

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

HPC Project Number:

18-218

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Regional Conservation Partnership Program – AZ Strip 2019		
Game Management Unit:	FOR2 GMU's 12B/13A/13B	Region:	Region 2
Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):		Was the project presented to the LHPC?	
AZ Strip Habitat Working Group		Yes	
Project Location: (Please provide <u>lat/long</u> in decimal degrees or meters of project area using datum WGS84 or NAD83. If project is larger than one point, please include them all. Provide an accompanying shapefile as an attachment for the project area).			
LATITUDE/NORTHING: LONGITUDE/EASTING: MULTIPLE LOCATION COORDINATES: Please separate coordinate pairs with names & commas. (ex. Bob's Tank 34.365, -110.663. Clear Spring 34.55, -110.107, etc.): Canyon Springs Catchment: 36.9378625 -113.4753923 Lined Pond: N36 59.69500 W112 05.67800 Gubler Tank Lid: 36.8148816 -112.3769097 Winter Road Tank Lid: 36.9313169-112.1661954 Pinyon Juniper Thinning: N36 28.24052 W113 17.27923			
Project Type:	Water Developments and Tree Thinning		
Water Project Action (if applicable):	Tank Lids and Construction of Holding Pond		
Habitat Restoration Action (if applicable):	PJ Thinning on approx. 200 Acres		
Other Project Type and Action (if applicable):	N/A		
Has this project been submitted in previous years?	No		

PROJECT SUMMARY

Describe the proposed action only. Please use plain English, what action are you proposing? (If applicable, please reference any completed compliance including EAC#).

Brief Project Summary:

In 2016, the statewide HPC committed to funding \$100,000.00/year for 5 years to fund the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) on the AZ Strip. This proposal represents the request for the fourth year of this funding. Utilizing the dedicated funding from the HPC for the RCPP, the Department proposes to partner with 5 livestock permittees, NRCS, and the BLM on the following:

- Installation of a new Catchment in 13B: Canyon Springs Catchment
- Installation of 2 tank lids on open top storage tanks in 12B to prevent drowning of wildlife
- Construction of a lined pond on State Land in 12B.
- Thinning of Pinyon and Juniper trees on approx. 200 acres as part of the Uinkaret vegetative management

plan.

Primary Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:		Mule Deer
Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year)	START DATE: Upon Approval	COMPLETION DATE: Dec 31, 2020

PROJECT FUNDING

Project Funding *Qualifying Cost Share should be restricted to support (materials, compliance, and or labor) of the proposed action ONLY (same time and place). Please do not include previously purchased supplies or past completed work.	Itemized Use of Funds Please email separate quotes if HPC funds are to be used to purchase materials or contracted labor: HPC@azgfd.gov .
<u>HPC Funds Requested</u> Amount: \$ 100,000.00 <u>Cost Share or Matching Funds</u> Amount: \$ ~200,000.00 <u>Percent Match</u> 75% <u>Total Project Cost</u> Amount: \$ ~300,000.00	*All Figures are the HPC fund requested amount and do not include cost share estimates. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tank Lids x 2: \$14000.00/lid. Includes Labor and Materials • Tree Thinning (bullhog): ~\$250.00/ acre. Total ~\$44,000.00 • Pond: \$8000.00 • Catchment: \$20,000.00

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Please indicate the status of the Project's compliance. if you are unsure, please reference:

NEPA Completed through Uinkaret EA for Tree Thinning. DOI-BLM-AZ-A030-2013-0001-EA

Canyon Springs Catchment EA: EA-AZ-110-2017-0037

Pond Installation: Approved through State Land Department.

Tank Lids: Considered Maintenance from BLM. No NEPA Required.

HPC Compliance Checklist (<https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/hpc/forms/>).

If you have questions regarding the requirement of an EAC, contact AGFD's Project Evaluation Program:

(<https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/planning/projevalprogram/>).

