

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

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| HPC Project Number: | 17-217 |
|---------------------|--------|

| <b>PROJECT INFORMATION</b>   |  |                                     |          |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Project Title:</b>  | Regional Conservation Partnership Program - Arizona Strip 2018 |                                     |          |
| <b>Game Management Unit:</b>   | 13B  | <b>Region:</b>                      | Region 2 |
| <b>Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):</b>   | <b>Was the project presented to the LHPC?</b>                  |                                     |          |
| Arizona Strip Habitat Working Group  | Yes  |                                     |          |
| <b>Project Location:</b> (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).  |  |                                     |          |
| <b>LATITUDE/NORTHING:</b>  |  |                                     |          |
| <b>LONGITUDE/EASTING:</b>  |  |                                     |          |
| <b>MULTIPLE LOCATION COORDINATES:</b><br>Please separate coordinate pairs with names & commas. (ex. Bob's Tank 34.365, -110.663. Clear Spring 34.55, -110.107, etc.):<br>See Email   |  |                                     |          |
| <b>Project Type:</b>   | Water project  |                                     |          |
| <b>Water Project Action</b><br>(if applicable):  | Redevelopment  |                                     |          |
| <b>Habitat Restoration Action</b><br>(if applicable):  | Mechanical removal cutting/grinding                            |                                     |          |
| <b>Other Project Type and Action</b><br>(if applicable):   |  |                                     |          |
| <b>Has this project been submitted in previous years?</b>  | No   |                                     |          |
| <b>PROJECT SUMMARY</b>   |  |                                     |          |
| Describe the proposed action only. Please use plain English, what action are you proposing? (If applicable, please reference any completed compliance including EAC#).   |  |                                     |          |
| <b>Brief Project Summary:</b><br>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 third year of this funding. Utilizing the dedicated funding from the HPC for the RCPP, the Department proposes to partner with approximately 10 livestock permittees and the BLM on 8 cooperative catchment facility redevelopments, a water pipeline, and approximately 600 acres of pinyon juniper removal as part of the Uinkaret vegetative management plan. |  |                                     |          |
| <b>Primary Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:</b>   | Mule deer  |                                     |          |
| <b>Implementation Schedule</b><br>(Month/Day/Year)   | <b>START DATE:</b><br>2/1/2018                                 | <b>COMPLETION DATE:</b><br>6/1/2020 |          |

## PROJECT FUNDING

| Project Funding   | Itemized Use of Funds  |
|---|--|
| <p>*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.</p> <p><u>HPC Funds Requested</u></p> <p><b>Amount:</b> \$ 100,000</p> <p><u>Cost Share or Matching Funds</u></p> <p><b>Amount:</b> \$ 80,000<br/> <b>Organizations(s):</b> NRCS has provided funding to several of the projects in this proposal.</p> <p><u>Percent Match</u><br/>80%</p> <p><u>Total Project Cost</u></p> <p><b>Amount:</b> \$ 180,000</p> | <p>Please email separate quotes if HPC funds are to be used to purchase materials or contracted labor: <a href="mailto:HPC@azgfd.gov">HPC@azgfd.gov</a>.</p> <p>Please see email for itemization of funds.</p> |

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

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

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](mailto:HPC@azgfd.gov) \*\*\*

|  |    |                         |  |
|--|----|-------------------------|--|
| <b>AGFD EA Checklist Completed:</b>                                      | NA | <b>Completion Date:</b> |  |
| <b>NEPA Completed:</b>   | NA | <b>Completion Date:</b> |  |
| <b>State Historic Preservation Office/<br/>Archaeological Clearance:</b> | NA | <b>Completion Date:</b> |  |

## 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:** AZ Game and Fish

**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:** Same

### Cooperators

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

BLM - [REDACTED] NRCS - [REDACTED]

## 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:

In 2017, the BLM completed NEPA analysis for the installation of new wildlife/livestock cooperative catchments across the AZ Strip. In addition, BLM and NPS completed NEPA analysis for the installation of a water pipeline in the Ferry Swale area of game management 12B. Finally, the BLM is currently pending signature on the Uinkaret Vegetative Management Plan (Signature expected October 2017) which will allow vegetative treatment, including pinyon-juniper removal, on approximately 18000 acres on the AZ Strip.

For approximately 5 years the Department has been working closely with the BLM, NRCS, and the respective livestock permittees in the development of these projects, and the associated NEPA.

In 2016, the Department was successful in obtaining a grant through the NRCS's Regional Conservation Partnership Program, RCPP. This program required the Department to provide matching dollars, of which the funding committed through the HPC, is part of the required match.

The implementation of this phase of Department matching dollars, will broaden the footprint of cooperative conservation across the AZ Strip. Water distribution will be improved significantly with the redevelopment or development of approximately 9 cooperative catchment/pipeline facilities in three game management units, and juniper encroachment will be address on approximately 600 acres of BLM lands in game management unit 13A.

Finally, it should be noted that funding received through this proposal will be leveraged with NRCS funding and the Departments Landowner Relations Program funding.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:**

The following actions will be pursued with this funding:

**Water Catchment Facilities:**

**Gunsight Catchment Unit 12B:** A new catchment will be installed on BLM lands. Department will provide funding for apron and tank material. NRCS has provided funding for this project.

**Pumphouse Catchment and Pipeline 13B:** A cooperative catchment will be redeveloped to include a new apron for improved collection, a tank lid to prevent drowning of wildlife and to reduce evaporation, and renovation of a pipeline that will supply water to multiple water troughs.

**Ferry Swale Pipeline Unit 12B:** A pipeline will be extended and connected to an existing pipeline to increase water distribution in the Ferry Swale area of unit 12B. This project will improve water distribution resources for pronghorn antelope and other wildlife in the area.

**Water Catchment Tank Lids Units 13A/B and 12B:** Six tank lids will be installed on existing open top 80,000 gallon water storage facilities. The installation of these tank lids will eliminate a drowning hazard for wildlife, significantly reduce evaporation, and provide more water availability and distribution for wildlife and livestock. Each of these lids will be completed using a contractor.

**Vegetative Management Project:**

**Side of the Mountain Chaining Maintenance Unit 13A:** Approximately 600 acres of pinyon juniper removal will occur on BLM lands in southern 13A. Removal will involve the mastication or lop and scatter of juniper trees on a previously treated area where encroachment has reduced wildlife values.

**LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):**

Bureau of Land Management

**PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:**

The project implementation will be supervised by Luke Thompson, Field Supervisor on the AZ Strip. onterm monitoring of the proejcts will be completed by the wildlife managers on the AZ Strip.

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

All project maintenance will be the responsibility of the respective livestock permittees.

**PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:**

Luke Thompson

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS LIST:**

Map and GPS location, Letter of Support (Pending), EAC checklist, NEPA for water catchments

**Have supporting documents been submitted?**

Yes, I emailed them to: HPC@azgfd.gov

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**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT**  
**WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Regional Conservation Partnership Program - Arizona Strip 2018

- 1) **Was a site visit completed (Date and with whom)?**
  
- 2) **If this is a dirt tank project, has the site historically held reliable water?**
  
- 3) **If this is a dirt tank project and soil data is available, what type of soil is at the site?**
  
- 4) **If this is a water catchment project, please list the Development Branch coordination date:**
  
- 5) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”**
  
- 6) **If this is a water catchment project, please list the Development Branch personnel coordinated with:**
  
- 7) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**