WPF 0268

Application Cover Page

Fill in all blanks on the cover page. Devise a short descriptive title for the proposal. Your project may fall into more than one of the four primary project types. If so, select all categories that apply. For #12 below, only list other monies that are secured at the time of application submittal. For #13c below, you may list any applicant matching support. Do not include unsecured money that is not committed at the time of application submittal on this page.

Cover Page: Application Information

1. Title of Project: TRES ALAMOS RANCH DIRT-TANKS-TO-AQUATIC-HABITAT CONVERSION

2. Type of Project:
   ____Water Acquisition
   __X__Capital Project or Other
   ____Water Conservation
   ____Research

3. Stream Type
   ____Perennial
   ____Intermittent
   __x__Ephemeral

4. Date Submitted August 1, 2000

5. a. Date Attended an AWPF Workshop 5/3/00, Suzanne Winckler

5. b. Date Attended an AWPF Consultation 7/19/00

6. Applicant Name Duncan K. Blair

7. Applicant Address (city, county, zip code)

Duncan K. Blair
Tres Alamos Ranch
P.O. Box 631
Congress, AZ 85332

8. Inside AMA: Yes____ No__X__ (if yes, mark AMA)

_____ Phoenix
_____ Tucson
_____ Prescott
_____ Pinal
_____ Santa Cruz

9. Contact Person, Title: Duncan K. Blair
   Phone Number: (805) 688-7952
   Fax Number: (805) 686-9587

10. Type of Application:
    (X) New ( ) Continuation

11. Project Start date: February 28, 2001
    Project End date: February 28, 2003

12. Funding Obtained and Secured:

Agency / Organization:	Amount:
Total (copy to 13 (b)	

13. Estimated Funding:
    (a) AWPF Request: $77,657.97
    (b) Monies Secured: _____
    (c) Applicant Match: $18,124.46
    (d) Total: $95,782.43

14. Tax ID Number: PII [redacted]

15. **The undersigned hereby offers and agrees to perform in compliance with all terms, conditions, specifications and scope in the application. Signature certifies understanding and compliance with the attached application. Signature certifies that all information provided by the applicant is true and accurate. The Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission may approve grant award agreements with modifications to scope items, methodology, schedule, final products, and/or budget.**

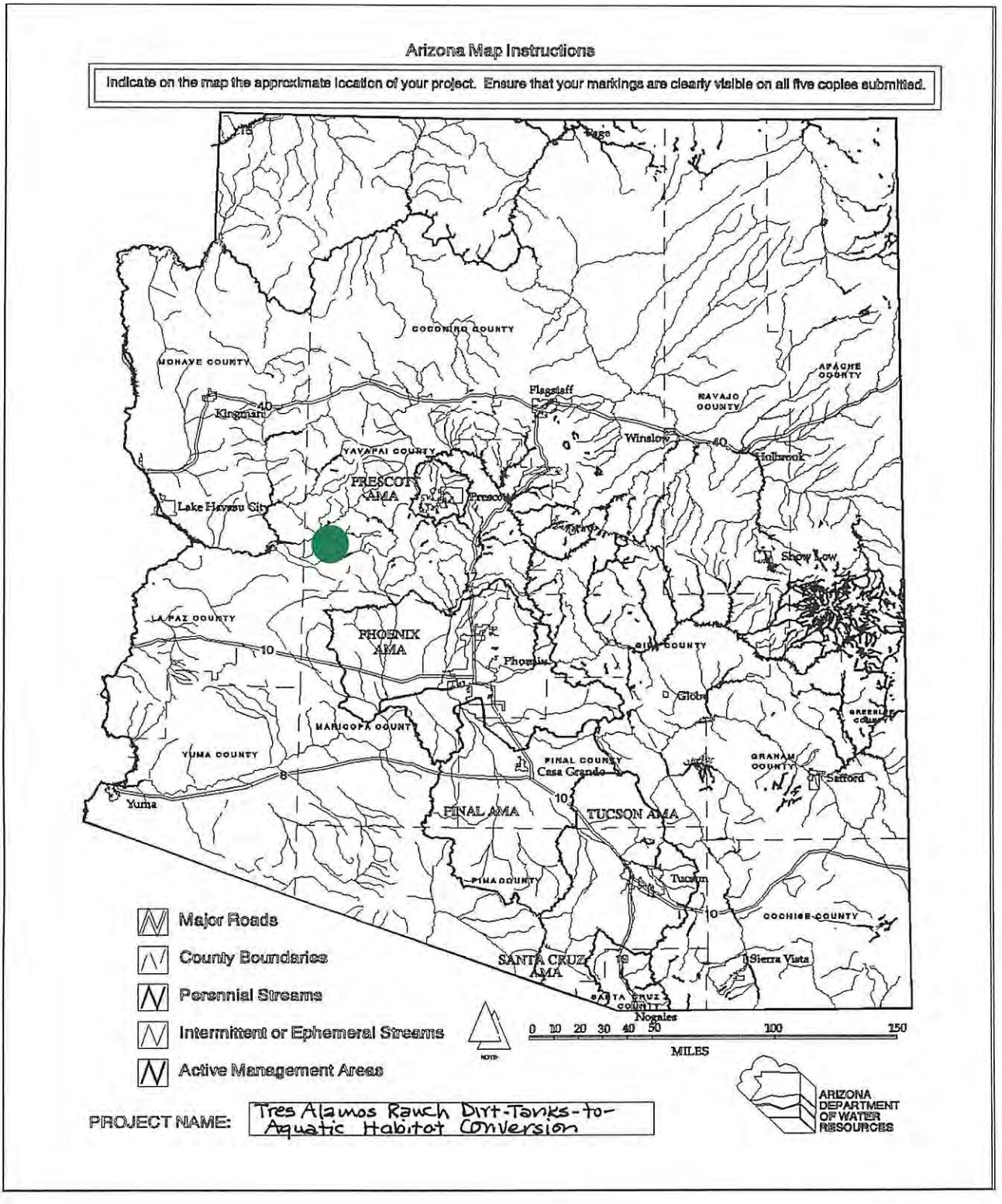
Duncan K. Blair
Typed Name of Authorized Representative

Duncan K. Blair
Signature

Managing Partner, Tres Alamos Ranch (805) 688-7952
Title and Telephone Number

August 1, 2000
Date Signed

Arizona Map


Arizona Map Instructions
Indicate on the map the approximate location of your project. Ensure that your markings are clearly visible on all five copies submitted.
COCONINO COUNTY
MOHAVE COUNTY
APACHE COUNTY
NAVAJO COUNTY
YAVAPAI COUNTY
LA PAZ COUNTY
MARICOPA COUNTY
YUMA COUNTY
PINAL COUNTY
GILA COUNTY
GRAHAM COUNTY
PIMA COUNTY
COCHISE COUNTY
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
PRESCOTT AMA
PHOENIX AMA
PINAL AMA
TUCSON AMA
SANTA CRUZ AMA
Flagstaff
Kingman
Winslow
Holbrook
Lake Havasu City
Prescott
Show Low
Phoenix
Globe
Casa Grande
Safford
Yuma
Tucson
Sierra Vista
Nogales
Major Roads
County Boundaries
Perennial Streams
Intermittent or Ephemeral Streams
Active Management Areas
0 10 20 30 40 50 100 150
MILES
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
PROJECT NAME: Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic Habitat Conversion

Summary:

Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion Project

This project seeks to demonstrate the aquatic potential of a common feature of Arizona's arid landscapes. Dirt tanks for watering livestock, typically situated in the upper reaches of watersheds, have been the unquestioned standard in the West for more than a century. These tanks could provide a constellation of jewel-like wetlands across Western grazing landscapes. However, their conventional use prevents this potential from being fulfilled.

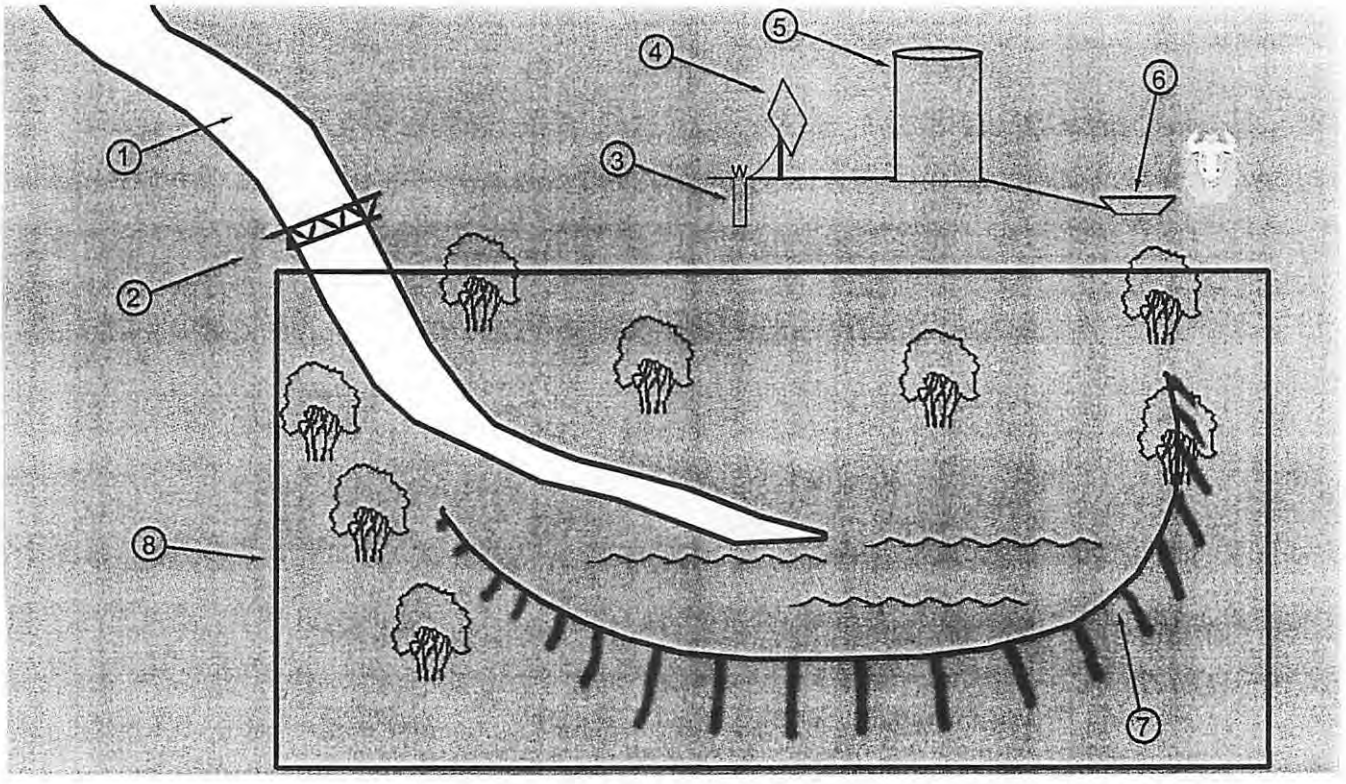
This project will fence off five dirt tanks at the Tres Alamos Ranch and provide reliable alternative drinking water for livestock excluded from the tank areas. Wildlife attracted to rainfall and runoff captured in the tanks will no longer have to compete with livestock; flora in and surrounding the tanks will no longer be trampled; and water quality will improve in the absence of livestock. Our objectives are to enhance aquatic habitat associated with the ephemeral streams in the upper reaches of the Bill Williams and Santa Maria watersheds and to improve water quality, groundwater recharge, and ground cover in and near these watersheds, by gaining greater control of livestock as a result of being able to govern their access to water. We also believe this project can help bridge the gap between polarized positions -- environmentalists vs. ranchers -- by demonstrating that mutual benefits, such as increased biological diversity and improved grazing management for producer, derive from the sound management of water resources on public lands.

