



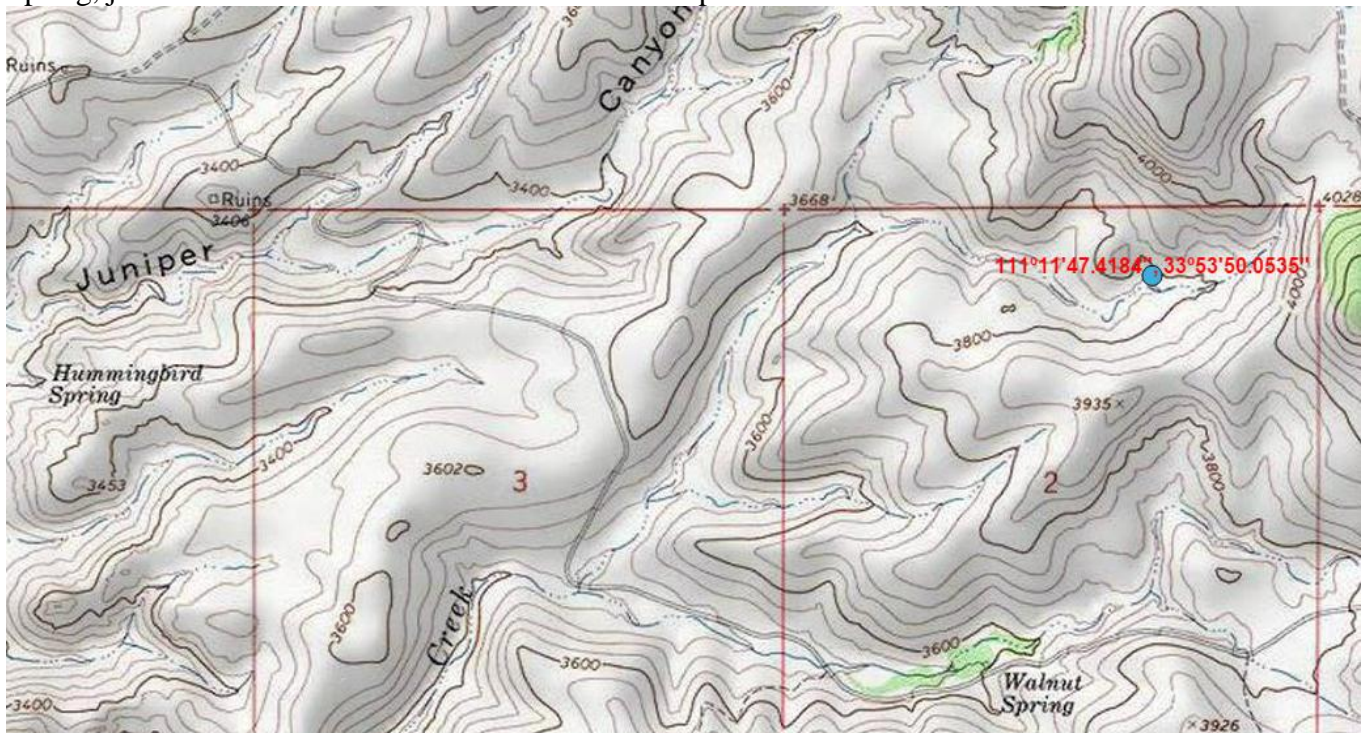
**NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:** The need of water sources in 23S is part of the overall long-term habitat needs that will improve deer habitat and sustain a viable to growing population. GMU 23 South used to sustain a much larger deer population. Part of the problem with the depressed population that currently exists is water availability. The Juniper and Walnut areas have a growing mule deer herd. This herd will benefit from this water source in a key forage area and hopefully increase fawn survival as it is located away from high pressure areas. White tail deer are also located in the hills adjacent to the tank location and will utilize this water source.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:** This project will clean out and seal a dirt tank to provide water for wildlife.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:** This project will clean out and seal a dirt tank. The tank is silted in and does not hold water. The tank historically has not held water and will benefit from bentonite application. The tank will be cleaned of excess silt via dozer and bentonite will be applied and mixed into the soil. The tank is approximately 8,000 sq ft. It has been determined that the tank will need bentonite applied at 4lbs per sq foot for a total of 32,00lbs of bentonite needed.

This project is NEPA ready. The EAC is to be completed. Archeological Clearances and Categorical Exclusions are in the process of being completed by the Forest Service. The route to the tank needs to be walked and archeologically cleared to bring the equipment in due to there not being a pre-existing road. The author will submit a revised proposal once this is complete.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** This project is located in the Tonto Basin Ranger District near Walnut Spring, just north of Forest Road 71. See attached map.



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

(if the project area is private property, please state specifically and provide the landowner's name)

- United States Forest Service, Tonto Basin Ranger District

*IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A COOPERATIVE BIG GAME STEWARDSHIP or  
LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?*  
YES[] NO[] N/A[X]

**HABITAT DESCRIPTION:**

Semidesert Grassland with mixed juniper, mesquite and scrub oak. The elevation is about 3700 feet.

**ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

**TOTAL GRANT FUNDS REQUESTED: \$7,400**

Cost Share or Matching Funds (for volunteer labor rates please refer to the worksheet below)

**Anticipated Costs are:**

Dozer rental and delivery	\$2,500
Dozer Fuel	\$500
Sodium Bentonite 32,000 lbs @ \$7.66 per 50lb bag	\$4,900

**Materials and equipment rental Total: \$7,900**

USDA Forest Service, T.N.F –NEPA and Archeological Clearances :	\$2,000
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Arizona Game and Fish project origination and coordination	\$1,000
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Permitee Labor costs:	\$1,000
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**Cost Share Total: \$4,000**

**Total Costs: \$11,900**

**LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:**

**Arizona Game & Fish Department:** Labor, in-kind labor writing proposal and coordinate completion report, site visits and maintenance after completion.

**USDA T.N.F, Tonto Basin Ranger District:** NEPA and Archeological Clearances.

**Permittee (O bar C Ranch):** Implement project and perform maintenance. Provide labor to operate dozer and provide fuel for dozer.

**Non-Profit Organization (possible funding partners):** Mule Deer Foundation (MDF)

**WOULD IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT ASSIST IN PROVIDING, MAINTAINING, OR FACILITATING RECREATIONAL ACCESS?**

YES[] NO[] N/A[X]

**PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:** No monitoring will be required other than regular water level checks and maintenance, to be conducted by the Permittee.

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:** To be performed by the permittee.

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

**WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS** (*please use the worksheet below*):

**TREE CLEARING/REMOVAL PROJECTS** (*please use the worksheet below*):

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

**PROJECT TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”**  
Project not presented to Game Branch
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**
- 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:**

Name of water source: Walnut spring

Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank, etc.): Spring

Ownership of water source: USFS, Tonto Basin Ranger District

Distance in miles from project: about .75

- 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.**

- 8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**

Type of access (mark one): 2x4 vehicles 4x4 only foot\*\*

\*\*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: After completion it will have access by foot only.

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

Dozer rental and delivery \$2,500

Sodium Bentonite 32,000 lbs \$3,000

**Materials and equipment rental Total: \$5,500**

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

If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

Eric Hoskins, 2015