



THE STATE OF ARIZONA

GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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Oct. 22, 2008

Re: Land Treatment Permit Application for CO Bar Ranch

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has been working closely with Babbitt Ranches since 2004 on an extensive grassland restoration program on the CO Bar Ranch. Nearly \$ 1,000,000 has already been invested and more than \$ 350,000 is currently allocated for additional work. The primary contractor has 2 grinding machines and a handcrew with chainsaws working exclusively on the CO Bar. Therefore, we are treating more than 1,000 acres per month.

Our objective is to remove young pinyon and juniper that have encroached on historic grasslands. Therefore, we are treating the deeper soil bottomlands but leaving the rocky ridges where old growth pinyon-juniper has dominated the sites for centuries. This results in a mosaic where approximately half of the acres are treated and the rest is left intact.

The attached Land Treatment Application lists 9 sections for treatment. Within these sections only about half of the acres will be treated (2,500-3,000 acres). Our contractor will be able to complete this treatment in just a few months. Therefore, we hope you will consider waiving the 1,000 acre limit on permits.

Also, the Department has several people trained by the NRCS as para-archaeologists who can assist your personnel with the archaeology surveys on the CO Bar.

Sincerely,

John G. Goodwin, Jr.

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