I am managing partner of the Tres Alamos Ranch in Yavapai County. The ranch comprises 253 deeded acres and approximately 38,000 acres of public land (40 per cent BLM and 60 per cent State Trust). As a rancher on public lands, I consider myself to be a custodian of public resources. In 1996, I helped initiate the Tres Alamos Group, a partnership with Arizona Game & Fish, Arizona State Land Department, and Bureau of Land Management, for the purpose of rehabilitating the Tres Alamos Spring and its associated riparian habitat. That project is progressing successfully. The Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion Project involves a partnership with Prescott Audubon Society and will rely upon technical assistance from the Arizona Game & Fish Department. We see this endeavor as a logical outgrowth of the Tres Alamos Spring project in that it examines an existing feature in the landscape and reconsiders its potential for providing aquatic habitat, which, in turn, contributes to improved water quality and groundwater recharge and increased biological diversity.

Methods/Major Project Features: 1.) We will clean out sediment from the five dirt tanks. This will be done on an opportunistic basis -- i.e., when the tanks dry up sufficiently to allow the use of heavy equipment. We will not seal the tanks, in order to support their recharge effect and to maximize regeneration of flora. 2.) We will construct sediment traps above the tanks to inhibit re-sedimentation. 3.) We will fence off the dirt tanks. Each exclosure will include several acres of surrounding habitat and will use the best available wildlife-friendly techniques (e.g., proper spacing of wires, smooth wire on bottom). 4.) We will replant three of the tank areas with appropriate native plants. For comparison, we will allow vegetation to regenerate without supplemental plantings at two of the tanks. 5.) We will rehabilitate existing water wells (remove pump jacks, repair /replace casing and tubing as necessary, install electric submersible pumps, connect solar panels to pumps), provide water storage to supply water to drinking troughs for livestock that currently rely on dirt tanks, and install wildlife escape ramps on troughs.

AWPF funding is requested for items # 3 (construct fencing) and # 5 (rehabilitate existing wells, provide water storage for livestock troughs).

Project Title: Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion Project
Date of preparation of schematic: 07/12/00



Dirt Tank Project Schematic

1. Ephemeral Stream
2. Sediment Trap
3. Water Well
4. Solar Panel
5. Water Storage Tank
6. Water Trough
7. Dirt Tank
8. Fence

Current Status of Tanks, Fencing, Wells, Pumps, and Water Storage

Please note: All tanks are located in gradual-gradient ephemeral streams in the upper reaches of watersheds -- i.e., none is set in a steeply banked wash. The dirt tanks will be filled by rainfall and runoff. Water storage tanks will be used solely for the purpose of watering livestock. This water is not intended to fill the dirt tanks.

Buck Tank and Aso Pass Tank: Both of these tanks are on State land. Neither is fenced. Because each tank lies in proximity to an existing water well run by a pump jack, this project can avoid the expense of having to drill wells. Each well will require clean-out, rehabilitation, and installation of a submersible solar-driven electric pump. Each site also already has adequate water storage, which will be used to provide permanent alternative water to drinking troughs for livestock.

Three Tanks at the "Farm": Two of the tanks are on deed land; one is on State land. (The term "Farm" refers to the fact that this area was farmed at one time.) One of the tanks is already enclosed with fence. The other two tanks have wire fence on two sides. The water wells have been rehabbed and equipped with submersible pumps powered by a trailer-mounted diesel generator. A 20,000-gallon storage tank will need to be installed to provide permanent alternative water to drinking troughs for livestock.

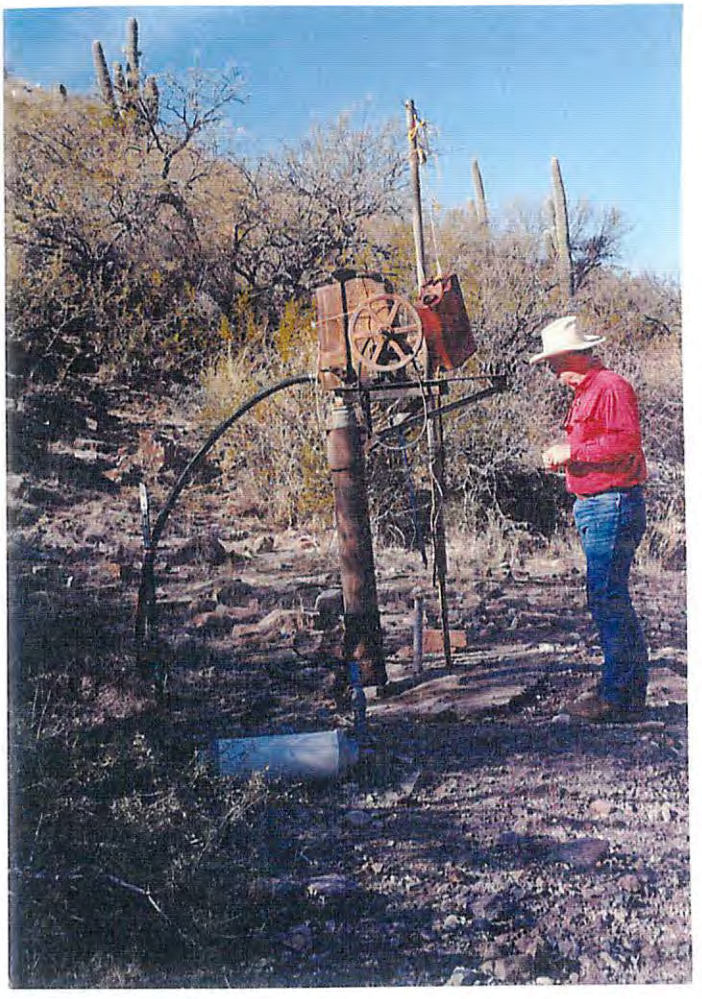
Project Site Photographs (Date of Photos: 01/13/00)
Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion Project

Drainage into Buck Tank/ looking North

Buck Tank well with existing pump jack/ looking northwest

Buck Tank/ looking southeast

Project Site Photographs (Date of Photos: 01/13/00)
Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion Project



Aso Pass well with existing pump jack/ looking southwest

Aso Pass Tank/ looking northwest

Project Site Photographs (Date of Photos: 07/17/00)
Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion Project

Right: Farm Tank # 1/ looking south

Below left: Farm Tank # 2/ looking southwest

Below right: Farm Tank # 3/looking south

Project Location & Environmental Contaminant Information

LOCATION INFORMATION

1. County: Yavapai 2., 3., & 4. for all tanks/wells: *Buck Tank/well*: Section: 20 Township: 11North Range: 8 West; *3 Tanks at the "Farm"*: Sections: 5 & 6 Township: 10 North Range: 8 West; *Aso Pass Tank*: Section: 26 Township: 11North Range: 9 West; *Aso Pass well*: Section: 22 Township: 11North Range: 9 West

5. Legislative District: Congressional District # 3; State Legislative District # 1

6. Stream Name: unnamed upper reaches in watersheds that are tributaries of the Bill Williams and Santa Maria Rivers

7. Land ownership of project area: State Trust Lands; private

8. Current land use of project area: Multiple use, including grazing

9. Length of stream through project area: extent of project area not completely defined at this time

10. Size of project area (in acres): Combined acreage of exclosures around 5 tank sites will be approximately 35 acres, although area may increase somewhat during planning phase.

11. Area Benefited by Project Implementation: Surrounding state and federal lands, which include the Tres Alamos and Arrastra Wilderness Areas, Alamos Spring, and tributaries to Bill Williams and Santa Maria Rivers, including portions of Date Creek, will benefit from enhanced wetland habitat.

Miles of Stream Benefited proximate to exclosures, combined approximately 1.5 miles, however, benefits are anticipated downstream from exclosures; extent of benefits not completely defined at this time.
Acres of Riparian Habitat (circle one) Enhanced, Maintained, Restored, Created: estimated 35 acres

12. Provide directions to the project site from the nearest town. List any special access requirements. Tres Alamos Ranch entrance is 27 miles northwest of Wickenburg From Wickenburg, go northwest on Hwy 93, continue on Hwy 93 past intersection with Hwy 71 (Congress Junction) to Mile Post 170. Continue 1.5 miles to gate to ranch, which is on the left (west) side of highway.

