ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: West Kendrick Park Pronghorn Telemetry Study | **Project No. 09-204**

Region/GMU: Flagstaff/ Game Management Unit 7 West | **HPC: Williams/Flagstaff**

Project Type: Pronghorn Movement Study

Project Description:
Collar two pronghorn in west Kendrick Park to determine movement corridors from the summer range at Kendrick Park to winter range and back. The corridor is believed to be from Kendrick Park to Government Prairie. This corridor is in jeopardy due to subdivision and fencing at Crowley Park and Ponderosa tree plantings that occurred in the 1970's. GPS data obtained from the collars would be used to identify actual movement corridors and direct future habitat improvement projects to retain and maintain pronghorn movement corridors through Game Management Unit 7.

Wildlife Species to Benefit: Pronghorn

Possible Funding Partners: Arizona Antelope Foundation

Implementation Schedule:
Beginning: Summer 2010
Completed: Summer 2012

NEPA Compliance: (if applicable)
Completed: Yes _N/A_ No ____
Projected Completion Date:

PROJECT FUNDING

SBG Funds Requested: $ 10,000 (2 GPS collars and capture operations)

Cost Share Funds: $ 3,000 (AGFD personnel costs, airplane mortality flight costs)

Total Project Costs: $ 13,000

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant: Carl Lutch
(please print)
Telephone: 928-526-9128

Address:
3500 S. Lake Mary Road
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

AGFD Contact and Phone No. Same as above
(If applicant is not AGFD personnel)

Coordinated with: Jeff Gagnon-AGFD; Larry Phoenix-AGFD
Cary Thompson-Coconino National Forest

Date: August 2009

Applicant's signature:

Date:

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:
Game Branch
AZ Game and Fish Dept.
5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086
Email proposals to Ruth Gregory at rgregory@azgfd.gov

WAS PROJECT PRESENTED TO THE LOCAL HPC? YES _____ NO __X___

(revised 7-02-2007)

HAS PROJECT BEEN SUBMITTED IN PREVIOUS YEARS? IF SO WAS IT FUNDED?
No

NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS:
A Pronghorn habitat improvement project is in the early stages of design for Unit 7. This project is not yet named, but would stretch from Government Prairie in GMU 7West through Kendrick Park and extends east towards Highway 89 and north of the Peaks to the Coconino National Forest boundary. In designing this bigger ecosystem type project, some needs are apparent. Good pronghorn telemetry movement data exists for areas north of the Peaks (including the eastside of Kendrick Park) in GMU 7East from the current Highway 89 Pronghorn Movement Study. Data from this study will be used to identify areas in GMU 7East for pronghorn habitat improvement of both summer range, winter range and movement corridors between the two. However, actual telemetry data does not exist for the west side of Kendrick Park. Thus, the need to capture pronghorn on the west side of Kendrick Park. No pronghorn crossed Highway 180 from the Highway 89 study. However, a single buck was observed crossing Highway 180 in the summer of 2008 at Kendrick Park on two separate occasions. One other buck was observed trying to cross the right of way fence, but could not. After about 20 minutes of trying the buck turned east and walked away from the highway. Approximately, 1/3 mile of right-of-way fence was raised to 18" in this stretch of Hwy 180 in the summer of 2009 by the AZ Wildlife Federation. Previously, this section of right-of-way fence was approximately 8-10" off the ground on the west side and 12" on the east side.

The west side of Kendrick Park is approximately 950 acres of excellent summer range for pronghorn and does with multiple fawns have been seen there in recent years. The thought process for this proposal is to let the pronghorn show us the corridors they prefer to use and then design habitat projects to maintain and improve these areas and corridors. As stated earlier, there are threats to the perceived movement corridor between Kendrick Park and Government Prairie, such as the Crowley Park subdivision, fencing and tree planting from 30 years ago (see pictures below for what these planting currently look like). With the high costs of habitat improvement projects these days, I think it is best to use "I know so data rather than I think so data" to design projects to make sure we get it right.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:
Identify pronghorn movement corridors from the west side of Highway 180 at Kendrick Park to other parts of GMU 7. These identified corridors would then be used to direct future habitat projects to maintain identified corridors.

PROJECT STRATEGIES:
Utilize GPS telemetry collars to track pronghorn movement. Ideally, two pronghorn would be captured and tracked for two years to get to most data available from each animal. Capturing two pronghorn would be best in case early mortality happens. Pronghorn would ideally be collared via a helicopter net gun operation. However, the west side of Kendrick Park is a smaller area and capturing two animals may prove difficult. A back up plan would be to collar the pronghorn via darting while on water or apple mesh baiting or a combination of the two techniques. Any unspent capture money would be returned to the funding source for other projects.

Picture of the Ponderosa Pine planting between west Kendrick Park and Crowley Park.

PROJECT LOCATION:
Kendrick Park approximately 20 miles northwest of Flagstaff along Highway 180

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

Coconino National Forest-Peaks Ranger District

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:
Montane Open Grassland Habitat at approximately 7,900 ft elevation.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

2 Telonics Generation 4 Store on Board GPS Collars @ $2,200 apiece	**$ 4,400**
Helicopter Capture Operations	**$ 5,600**
	$ 10,000

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:
See above

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:
AGFD will conduct monthly monitoring for mortality signals

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:
N/A

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:
Carl Lutch