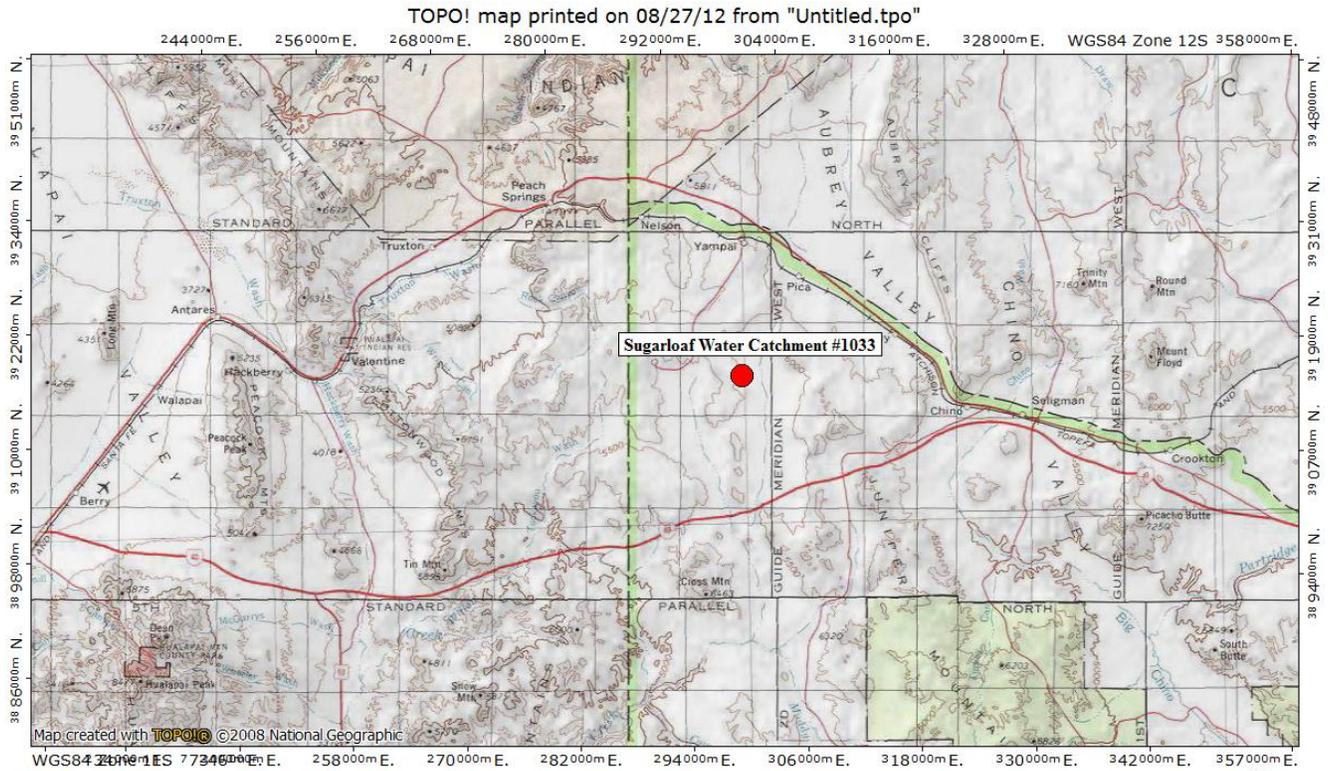
10) Was a site visit completed? Yes[X] No[]

If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

Brandon Carley, AZGFD 07/09/2012

Trevor Buhr, AZGFD 07/09/2012

Site Visit is currently scheduled with AZGFD Development Crew for fall 2012.



TOPO! map printed on 08/27/12 from "Untitled.tpo"