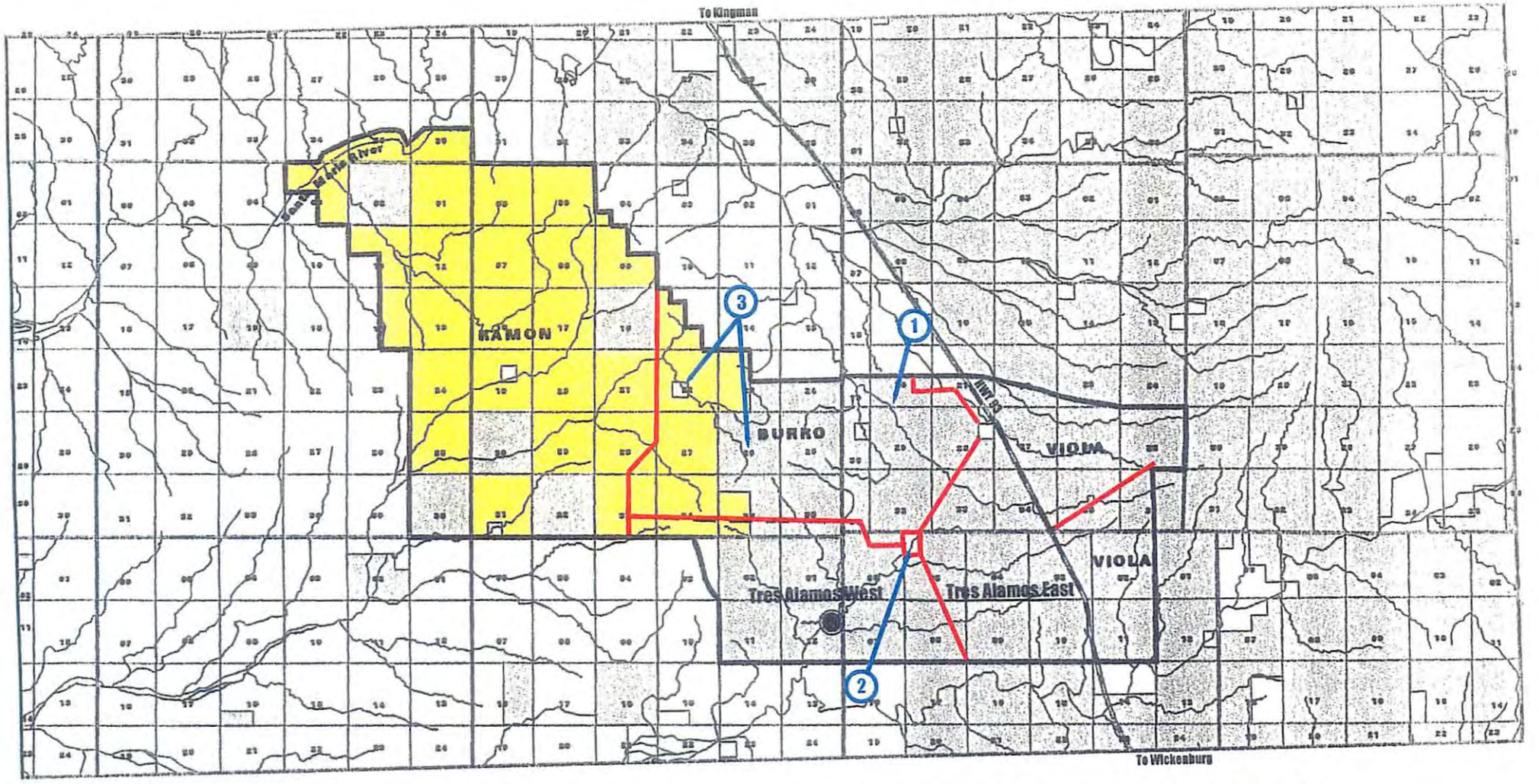
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINANT LOCATION INFORMATION

For purposes of this manual, environmental contaminants are substances which pose risk of harm to human health or the environment and include hazardous substances, hazardous wastes, petroleum products or Environmental Protection Agency priority toxic pollutants (defined by CERCLA 42 USC 9601, RCRA 42 USC 6903 and the Environmental Protection Agency). Environmental contaminants do not include wastewater from a wastewater facility permitted by a local, state, or federal authority having jurisdiction over wastewater.

1. Does your project site contain known environmental contaminants? Yes ____ No __X__ If yes, please identify the contaminant(s) and enclose data about the location and levels of contaminants.

2. Are there known environmental contaminants in the project vicinity? Yes ____ No __X__ If yes, please identify the contaminant(s) and enclose data about the location and levels of contaminants.

3. Are you asking for Arizona Water Protection Fund monies to identify whether or not environmental contaminants are present? Yes ____ No __X__.



Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt - Tanks - To - Aquatic - Habitat Conversion Project

Private Land

Arizona State Land

BLM

Tres Alamos Ranch Boundry

Pasture Cross Fences

1 Buck Tank & Well

2 3 Farm Tanks & Proposed 20,000 Gal. Storage Tank

3 Aso Pass Tank & Well

Scale: 1:150,000

Date: 7/12/00

Evidence of Control and Tenure

The applicant must have legal and physical access to, and authority to manage the area where grant tasks are to be performed, the area to be benefited by the grant and any water to be used. Cooperative agreements with all parties having such access and authority or letters of support with a plan to obtain cooperative agreements shall meet this requirement.

1. **If you own the land on which the proposed project is located,** attach a copy of the appropriate legal document showing title in the name of the Applicant, including a legal description of the property.

Attached are copies of:

Pertinent pages from RANCH PURCHASE CONTRACT, including LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF DEEDED LAND AT THE "FARM" on which two of the dirt tanks is located (labeled 8-a)

General Partnership Agreement, indicating that Duncan Blair is managing partner of Tres Alamos Ranch (labeled 8-b)

If you manage the land on which the proposed project is located, attach a copy of the lease, special use permit, intergovernmental agreement or other appropriate official instrument.

Attached are copies of:

Pertinent pages from Assignment of Grazing Lease for State lands (labeled 8-c)
Grazing Lease for Bureau of Land Management lands (labeled 8-d)

If you do not own or manage the land on which the proposed project is located, attach documentation verifying ownership (as noted above) and attach a copy of the permit, agreement or letter of intent that allows you access to the site.

2. **If your proposed project, including the benefits claimed for the AWPF, involves surface water flows or use of groundwater withdrawals,** demonstrate ownership and tenure by attaching the appropriate documentation.

Attached are copies of:

Letter dated 9-30-92 indicating well numbers and transfer of ownership to Tres Alamos Ranch (labeled 8-e)
Certificates of Water Right for stockponds (labeled 8-f)

If you do not own or manage the water that the proposed project uses or that benefits the AWPF, attach documentation verifying ownership (as noted above) and attach a copy of the permit, agreement or letter of intent that allows you use of the water.

Introduction:

Background:

I am managing partner of the Tres Alamos Ranch, which my brother and sister, Ian and Heather Blair, and I acquired in 1992. The ranch comprises 253 deeded acres and approximately 38,000 acres of public land (40 per cent BLM and 60 per cent State Trust). On-the-ground management decisions at the Tres Alamos are driven by a set of goals that can be summarized as follows:

- establish and maintain harmony with neighbors, communities, agencies, and the natural world
- manage landscape for biodiversity which supports ecological and economic stability
- create a profitable livestock operation utilizing sustainable resources of plants, water, and sunlight
- implement management practices that leave the land in a better condition than we found it

As mentioned in the summary, I believe ranchers whose livelihoods depend on Arizona public lands and waters bear a custodial commitment to those lands and waters. Both as a rancher and a private citizen, I am also concerned about the continuing divide between livestock producers and environmentalists over issues of management on Arizona's public lands. I believe agencies such as the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission have the opportunity to direct funds to projects that both benefit site-specific water resources and help fractious parties find common ground. I support and encourage public-private partnerships for the purposes of resource management, because I believe taking care of land and water is a shared responsibility with shared benefits. In 1996, I helped initiate the Tres Alamos Group, a partnership with Arizona Game & Fish, Arizona State Land Department, and Bureau of Land Management, for the purpose of coming up with a plan and funds to rehabilitate Tres Alamos Spring and its associated riparian habitat. With that project moving forward successfully, I have begun working with the Prescott Audubon Society to develop a plan to exclude livestock from dirt tanks on the Tres Alamos Ranch. The Tres Alamos Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion project is a logical outgrowth of the Tres Alamos Spring project in that it examines an existing feature in the landscape and reconsiders its potential for providing aquatic habitat, which, in turn, supports biological diversity.

Description of Current Tanks, Fencing, Wells, Pumps, and Water Storage

Buck Tank and Aso Pass Tank:

Both of these tanks are on State land. Neither is fenced. Because each tank lies in proximity to an existing water well run by a pump jack, this project avoids the expense of having to drill wells. Each well will require clean-out, rehabilitation, and installation of a submersible solar-driven electric pump. Each site also already has adequate water storage, which will be used to provide permanent alternative water to drinking troughs for livestock.

Three Tanks at the "Farm":

Two of the tanks are on deeded land; one is on State land. (The term "Farm" refers to the fact that this area was farmed at one time.) One of the tanks is already enclosed with fence. The other two tanks have wire fence on two sides. The water wells have been rehabbed and equipped with submersible pumps powered by a trailer-mounted diesel generator. A 20,000-gallon storage tank will need to be installed to provide permanent alternative water to drinking troughs for livestock.

Please note: Water storage tanks will be used solely for the purpose of watering livestock. This water is not intended to fill the dirt tanks. The dirt tanks will be filled by rainfall and runoff.

Statement of problem(s):

Degraded watersheds. Dirt tanks are unpredictable water sources for livestock, especially in the pre-monsoon months of April, May, and June, which means livestock will search out water in associated riparian areas. This leads to a domino effect -- i.e., cattle not only degrade the water in, and flora around, dirt tanks; as they search for water, they also similarly degrade areas with intermittent or permanent water downstream from the tanks.

Wildlife forced to compete for a degraded resource. An inevitable feature of dirt tanks is that they attract wildlife that must then compete with livestock for water. In addition, vegetation that might otherwise provide forage and shelter for wildlife, birds, and invertebrates is consumed and trampled by cattle. This competition leads to a cascade of events similar to the one mentioned above -- i.e., competition spreads throughout the watershed as livestock and wildlife search for water and forage in areas downstream from the dirt tanks.

Degraded water cycle. There is some evidence that the water cycle in the region is severely degraded from what it was a century ago. Historical records indicate that in 1866 Camp Date Creek had to be moved a quarter-mile back from Date Creek because of the presence of malarial swamps.

An overlooked water-resource opportunity on Arizona public lands. Dirt tanks for watering livestock are a reality of Arizona public lands, yet they provide only limited and unpredictable benefits to the biological landscapes in which they occur and to the producers for whom they were ostensibly designed to serve.

Statement of cause(s) of the problem(s):

Insufficient control of livestock. By relying on dirt tanks, the producer has inadequate control over livestock movement throughout the watersheds. By excluding dirt tanks from livestock use and providing cattle with predictable alternative drinking water, the producer can gain greater control over livestock movement and greatly reduce, if not eliminate entirely, the overuse by livestock of the watersheds downstream from the dirt tanks.

The inertia of tradition: People tend to be constrained by tradition, and livestock producers are no exception to this rule. It is difficult for ranchers to see beyond the conventional application of dirt tanks for livestock watering and consider alternatives that would improve water resources and increase biological diversity by giving the producer greater control of livestock.

Formation of public-private partnerships: Innovation and action derive from people working together in an atmosphere of trust, respect, acceptance, and good humor. Despite a good deal of rhetoric on this subject, there still exist formidable barriers, logistical as well as cultural, to the coalescing of livestock producers, who hold grazing permits on public lands, and citizens at large, who retain a rightful interest in those same public lands.

Statement of project-related remedies or solutions:

The partners view this project as an opportunity to reconsider the conventional use of dirt tanks. We believe this project offers an innovative way to enhance the aquatic potential of dirt tanks in the ephemeral upper reaches of watersheds by bringing together partners with specified roles and a shared commitment to the goals of the project. The project involves a close working partnership with the Prescott Audubon Society. Duncan Blair, with members of the Prescott Audubon Society and Arizona Game & Fish Department, will collect and plant aquatic vegetation and conduct sampling and monitoring. The Superintendent of the Wickenburg Unified School District has also expressed interest in engaging high school students in sampling and monitoring activities for the Tres Alamos project.

Statement of project years of benefit:

Level of commitment: 20 years. Insofar as the partners hope the benefit would accrue in perpetuity -- that is, would become integral to this and other ranch operations -- a 20-year commitment to sustaining the benefit seems acceptable for project success.