***Please email supporting compliance documents to HPC@azgfd.gov ***

AGFD EA Checklist Completed:	N/A	Completion Date:	N/A
NEPA Completed:	See Above	Completion Date:	See Above
State Historic Preservation Office/ Archaeological Clearance:	See Above	Completion Date:	See Above

CONTACT INFORMATION

Applicant

The project applicant is the responsible party for seeing the work through to completion.

APPLICANT NAME: Luke Thompson

PHONE: 928-856-0724

ORGANIZATION: AZGFD

EMAIL: lthompson@azgfd.gov

ADDRESS: 3500 S Lake Mary Road Flagstaff, AZ 86005

AGFD Project Proponent

The Project Proponent is responsible for compliance, implementation, and annual/final reporting requirements.

AGFD CONTACT NAME: Luke Thompson

PHONE: 928-856-0724

Cooperators

COOPERATOR NAME(S), ORGANIZATION, ROLE IN PROJECT:

Larry Blake: Permittee for Construction of Canyon Springs Catchment

Ron Henderson: Permittee for Installation of Pond Storage

OS Bundy Ranch: Permittee for bullhog project at Mt. Trumbull

Tom Gubler: Permittee For Tank Lid in 12B

Mark Spencer: Permittee for Tank Lid in 12B

PROJECT NEED AND DESCRIPTION

Please use direct language: why is this project important? What problem will be solved? How will you implement it, and how will the habitat be enhanced? Please include # of acres, methods, roles, and any phases. Please be specific and thorough.

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS: These projects add to the collective efforts surrounding the landscape need for reliable water distribution and water availability, as well as the need to prevent drowning of wildlife in open top storage tanks across the AZ Strip. In addition, the tree thinning project will further serve to meet landscape scale objectives outlined in the AZ Strip Mule Deer Management Plan, BLM RMP's as well as the Uinkaret Vegetative Management Plan. These objectives include increasing available browse and understory vegetation for wildlife, primarily mule deer.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES: This project will implement the following strategies to meet the above objectives:

- Installation of a new cooperative wildlife/livestock catchment in GMU13B (Canyon Springs Catchment). This project will provide wildlife water year-round and improve water distribution in the unit.
- 2 tank lids will be installed on open top storage tanks in GMU 12B to eliminate the drowning hazard for wildlife and to prevent evaporation of water. This will further conserve water resources.
- A lined pond will be developed as part of a new catchment development on state lands. This will increase water distribution and availability in GMU 12B. In addition, this project is adjacent to a pinyon juniper thinning that the permittee is completing in partnership with the NRCS and ASLD.
- ~200 acres of pinyon juniper thinning will occur on the Mt. Trumbull Allotment in GMU 13A. Overall the permittee is completing ~900 acres of tree thinning in partnership with the BLM and NRCS.

LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):**Land ownership is 100% federal land for the Following Projects:**

- Canyon Springs Catchment: 36.9378625 -113.4753923
- Gubler Tank Lid: 36.8148816 -112.3769097
- Winter Road Tank Lid: 36.9313169 -112.1661954
- Pinyon Juniper Thinning: N36 28.24052W113 17.27923

The following project occurs on State Lands:

- Lined Pond: N36 59.69500 W112 05.67800

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

This project will be monitored by Department staff on the AZ Strip. This includes wildlife managers and regional landowner relations program staff.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

Maintenance will be the responsibility of the respective permittees outlined above.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Luke Thompson – Wildlife Manager Field Supervisor AZGFD

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS LIST:

Uinkaret EA.

Canyon Springs Catchment EA DR.

Maintenance Approval Pending from BLM for tank lids.

Have supporting documents been submitted? Yes

Emailed to HPC@azgfd.gov



113°

112°

37°

37°

● Canyon Springs Catchment

● Lined Pond

● Winter Road Tank Lid

● Gubler Tank Lid

● Pinyon Juniper Thinning