Scope of Work: Goals & Objectives

Identify the overall goal(s) of your project (what you want to achieve), followed by the objectives of your project. Objectives are specific, measurable outcomes of the project. List these objectives in numerical order, with the first objective having the most important outcome.

Goal(s):

The goal of this project is to use sustainable technology to enhance aquatic habitat, water quality, and groundwater recharge at the Tres Alamos Ranch and thereby demonstrate a viable alternative to the traditional use of dirt tanks on Arizona's public and private land.

Objective #1:

Fence off five dirt tanks on the Tres Alamos Ranch to protect water and vegetation from grazing and trampling by livestock.

Objective #2:

Gain greater control of livestock by providing predictable alternative drinking water, which will contribute to improved water quality, groundwater recharge, and ground cover, as well as reduced livestock-wildlife competition, in the watersheds downstream from the dirt tanks.

Objective #3:

Transplant appropriate aquatic plant species at 3 of tanks and, for comparison, allow 2 tanks to revegetate without supplemental planning. Resulting habitat will promote increased biological diversity by providing forage and shelter for wildlife (including mule deer, javelina, and possibly bighorn sheep), migratory and nesting waterfowl and songbirds, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates, without competition from livestock.

Objective #4:

Seasonally monitor dirt tank exclosures to measure revegetation, water quality and quantity, and use by wildlife, birds, and other fauna to determine level of project success.

Objective #5:

Share lessons learned from the Tres Alamos project with livestock producers and others with an interest in the aquatic and wildlife potential of dirt tanks on Arizona's public and private lands.

Scope of Work: Task Descriptions

Task #1: Permits, Clearances, and Authorizations

The Grantee shall obtain all permits, authorizations and clearances necessary to conduct the work described in this scope of work, including but not limited to cultural resource clearance (SHPO), etc.

Deliverable Description: copies of state permits for two tanks on State Trust land (Buck Tank and Aso Tank); copies of approved Notice of Intent to drive each well; copy of SHPO clearance.
Deliverable Due Date: Prior to any ground disturbing activities
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $130

Task #2: Prepare and Submit Plans

Grantee, in consultation with Arizona Game & Fish personnel and other experts as deemed necessary, shall prepare and submit a sampling, revegetation, monitoring, and photo monitoring plan (referenced below as the Plan) consistent with appropriate ADWR outlines in Appendix B, as well as plans for sediment traps.

Deliverable Description: copy of the Plan
Deliverable Due Date: May 2001
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $0

Task #3: Conduct Sampling and Monitoring Orientation

Partners will conduct an orientation for prospective volunteers (to include participating members of Prescott Audubon Society, students from Wickenburg High School, and any other parties interested in working on this aspect of the project). Each participant will get a copy of the Plan and a calendar of tasks. We will encourage participation of AWPF project manager.

Deliverable Description: Summary report on orientation (date held, names of participants, brief summary)
Deliverable Due Date: June 2001
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $0

Task #4: Conduct Baseline Inventories of Tank Sites

Members of Prescott Audubon Society, in coordination with Arizona Game & Fish Department and other specialists as deemed necessary, will conduct baseline inventories at the 5 tank sites. These baseline inventories will describe (and document with photos as applicable) current vegetative cover and sign of use by native mammals and will record presence (species & number of individuals) of birds, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates.

Deliverable Description: Baseline Inventory Report
Deliverable Due Date: July 2001
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $0

Task #5: Clean Sediment from 5 Tanks

Duncan Blair will contract for, oversee, and assume cost of removal of sediment from 5 tanks.

Deliverable Description: Copy of invoice from dozer operator; photo documentation
Deliverable Due Date: No later than July 2002
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $0

Task #6: Well Rehab at Buck Tank & Aso Pass Tank

Rehab wells at Buck Tank & Aso Pass Tank and install pumps, solar panels and wiring, and test well at Aso Pass (Buck Tank well already tested; Duncan Blair will pay for Aso Pass well test). Install drinking water troughs and connect to water storage tanks.

Deliverable Description: Copy of invoice from well-service company
Deliverable Due Date: April 2001
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $48,738.56

Task #7: Install water storage tank at the "Farm"

Install 20,000-gallon storage tank and drinking water troughs. (Water wells at the "Farm" are functional and equipped with submersible pumps, which are powered by a trailer-mounted diesel generator.)

Deliverable Description: Copy of invoice for storage tank purchase and installation; photo documentation
Deliverable Due Date: May 2001
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $18,437.41

Task #8: Build Fences at Bunk Tank & Aso Pass Tank

Construct fence exclosures around Bunk Tank & Aso Pass Tank. Each exclosure will contain an additional 3 to 5 acres of surrounding habitat to provide forage and cover for wildlife. Fence will be wildlife-accessible -- i.e., wires properly spaced and bottom wire smooth.

Deliverable Description: Copy of invoice; photo documentation
Deliverable Due Date: June 2001
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $3,402

Task #9: Complete Fencing of Tanks at the "Farm"

Complete fencing on the two tanks that have wire on two sides (the 3rd tank is already enclosed); use wildlife-accessible fence design and materials; upgrade existing fence to meet wildlife-accessible standard.

Deliverable Description: Copy of invoice; photo documentation
Deliverable Due Date: June 2001
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $1,890

Task #10: Construct Sediment Traps Upstream from Tanks

Duncan Blair will construct sediment traps upstream from tanks, in consultation with Arizona Game & Fish Department and other experts as deemed necessary.

Deliverable Description: Photo documentation
Deliverable Due Date: June 2001
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $0

Task #11: Collecting and Planting of Aquatic Vegetation

Duncan Blair, members of Prescott Audubon Society and Arizona Game & Fish Department, and other interested volunteers will collect native plant species identified in the Plan and transplant them around 3 of the 5 tank sites. Vegetation at 2 tank sites will be left to regenerate on its own; this will provide comparison of active vs. passive management techniques. (Which tanks receive active vs. passive management will be determined during the Task # 2 planning phase.)

Deliverable Description: Photo documentation
Deliverable Due Date: September 2001

AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $0

Task #12: Three-Year Monitoring

Members of Prescott Audubon Society, in consultation with specialists as deemed necessary, will monitor the 5 tank sites over a three-year period, following strategies spelled out in the Plan, as specified in Task # 2 above.

Deliverable Description: Annual reports and final report; photo documentation
Deliverable Due Date: March 2002, February 2003 (to accompany project final report)
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $0

Task #13: Conduct Annual Open Houses

Duncan Blair, with assistance from the Prescott Audubon Society, will provide opportunity for the public to visit the project area annually.

Deliverable Description: Annual and final report; photo documentation
Deliverable Due Date: exact dates to be determined
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $0

Task #14: Attend AWPF Information Transfer Meeting

Grantee and partners may attend an AWPF Information Transfer Meeting and participate in either an oral presentation or a poster presentation about this project. The value of this Task is $500 fixed cost to compensate the Grantee for their expertise and participation in the meeting.

Deliverable description: Photograph of poster to be used at the AWPF Information Transfer Meeting with an abstract, or a copy of paper to be presented.
Deliverable due date: To be determined
AWPF Fixed Cost: $500

Task #15: Final Report

Grantee, with the assistance of Prescott Audubon Society, shall prepare and submit a comprehensive final report that includes a summary of all methodologies used, outcome of all tasks, analysis of all project and monitoring data, suggestions for any further changes needed in the project, and an evaluation of the project's success measured against the objectives.

Deliverable description: Final project report will summarize all methodologies used, outcome of all tasks, summarize and analyze project data & monitoring data, suggest any further changes needed in the project and evaluate project success measured against the objectives.
Deliverable due date: February 28, 2003
AWPF Reimbursable Cost: $4,560 (approx. 5% of the project cost)

Scope of Work: Sampling, Revegetation and Monitoring Plans

Prescott Audubon Society will provide the personnel to conduct initial baseline inventories and the 3-year sampling/monitoring of the 5 dirt tanks exclosures. They will also be the primary personnel (other volunteers may participate as the project evolves) who will collect and replant aquatic vegetation at 3 of the 5 tanks.
They will work in consultation with Arizona Game & Fish Department and other specialists as deemed necessary and will keep Duncan Blair informed of their progress. The contact person for Prescott Audubon Society is Donn Rawlings (3040 Hozoni Rd., Prescott, AZ 86305, phone: 520-445-8423, email: Donn_rawlings@yavapai.cc.az.us)
Their objectives, to be spelled out in greater detail in the Plan, are:

- to establish a baseline inventory of the areas around the 5 tanks
- to devise and implement revegetation of 3 of the 5 tanks
- to conduct seasonal sampling and monitoring of flora and fauna at the 5 tanks for a period of three years
- to photo document 5 tank sites as part of baseline inventory and monitoring
- to consult with Duncan Blair periodically to determine if project objectives are being met

Plant Species:

Wetland plants will be collected from both the Santa Maria and Date Creek drainages. The northern portions of the Tres Alamos Ranch drain to the Santa Maria River and the southern portions drain to Date Creek. A variety of species will be planted and will include several *Juncus spp*, *Scirpus spp, Eleocharis spp, Cyperus spp,* and *Typha spp.* Several of these species are present at Tres Alamos Spring within the Tres Alamos Ranch. This preliminary species list has been developed in consultation with experts familiar with aquatic and ephemeral flora. We will add and amend the plant species as we develop the Plan.

Sampling and Monitoring Methodologies:

Flora: Each tank will be monitored twice a year (April and October). Plant species present will be documented and area covered will be determined for each species present. The area covered by the various species will indicate the relative abundance of each species over time. The relative water level of each tank will be determined (placement of rebar stakes at water's edge) in order to describe and explain plant distribution and abundance. Different species of emergent plants have differing establishment strategies (seeds, rhizomes, etc.) and abilities to withstand inundation. Tracking water level will help interpret and explain the patterns of establishment of the various plant species. The initial plantings will be described in terms of species, numbers and locations for each tank. Photo points will be established at two locations for each tank and will be taken in April and October. The two tanks without active revegetation will serve as controls for comparison purposes to the other three tanks with revegetation.

Fauna: Each tank will be monitored four times a year (tentatively in mid-winter, March, May, and June; specific times will be determined when the detailed Plan is drafted) to determine presence of birds, invertebrates (especially butterflies), amphibians, large mammals, and small mammals (especially rodents and bats). Notes will be taken on fauna observations (e.g., species name and number of individuals of target species, signs of avian nesting behavior, large-mammal tracks, amphibian vocalizations). Plans will be developed to identify and document bat species (e.g., catch and release using mist nets) and rodent species (e.g, catch and release using live traps). Fauna monitoring will be coordinated with flora monitoring, and photos will be taken at established photo points in those months when flora photo points are not taken.

Water quality: Baseline information on water quality and levels will be gathered at each tank. Each tank will be tested four times a year for water quality -- to include turbidity, pH, and dissolved oxygen.

Equipment Needs: Film and processing. Water quality kits.

(Please note: due to formatting mysteries, this proposal has no page 16.)

Task-Timetable

Enter the starting and ending dates of the AWPF project, the duration of the AWPF funded project (in number of months), and the years of benefit your project will provide to the riparian or aquatic habitat. Indicate the timing of all tasks from the scope of work. If you perform a task periodically (e.g., taking water level measurements every 3 months), indicate it in this manner rather than as if it is performed every month. Provide the estimated cost to the AWPF for each task (which includes labor, materials, administration, etc.). The total cost for all tasks must add up to the exact amount you are requesting from the AWPF on the application cover page (line 13a), and must agree with the AWPF column total on the budget page. Forms for years 2 and 3 are included for multi-year projects.

Start Date:02/28/01
Yrs of Benefit:20
End Date:02/28/03
Duration:36 months

Project Name: Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion

Project Categories and Tasks			Months Since Project Initiated (Year 1)											
Task No.	Task Cost to AWPF	Task Description	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1		Obtain permits	X											
2		Prepare/submit plans			X									
3		Conduct orientation				X								
4		Conduct baseline inventory					X							
5		Clean sediment												
6	$48,738.56	Well rehab at Buck & Aso Pass		X										
7	$18,437.41	Install water storage tank at Farm			X									
8	$3,402	Fencing at Buck & Aso Pass				X								
9	$1,890	Complete fencing at Farm				X								
10		Construct sediment traps				X								
11		Collect/plant aquatic vegetation							X					
12		Monitoring								X			X	

Project Categories and Tasks			Project Name: Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion Months Since Project Initiated (Year 2)											
Task No.	Task Cost to AWPF	Task Description	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
5		Clean sediment					X							
12		Continuation of monitoring		X	X	X				X			X	

Project Categories and Tasks			Project Name: Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion Months Since Project Initiated (Year 3)										
Task No.	Task Cost to AWPF	Task Description	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
12		Continuation of monitoring		X	X	X				X			X	
13		Annual Open Houses (dates to be determined)												
14	$500	Transfer meeting (date to be determined)												
15	$4,560	Final Report												X

Project Budget Forms

TASK # and short description	AWPF FUNDS REQUESTED						
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Do not write in shaded areas.	DIRECT LABOR COSTS (1)	OTHER DIRECT COSTS	OUTSIDE SERVICES	CAPITAL OUTLAY (2)	TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	ADMIN COSTS (3)	TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED
					A+B+C+D=E	E * .05=F	E+F=G
#1/permits				$130	$130		$130
#6/Buck Tank/Aso Pass Tank well work			$12,831.73	$33,585.95	$46,417.68	$2,320.88	$48,738.56
#7/install storage tank at "Farm"			$6,579.44	$10,980	$17,559.44	$877.97	$18,437.41
#8/fences Buck and Aso Pass			$3,240		$3,240	$162	$3,402
#9/complete fences at "Farm"			$1,800		$1,800	$90	$1,890
#14/Transfer meeting	$500				$500		$500
#15/Final report (approx. 5% of total project cost)	$4,560				$4,560		$4,560
AWPF TOTALS	$5,060		$24,451.17	$44,695.95	$74,207.12	$3,450.85	$77,657.97

(1) Include wages, salaries, and fringe benefits.
(2) Attach list of capital equipment or other expenditures
(3) Administration costs are limited to 5% of the total project costs requested.

BUDGET FORMS CONTINUED

TASK # and short description	OTHER FUNDS (MATCHING) (4)						
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Do not write in shaded areas.	DIRECT LABOR COSTS (1)	OTHER DIRECT COSTS	OUTSIDE SERVICES	CAPITAL OUTLAY (2)	TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	ADMIN COSTS (3)	TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED
					A+B+C+D=E		E+F=G
#1/permits	$1,000				$1000	$50	$1,050
#2/plan preparation	$1,978.80	$319.20			$2,298	$114.90	$2,412.90
#3/orientation	$245.20	$203			$448.20	$22.40	$470.60
#4/baseline inventory	$982.80	$320.80			$1,303.60	$65.18	$1,368.78
#5/clean sediment	$400		$1,200		$1,600	$80	$1,680
#10/construct sediment traps	$1,000				$1,000	$50	$1,050
#11/collecting/planting	$740.60	$249.80			$990.40	$49.52	$1,039.92
#12/monitoring	$5,203.20	$1,372.20			$6,575.40	$328.77	$6,904.17
#13/annual open houses	$1,588.80	$457			$2,045.80	$102.29	$2,148.09
MATCHING TOTALS	$13,139.40*	$2,922	$1,200		$17,261.40	$863.06	$18,124.46

(1) Include wages, salaries, and fringe benefits.
(2) Attach list of capital or equipment or other expenditures (e.g. water purchases, sampling equipment, fencing materials, etc.).
(3) Matching administration costs are not limited.
(4) Volunteer labor costs should be based on current minimum wage rates; technical volunteer labor can be based on an hourly fee comparable to consulting fee's.

*** = IN-KIND LABOR COST**

Budget Information – AWPF Request

Provide a breakdown of your funding request to AWPF. Identify any direct labor costs, other direct costs, outside services and any capital costs. Identify costs by task.

Task #1:
Capital Outlay:
2 state permits @ $50 each = $100
3 NOIs @ $10 each = $30

Task #6:
Outside Services:
Contractor for rehab of Buck Tank & Aso Pass Tank = $12,831.73
Capital Outlay:
2 helical rotor submersible pumps and associated materials = $33,585.95
5% indirect cost = $2,320.88

Task #7:
Outside Services:
Contractor for installing water storage tank at the "Farm" = $6,579.44
Capital Outlay:
1 20,000-gallon water storage tank, plus PVC and fittings, manifold and valving = $10,980
5% indirect cost = $877.97

Task #8:
Outsides Services:
Contractor to build fence @ estimated cost of $1.50/linear ft. = $3,240
5% indirect cost = $162

Task #9:
Outsides Services:
Contractor to complete fencing @ estimated cost of $1.50/linear ft. = $1,800
5% indirect cost = $90

Task #14:
Fixed cost: $500

Task #15:
Final Report, approx. 5% of project cost = $4,560

Budget Information - Matching

Provide written evidence of all secured funds (in-hand or committed in writing) that you are listing on the cover page. The value of volunteer labor is based on current minimum wage; technical volunteer labor can be based on an hourly fee comparable to consulting fees. An explanation of any in-kind contributions listed in your application is recommended. Identify costs by task.

ALL LABOR COSTS ARE IN-KIND

Task #1:
Direct Labor:
Duncan Blair + 5% indirect cost (ICR)
5 days @ $200 = $1,000 + $50 ICR = $1,050

Task #2:
Direct Labor: $1,978.80
AGFD consultation, 1 day @ $208 = $208
Duncan Blair, 3 days @ $200 = $600
Plan preparation, 3 days @ $200 = $600
1 mammalogist, 1 day @ $100 = $100
1 entomologist, 1 day @ $100 = $100
Prescott Audubon Society Liaison, 72 hours x $5.15 = $370.80
Other direct costs: $319.20
Maps, $100
copying, $35
10 lunches @ 7.50 = $75
mileage for Donn, 112 mi RT x 32.5 cents/mi two trips = $72.80
mileage 2 experts, 1 trip traveling together from Prescott 112 x 32.5 = $36.40
Indirect cost: $114.90

Task #3:
Direct Labor: $245.20
AGFD consult, ½ day = $104
Duncan Blair, ½ day = $100
PAS liaison, 1 day = 8 hr x $5.15 = $41.20
Other Direct costs: $203
Lunches for 15 people = $112.50
Mileage 2 vehicles from Prescott, 112 RT x 32.5 cents/mi = $72.80
Mileage high school students from Wickenburg = 54 mi RT x 32.5 ct/mi = $17.55

5% indirect cost: $22.40

Task #4:
Direct Labor: $982.80
AGFD consult, 1.5 days = $312

Duncan Blair, 1.5 days = $300
6 volunteers x 12 hr per person = 72 hr. x $5.15 = $370.80
Other Direct costs: $320.80
8 per diems @ $29.50 each = $236
Mileage 2 vehicles from Prescott, 112 RT x 32.5 cents/mi = $72.80
1 roll of film + processing = $12
5% indirect cost: $65.18

Task #5:
Direct Labor:
Duncan Blair, 2 days = $400
Outside Services:
Dozer operator = $1,200
5% indirect cost: $80

Task #10:
Direct Labor:
Duncan Blair, 5 days = $1,000
5% indirect cost: $50

Task #11:
Direct Labor: $740.60
AFGD, ½ day to collect, 1 day to plant = $312
6 volunteers working total of 84 hrs to collect & plant x $5.15 per hr. = $432.60
Other Direct Costs: $249.80
6 per diems @ $29.50 each = $177
Mileage 2 vehicles from Prescott, 112 RT x 32.5 cents/mi = $72.80
5% indirect cost: $49.52

Task #12:
Direct Labor Costs: $5,203.20
AGFD plant monitoring twice a year for 3 years = $1,248
8 volunteers monitoring plants, fauna, & water quality 4 times a year for 3 years = 768 hours x $5.15 = $3,955.20
Other Direct Costs: $1,372.20
Mileage 2 vehicles from Prescott, 112 RT x 32.5 cents/mi = $72.80 x 4 x 3 = $873.60
Mileage Wickenburg, 54 RT x 32.5 cents/mi = $17.55 x 4 x 3 = $210.60
Film and processing: 24 rolls x $5 = $120; 24 processed x $6.99 processing = $168 Total: $288
5% indirect cost: $328.77

Task #13:
Direct Labor: $1,588.80
Duncan Blair, 1 day x 3 = $600
8 volunteers, 8 hrs. = 64 x $5.15 = $329.60 x 3 = $988.80
Other Direct Costs: $457
Mileage 2 vehicles from Prescott, 112 RT x 32.5 cents/mi = $72.80 x 3 = $218.40
Mileage Wickenburg, 54 RT x 32.5 cents/mi = $17.55 x 3 = $52.65
Materials, $150
3 rolls of film + processing, $36
5% indirect cost: $102.29

Existing Plans

Discuss any existing plans, reports or information that are relevant to the project and that the Commission should be aware of when evaluating your proposal. This might include other projects that are being performed or being planned in the area that may affect your project, or local planning/zoning changes that could impact the project area. Emphasize any institutional partnerships and collaborative planning being used in your project. Identify any unsecured funds, list their amount and describe their status. If you were to obtain them, list when this would occur and how it would affect the project.

Existing Plans:

This project builds upon the Tres Alamos Spring project (documentation of the cooperative agreement is attached, labeled 25-a).

It also is consistent with the Coordinated Resource Management Plan for the Tres Alamos Ranch (pertinent pages attached, labeled 25-b).

It complements wildlife management efforts (e.g., for bighorn sheep) on the BLM's Tres Alamos and Arrastra Mountain Wilderness Areas.

A number of other cooperative water-resource projects are in progress on neighboring ranches (OX Ranch, Date Creek Ranch) and in the Wickenburg School District. These various projects reflect a growing interest among livestock producers, communities, and resource agencies to work together on improving the stewardship of water resources in this region of Arizona. While each project is unique, together they suggest that the ideas of partnership, cooperation, and information sharing are "contagious" and if encouraged could continue to spread and prosper.

Agency Support:

Arizona Game & Fish Department will be an active consultant on this project. In addition, we have received letters of support from:

State Land Department, labeled 25-c.

Bureau of Land Management, labeled 25-d. None of the tanks/wells involved in this project is on BLM land. However, BLM lands comprise approximately 40% of the ranch, and this project will fulfill the potential of water storage and delivery infrastructure already provided by BLM.

Unsecured funds:

We are exploring funding opportunities through Arizona Game & Fish Department discretionary funding programs. The availability and amount of these discretionary funds will be known in mid-August. If we obtain AGFD monies, depending on the amount, we would either apply the funds as matching money to this AWPF grant application or withdraw our AWPF application.

25-a

THE STATE OF ARIZONA
GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
2221 WEST GREENWAY ROAD, PHOENIX, AZ 85023-4399
(602) 942-3000 • WWW.AZGFD.COM

GOVERNOR
JANE DEE HULL
COMMISSIONERS
CHAIRMAN, W. HAYS GILSTRAP, PHOENIX
DENNIS D. MANNING, ALPINE
MICHAEL M. GOLIGHTLY, FLAGSTAFF
JOE CARTER, SAFFORD
WILLIAM BERLAT, TUCSON
DIRECTOR
DUANE L. SHROUFE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
STEVE K. FERRELL

July 27, 2000

Duncan K. Blair, Managing Partner
Tres Alamos Ranch
P.O. Box 443
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Dear Duncan,

This letter is an update to our current Cooperative Stewardship Agreement #KR97-1963-EQS. This agreement was fully executed on 10/29/97 and remains in force until 10/29/07. The terms of this agreement have been fully implemented and the monitoring is ongoing.

John Kennedy is listed as the official Department contact but John has moved to the Phoenix office to assume duties as the Project Evaluation Supervisor in the Habitat Branch. At this time, I suggest that I serve as the official contact for the agreement and that Matt Pierce continue his role as the local contact for monitoring project effectiveness and wildlife use.

To date, we are very encouraged by the cooperative management activities conducted under this agreement and look forward to developing additional strategies for managing wildlife habitat on the Tres Alamos Ranch.

Sincerely,

David Belitsky

David Belitsky
Stewardship Program Coordinator

DWB:db

Cc: John Kennedy, Matt Peirce

After recording, mail copy to: Arizona Game and Fish Department Conservation Section 2221 West Greenway Road Phoenix, Arizona 85023	Cooperative Stewardship Agreement For Habitat Improvement Tres Alamos Ranch Habitat Improvement Project Arizona Game and Fish Commission, Arizona State Land Department, and Tres Alamos Ranch
Approved as to form Attorney General Contract No: KR97-1963-EQS	
FOR: Wildlife habitat improvement	

GAM/HAB-97-0709 (08/04/97)

Cooperative Stewardship Agreement between Arizona Game and Fish Commission, Arizona State Land Department, and Tres Alamos Ranch

THIS COOPERATIVE STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT (Agreement) for habitat improvement is entered into this 29th day of October, 1997 (effective date) between Tres Alamos Ranch and the State of Arizona through the Arizona Game and Fish Commission (Commission) and its administrative agency the Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) pursuant to A.R.S. § 17-231.B.7. and the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) pursuant to A.R.S. § 37-102 and 37-132, for the purpose of executing a cooperative habitat enhancement project on lands owned or controlled by Tres Alamos Ranch illustrated on Exhibit A and described in Exhibit B, both of which are attached hereto and referenced herein.

WHEREAS said subject property provides mutual benefit to Tres Alamos Ranch and wildlife, and it is the mutual desire of the Department, ASLD, and Tres Alamos Ranch to enter into this agreement and to work together for the common benefit of wildlife and Tres Alamos Ranch and for the best public interest of the people of Arizona; and

WHEREAS the Commission is committed to enhancing riparian habitat for wildlife use.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and other good and valuable considerations contained herein, the Department, ASLD, and Tres Alamos Ranch agree to implement the following described habitat improvement project on the subject property as set forth under the following terms and conditions:

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A. The Arizona Game and Fish Department agrees:

1. To provided up to $20,400 for the acquisition of materials and labor (Exhibit C) for the installation of 1 livestock / wildlife water development, to include an electric submersible pump, a 200-gallon reservoir tank, an electric pressure pump, 1.5 miles of 1.5-inch plastic pipe, a trailer-mounted electric generator, and a 500-gallon drinking trough on the Tres Alamos Ranch through the contractual agreements solicited as per State of Arizona procurement bid processes.

2. To provide up to $8,500 for the acquisition of materials and labor (Exhibit C) for the installation of 2 miles of electric fencing on the Tres Alamos Ranch through the contractual agreements solicited as per State of Arizona procurement bid processes.

3. To design and implement a monitoring plan (Exhibit D) to assess the effectiveness of the project on habitat improvement and wildlife use and provide up to $3,100 for the acquisition of materials and labor (Exhibit C) for the installation and maintenance of 6 monitoring exclosures. Such plan will include monitoring exclosures, vegetation transects, and photo-reference sites at which evaluations and photographs will be taken semi-annually during the growing season within the Tres Alamos West Pasture. Six monitoring exclosures will be constructed within the Tres Alamos Spring drainage, utilizing 0.75 miles of 4-strand, barbed-wire fence and 156 posts. The monitoring plan will be prepared with the assistance and review of the Planning Team. The Department will prepare annual project reports (including copies of slides and/or photographs) with the assistance and review of the Planning Team.

4. To provide an additional $13,000 for the acquisition of materials and labor (Exhibit C) for the installation of 2 miles of 4-strand, barbed-wire fencing in order to completely exclude livestock from grazing the 40-acre Tres Alamos riparian area if determined by mutual agreement to be necessary, as set forth in paragraph D.4.

5. To participate on a subcommittee of the Planning Team to evaluate riparian and range vegetation conditions and make recommendations to the Tres Alamos Ranch as to the specific time-frames (within the November 1 to February 28 time restriction and the 563 total Animal Unit Months restriction) for livestock grazing in the Tres Alamos West Pasture.

6. To maintain the monitoring exclosures located in the riparian zone in good repair and working order for the 10-year lifespan of this Agreement in such a manner to effect the successful execution of the intent and all terms and conditions of this Agreement.

/

B. The Arizona State Land Department agrees:

1. To conduct cultural resource and protected native plant clearances in conjunction with the placement of range improvements on State Trust Land.

2. To cooperate in the collection of data specified in the Tres Alamos Ranch Habitat Improvement Project Monitoring Plan and the Tres Alamos Coordinated Resource Management Plan.

3. To participate on a subcommittee of the Planning Team to evaluate riparian and range vegetation conditions and make recommendations to the Tres Alamos Ranch as to the specific time-frames (within the November 1 to February 28 time restriction and the 563 total Animal Unit Months restriction) for livestock grazing in the Tres Alamos West Pasture.

C. The Tres Alamos Ranch agrees:

1. To graze livestock in the Tres Alamos West Pasture for no more than 75 days within the time period of November 1 to February 28 for the 10-year lifespan of this Agreement, as described in the Tres Alamos Ranch Coordinated Resource Management Plan and the Tres Alamos Ranch Habitat Improvement Project Monitoring Plan (Exhibit D). Additionally, grazing will not exceed 563 Animal Unit Months per year in the Tres Alamos West Pasture.

2. To provide a 12,000-gallon storage tank for the livestock/wildlife water development.

3. To maintain the water system and associated structures and all upland fencing provided by the Department in good repair and working order for the 10-year lifespan of this Agreement in such a manner to effect the successful execution of the intent and all terms and conditions of this Agreement.

4. To maintain the riparian fencing provided by the Department in good repair and working order for the remaining 5 years of the Agreement if determined by mutual agreement to be necessary, as set forth in paragraph D.4.

5. To repair or replace any equipment or items purchased through this agreement which are damaged or stolen.

6. To develop, maintain, and utilize an existing water point, which is accessible from both the Tres Alamos East and West pastures, to better manage cattle grazing and animal impact on the land.

7. To participate on a subcommittee of the Planning Team to evaluate riparian and range vegetation conditions and make recommendations as to the specific time-frames (within the November

1 to February 28 time restriction and the 563 total Animal Unit Months restriction) for livestock grazing in the Tres Alamos West Pasture.

8. To monitor cattle performance and provide this information to the planning team.

9. To secure all necessary Arizona State Land Department permits for fence construction, and water development (all range improvements associated with this project).

10. To authorize the Department and ASLD and/or their representative(s) to enter upon the subject property in the vicinity of the project site in performance of duties assumed pursuant to this Agreement, including, but not limited to, monitoring and evaluating project effectiveness, assessing wildlife populations using the project, and conducting resources clearances.

11. To reimburse the Department for the expenses incurred on a prorated basis for the remaining term of the Agreement should this Agreement be terminated by the Tres Alamos Ranch prior to expiration.

D. The Department, ASLD, and Tres Alamos Ranch mutually agree:

1. To cooperate with each other and to insure that all participants successfully and satisfactorily fulfill their agreed-upon commitments as set forth in this Agreement.

2. To use the goods or services provided by the Department to the Tres Alamos Ranch for a public purpose as described herein, so that the public benefit derived as the result of such goods or services will equal or exceed the value of the goods or services.

3. To inspect the property on a regular basis and consult with each other for the purpose of assessing the effectiveness of this Agreement and work in harmony with each other to achieve the desired goals.

4. To evaluate at the end of 5 years the riparian zone in the Tres Alamos West Pasture for wildlife habitat improvements, as defined in the Monitoring Plan (Exhibit D). If specified improvements to vegetation are not documented at this time, the riparian area will be fenced (Figures B-1 and D-1) to exclude livestock grazing for the remaining 5 years of the Agreement.

5. To allow the Pipeline Ranch to continue necessary routine maintenance activities in the Tres Alamos Spring area (Figure B-1) as described in the Monitoring Plan (Exhibit D). Timing and scope of these maintenance activities will be determined by mutual agreement between the Pipeline Ranch, ASLD, Tres Alamos Ranch, and the Department.

6. To consult with the other planning team members on all decisions affecting the design, implementation, and monitoring of this project.

7. To limit the liability of each party to the damages caused by the sole negligence of that party, its agents, departments, officers or employees resulting from the performance of this Agreement.

8. To the extent required pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-1518, and any successor statutes, the parties agree to use arbitration, after exhausting all applicable administrative remedies, to resolve any dispute arising out of this Agreement, where not in conflict with Federal law.

9. That unless otherwise terminated as provided herein, this Agreement shall terminate ten (10) years exactly from the effective date noted herein. Project progress will be monitored and a final assessment of the project's effectiveness will be completed jointly by the parties.

10. That pursuant to A.R.S. § 35-214, all books, accounts, reports, files and other records relating to the contract shall be subject at all reasonable times to inspection and audit by the State for five years after completion of the contract. Such records shall be reproduced as designated by the State of Arizona.

11. That either party may terminate or request amending or extending this Agreement at any time with sixty (60) days written notice sent by certified mail to the other party as follows:

a. If intended for the Department:

John Kennedy, Habitat Program Manager
Arizona Game and Fish Department
9140 East County 10 1/2 Street
Yuma, AZ 85365-3596

b. If intended for ASLD:

Stephen Williams, Range Section Manager
Arizona State Land Department
1616 W. Adams
Phoenix, AZ 85007

c. If intended for Tres Alamos Ranch:

Duncan Blair, Owner
Tres Alamos Ranch
P.O. Box 547
Los Alamos, CA 93440

25-a

However, if this Agreement is terminated by Tres Alamos Ranch prior to the project expiration date stated herein, all provisions of Section C.11. above shall apply.

12. That this Agreement is subject to cancellation by the Governor of Arizona, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-511, in the event of an illegal conflict of interest.

13. That all work completed pursuant to this Agreement must be in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

14. That in the event that it applies, the parties agree to comply with the Governor's Executive Order No. 75-5, entitled "<u>Prohibition of Discrimination in State Contracts -- Non-Discrimination in Employment by Government Contractors and Subcontractors</u>," and said nondiscrimination orders are made a part of this Agreement by reference.

15. That this project shall be completed in accordance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, including consultation with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each person signing this Agreement warrants that he has the capacity, full power, and authority to execute this Agreement and consummate the transaction(s) contemplated hereby on behalf of the parties herein.

APPROVED:

Tres Alamos Ranch

By: Duncan Blair Date: 6 Oct. 1997
Duncan Blair, or authorized agent

APPROVED:

STATE OF ARIZONA through
Arizona Game and Fish Commission

By: Duane L. Shroufe Date: 10-21-97
Duane L. Shroufe, Secretary to the Commission
and Director, Arizona Game & Fish Department

APPROVED:

STATE OF ARIZONA through
Arizona State Land Department

By: J. Dennis Wells Date: 10/29/97
J. Dennis Wells, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM
This 18 day of August, 1997

Attorney General

By _____
Assistant Attorney General

25-b

COORDINATED RANGE MANAGEMENT PLAN
TRES ALAMOS RANCH

I. INTRODUCTION

This document represents a coordinated effort on the part of the USDI Bureau of Land Management, Arizona State Land Department, USDA Soil Conservation Service in cooperation with the Traingle NRCD, and the land user to develop a feasible and practical ranch management plan for the Tres Alamos Ranch. The ranch is located near Congress, Arizona, and is comprised of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management, Arizona State Land Department, and patented land. The goal of this plan is to coordinate the use of the lands involved into a framework that will allow for comprehensive management of the whole ranch, rather than separate management of each of the administrative subdivisions.

Range inventory work was conducted by the BLM, Arizona State Land Department, and the Soil Conservation Service. Range condition was determined from this field data. The planned grazing system selected for use was designed to maintain existing plant cover or to hasten its improvement while properly using the forage in all pastures. The range monitoring plan was designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the planned grazing system. Monitoring will be conducted on key species in key grazing areas. This plan will be jointly reviewed by the parties involved on a yearly basis.

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General

The primary objective of this plan is to improve range condition and maintain upward trend primarily on the volcanic hills, loamy upland, and sandy loam-limey range sites (for a description of range sites see Appendix IV - Allotment Analysis).

B. Specific

1. Vegetation Management

a. Maintain Plant Vigor. Each pasture will be rested at least one year in three during the spring, summer and fall growing seasons to allow the key species to replenish their stored food reserves.

b. Maximize Perennial Forage Production. Obtain uniform use through proper location of livestock waters and fences and stock at a level to obtain at least 30 percent utilization on the key species prior to the rest period. This will help stimulate growth prior to

25-6

the rest period which will increase production and improve quality of forage (for key species see Appendix IV - Allotment Analysis).

c. Increase Plant Reproduction. Concentrate livestock in one or two pastures to increase trampling and start grazing during the seed-ripe stage to plant as much seed as possible.

2. Wildlife Habitat Management.

a. Reserve Vegetation. Average utilization of key species will be held to 50 percent of current year's growth to ensure adequate forage and cover for wildlife.

b. Improve Wildlife Habitat. Provide adequate water for wildlife. Increase vegetative cover by 10 percent over a 15-year period and improve quality of forage for wildlife.

3. Livestock Management.

a. Increase average calf weaning weight to 450 pounds.

b. Increase average calf crop to 85 percent.

c. Obtain a uniform calf crop.

III. RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Existing and proposed range improvements are plotted on the base map in Appendix I and listed in Appendices II and IV.

IV. GRAZING MANAGEMENT

A. Grazing System.

The operator initiated a four-pasture, next-best-pasture rotation grazing system on the Tres Alamos Ranch in the spring of 1982. This same system will be continued. The basic formula is shown on the grazing worksheet and is as follows:

Graze - winter and spring

Rest - one full year

Graze - summer and fall

Rest - one full year

Jane Dee Hull
Governor

Michael E. Anable
State Land
Commissioner

Arizona
State Land Department

1616 West Adams Street Phoenix, AZ 85007 www.land.state.az.us

25-C

July 14, 2000

Mr. Duncan Blair
Tres Alamos Ranch
P.O. Box 443
Santa Ynez, California 93460

Dear Duncan:

The Land Department is aware of your efforts on behalf of the Tres Alamos Ranch to apply for an Arizona Water Protection Fund grant. We understand the purpose of the project for which you are seeking funding is to exclude five dirt tanks at the Tres Alamos Ranch from livestock use and provide alternative water sources. The objectives of this project would be to enhance wildlife habitat, support biological diversity, drought-proof the ranch operations, and demonstrate a wildlife friendly option to the conventional uses of dirt tanks.

The Land Department is supportive of your efforts to obtain the funds needed for the proposed Water Protection Fund project.

Our working relationship with you as a Land Department lessee for the past eight years has been excellent.

Our recent endeavor on the Cooperative Stewardship Agreement for the Tres Alamos Ranch Habitat Improvement Project with the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Land Department, and yourself is a testimonial to your desire to manage your ranching operation with the health of the land as a primary consideration.

The Land Department offers its assistance in performing the necessary clearances and range improvement application review in conjunction with this project.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Williams

Stephen M. Williams
Range Section Manager

SMW:kr
cc: 05-1899 file

25-d

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Kingman Field Office
2475 Beverly Avenue
Kingman, Arizona 86401

In Reply Refer to:

4100 (030)

14 July 2000

Mr. Duncan Blair
P.O. Box 443
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Dear Mr. Blair:

The projects proposed by the Tres Alamos Ranch for private and State Trust lands located in Yavapai county can provide future benefits toward public lands located within the western portion of this ranching unit. The primary benefit of these proposals would be to provide a permanent water source to feed the Ramon pasture water system. This water system would consist of a pipeline, storage, and drinker and putting this system back into use would allow the Ramon pasture to be put back into the grazing rotation system. This in turn would create more flexibility for the ranching unit by helping with livestock distribution, providing periods of rest, and having year long water available for wildlife purposes.

The Bureau of Land Management (Kingman Field Office) can put forth support of these proposals because they are within the current resource management direction for this area.

If anyone has questions or needs additional information, please contact Jack Spears of my staff at (520) 692-4463.

Sincerely,

John R. Christensen
Field Manager

Community Support

Indicate the community support for your project from within the project impact area. Include signed copies of letters from community organizations or groups that support your project. Please be aware that for public support to affect your proposal criteria rating score, it must be included with your application. If pertinent, describe your commitment to work jointly with affected cities, towns, counties, NRCD's, special districts, and/or Indian tribes. If you are a federal or state agency, you should attach evidence of support from those citizens who lease or hold use-permits for the lands to be impacted by your project. Letters of public support for your proposal that are received after the application deadline will not be considered for the criteria rating score, however will be forwarded to the Commission .

Prescott Audubon Society endorses the project and will play an active role in implementation. A Draft Partnership Agreement is attached (this agreement will become final when the Sampling and Monitoring Plan is completed). Labeled 26-a.

The Wickenburg Unified School District supports this project and indicates an interest in Wickenburg High School students participating in the Tres Alamos Project. A letter of support is attached. Labeled 26-b.

The Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott endorses this project. The original letter of support has been mailed directed to AWPF Commission; a copy is attached. Labeled 26-c.

Dennis Moroney, a rancher in Yavapai County, and Macfarland Donaldson, a rancher in Santa Cruz and Pima Counties and recipient of a AWPF grant, endorse this project. Their original letters of support have been mailed directed to AWPF Commission; copies received as e-mails are attached. Labeled 26-d & 26-e.

We will request support from the Yavapai County Cattle Growers Association at their September meeting.

DRAFT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
07/01/00

TRES ALAMOS RANCH DIRT TANKS AND WATER WELLS PROJECT
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Duncan K. Blair, managing partner of the Tres Alamos Ranch, Yavapai County, Arizona, and the Prescott Audubon Society have discussed and agreed to work together to implement the TRES ALAMOS RANCH DIRT TANKS AND WATER WELLS PROJECT. The project will exclude five dirt tanks at the Tres Alamos Ranch from livestock use and provide alternative water sources, with the objectives of: enhancing wildlife habitat, supporting biological diversity, drought-proofing the ranch operations, and demonstrating a wildlife-friendly option to the conventional use of dirt tanks.

The parties agree that the Prescott Audubon Society will be responsible for:

- implementing the Monitoring/Sampling Plan for the project
- serving as the fiduciary for grant monies either (1.) when the grantor requires that the fiduciary be a 501(c)(3) organization or (2.) when both parties agree that Prescott Audubon will serve in this capacity

Duncan K. Blair understands that implementing the Monitoring/Sampling Plan will require that Prescott Audubon Society have access to the public (State Trust lands) as well as private land on the ranch and herewith grants said access to those private lands within the ranch to which he holds fee title where monitoring and sampling will be required.

Karen W. O'Neil date July 11, 2000
President
For Prescott Audubon Society
P.O. Box 4156
Prescott, AZ 86302

Duncan K. Blair date July 19, 2000
Duncan K. Blair
P.O. Box 443
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

July 29, 2000

Addendum to Draft Partnership Agreement:

I understand that the Prescott Audubon Society is under no obligation to fulfill as yet unspecified terms of implementing the Monitoring/Sampling Plan for the Tres Alamos Project until a detailed plan has been developed and signed by both parties (myself and Prescott Audubon Society).

As of the due date of the Arizona Water Protection Fund ~~grant,~~ on August 2, 2000, said plan has not been developed.

Duncan K. Blair date 28 July 2000

Duncan K. Blair
P.O. Box 443
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

26-b

Wickenburg Unified School District No. 9

July 27, 2000

Mr. Roger Manning, Chairman
Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission
500 North Third Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Dear Mr. Manning:

After speaking with Mr. Duncan Blair of the Tres Alamos Ranch earlier this summer, the Wickenburg School District is aware of his attempts to enhance wildlife habitat, support biological diversity, and demonstrate a wildlife friendly option to the conventional uses of five dirt tanks on the property. By excluding livestock use from the dirt tanks, Mr. Blair is ultimately attempting to provide alternative water sources at the Tres Alamos Ranch. Wickenburg Unified School District #9 is supportive of his efforts.

In my discussions with Mr. Blair earlier this summer, I am particularly interested in the possibility of Wickenburg High School students participating in the Tres Alamos Project. Since the ranch is only about 30 minutes from the Wickenburg area, this would be an excellent comparative project for our environmental science students. With the development of our own outdoor classroom on the new high school site, our students have had the opportunity to learn firsthand about water conservation and all that entails. I am certain that the Tres Alamos Project, in a large arid landscape, complements the objectives of the Wickenburg wetland project, a recipient of an AWPF grant. I am certain that student monitoring at both sites would be value-added and educationally beneficial for all parties involved.

I look forward to the opportunities that the Tres Alamos Project will afford the students and staff at Wickenburg High School. The school district is supportive of Mr. Blair's efforts to obtain funds needed for the proposed Water Protection Fund project.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me in regards to this matter. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Doug Price

Dr. Douglas Price
Superintendent

40 W. Yavapai Street Wickenburg, Arizona 85390 520-684-5556

26-C

Sharlot Hall MUSEUM
415 W. GURLEY STREET • PRESCOTT, AZ 86301 • 520.445.3122 • FAX 520.776.9053 • www.sharlot.org

July 31, 2000

Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission
ATTENTION: Reuben Teran
500 N. 3rd St.
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Dear Mr. Teran:

The purpose of this letter is to support the grant application of Tres Alamos Ranch and its managing partner, Duncan Blair. The Tres Alamos Dirt Tanks and Water Wells Project is laudable in its foresight and in its adaptive use of a traditional ranching practice. The Sharlot Hall Museum, the largest museum near the project area, endorses the four objectives of Tres Alamos Ranch, which include:

a. Enhancing wildlife inhabitants (the Museum is involved with this objective in other areas of Yavapai County).

b. Supporting biological diversity (the Museum is in a partnership with other major educational institutions on the same objective, again in other areas of Yavapai County).

c. Drought proofing the ranch operations (drought proofing seems an optimistic term, especially given the summer we are having; I wish Tres Alamos the best in that regard).

d. Demonstrating a wildlife friendly option to the conventional use of dirt tanks (Any water that resides on the land, be it naturally introduced or artificially placed, will result in frequent wildlife use and dependence. Tres Alamos is astute in seeking this wildlife friendly option).

Congress, Arizona in the southern region of the Museum's mission area is one of the last places in Central Arizona where ranching can continue to be productive, especially if innovative and adaptive measures are taken.

We believe such is the case with this grant application.

Sincerely,

Richard Sims

Richard S. Sims
Director

Post-it® Fax Note 7671	Date 7/31/00	# of pages ▶ 1
To Suzanne Winckler	From Richard Sims	
Co./Dept.	Co. Sharlot Hall Museum	
Phone #	Phone # 520/445-3122	
Fax # 480-833-8369	Fax # 520/776-9053	

Original copy of letter mailed to AWPF

Subject: Re: Tres Alamos grant application
Date: Sat, 29 Jul 2000 08:15:26 +0000
From: Dennis Moroney <crossu@primenet.com>
To: Suzanne Winckler <swinck@home.com>

Arizona Water Protection Fund
Phoenix Arizona

To Whom It May Concern:

I have reviewed the grant application being submitted by Mr. Duncan Blair for a project titled: Tres Alamos Dirt Tanks to Aquatic Habitat Conversion. In a nutshell, the project proposes to transform five fairly typical dirt tanks on the Tres Alamos Ranch into protected permanent water sources available exclusively to wildlife and protected from livestock grazing. At the same time completion of the proposed project will add some degree of predictability to the water supply available for livestock use, thus helping to insure the sustainability of the ranching enterprise and as a result lending some real hope for long term stewardship of the aquatic habitat to be enhanced.

I am in full support of the project proposal. I think it demonstrates clearly the kind of "win-win" solution to resource management challenges that characterizes a new approach to public lands ranching that we like to refer to as "conservation ranching". Throughout the State of Arizona, and indeed throughout the west there are progressive ranchers who have had tremendous success in converting resource management problems into sustainable solutions through the formation of working partnerships with agencies and environmental advocacy groups to bring about a shared vision for the land, and to implement conservation management which recognizes the many diverse and often times non economic values inherent in the landscape. I know Mr. Blair to be one of these ranchers.

I think that the project has particular merit in that it proposes to enhance an existing resource found on almost every ranch in the west, that has tremendous potential and that has historically been utilized at its lowest common denominator for only a single economic purpose. The "dirt tank" is seen by most ranchers as a place to catch and store seasonal runoff water for use by livestock. This visionary project will serve as a living demonstration to others of the unrealized potential biological wealth that lies inherent with virtually every dirt tank on nearly every ranch in the west. We know that these tanks are used by migrating and sometimes nesting waterfowl, songbirds, small mammals, game animals, and a host of reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates. The project will provide a great way to allow others; ranchers as well as sportsmen, conservationists and other members of the public to see a living example of what could become reality on ranches everywhere. It may be as much about transformation of paradigms as it is about transformation of resources values.

I have known Duncan Blair for many years as both a ranching colleague, and as a fellow conservationist. I am very familiar with the natural landscape of the Tres Alamos Ranch, as I have pastured cattle on the ranch in the past. I am also a cattle rancher in Yavapai County, a past officer and board member of both the Yavapai Cattle Growers, and the Yavapai County Farm Bureau, and I am also a current member of the National Audubon Society, and affiliated with Prescott

Audubon Society. I am an adjunct faculty member at Prescott College; where I serve as a mentor in the Adult Degree Program , and as an instructor in courses in Permaculture, and Environmental Studies. I am also an adjunct faculty member at Yavapai Community College where I have taught Conservation of Natural Resources in the Biology Department. In addition, I am a founding member of the Arizona Common Ground Roundtable, a diverse forum for policy development addressing sustainable land use and alternatives to landscape fragmentation and subsequent habitat loss. I serve on the Arizona Game and Fish Commissions' Heritage Fund Public Advisory Committee, and was named the 1999 Wildlife Habitat Steward of the year by that commission.

If you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your serious consideration of this worthy project proposal.

Sincerely,

Dennis M. Moroney
Cross U Cattle Co.
Rt. 30 Box 1060
Prescott Arizona 86305
520 308- 0494
crossu@primenet.com

26-e

Original copy of letter sent to AWPF

July 28, 2000

Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission
500 North Third Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Dear Sirs:

This letter of support is for the proposed Water Protection Fund project of the Tres Alamos Ranch, Congress, AZ, for the project year 2000.

I myself have received a Water Protection Fund grant (no. 98-049), which is still in process, and I am familiar with some of the requirements of a AWPF grant proposal.

The Tres Alamos Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion appears to me to be the exact type of protection that will benefit the arid lands of the Joshua Tree/Congress Fan area. When man-made supplemental waters are established in a previously waterless landscape, wildlife dependence follows. Duncan Blair's proposed changes will not only enhance these critical livestock water, but also greatly expand the quantity and quality of wildlife habitat. In the proposed projects methods, numbers 3.) fence waters, 4.) plant native riparian flora, and 5.) establish water supply are all essential to the promotion of wildlife diversity and success of the project.

I also feel that the establishment of these five biologically friendly dirt tanks will have a positive effect upon the immediate aquifer through percolation enhancement and run-off entrapment. This proposed project has enough merit that Donn Rawlings of the Prescott Audubon Society has committed time and resources towards its success. These partnerships between concerned citizens of the state are exactly what will create a harmonious approach to land use in Arizona.

When ranchers such as Mr. Blair have the foresight and commitment to put real monies and effort into a positive change for wildlife and the resource, the state of Arizona has a unique opportunity to support and further this sort of progressive thinking within the ranching community. I as a member of that community wholeheartedly support this project and hope the Water Protection Fund does as well.

Respectfully submitted by,

Macfarland Donaldson

Personnel

Indicate the key personnel associated with this project. Identify a Project Manager and include a brief biographical sketch that describes relevant qualifications of all key personnel.

Personnel:

Duncan Blair (Project Manager) has an MMA degree in Coastal Resource Management form the University of Washington and a Masters Degree in Latin American Studies from the University of Texas. From 1973 to 1975 he lived in San Jose, Costa Rica, and taught Biology, Ecology and General Science at Colegio Methodista. He was Professor in the Facultad de Ciencias Sociales of the Universidad Nacional, Heredia, Costa Rica.

Since 1979 he and his family have owned and operated two cattle ranches: Rancho El Roblar in Santa Barbara County, California, and the Tres Alamos Ranch in Yavapai County, Arizona.

Blair is trained in Holistic Resource Management and Ranching for Profit and has applied the theories and techniques of these methodologies to his ranching enterprises. He has experience in developing and participating in effective working groups with defined objectives and measurable results (e.g., he helped organize the Tres Alamos Group, a partnership that has successfully implemented restoration of the Tres Alamos Spring and associated riparian habitat). He is a founder of the Grazing Ecology Conference in Santa Barbara County and currently serves as its director. He is a member of the Arizona Cattlegrowers' Association, the Yavapai County Cattlegrowers' Association and the Santa Barbara County Third District Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Donn Rawlings (Prescott Audubon Society Liaison) grew up on a small ranch in Montana. He has a BA in English from Antioch College and a PhD in English from the University of Washington. Rawlings has taught at the college level since 1962 (at the University of Washington, University of Denver, Loretto Heights College, and Yavapai College), chaired the Freshman English program at DU, the Basic Skills and Counseling Programs at Loretto Heights, and (currently) the Communications Division at Yavapai College in Prescott. In addition to English, he has taught interdisciplinary classes in sense of place, environmental ethics, and environmental issues.

Rawlings is a past president and past conservation committee chair for Prescott Audubon. In addition, he helped to found Granite Mountain Action and the Prescott National Forest Friends, and is a member of several other environmental organizations. He has served on strategic management teams for the Orme Ranch, the OX Ranch and the Tres Alamos Ranch, all in Yavapai County. He writes on aspects of Southwest literature and landscapes, and expects to spend much of his coming retirement from teaching learning more about Southwest natural history and exploring options for sustainable living in this area: discovering what might be the good work that can sustain communities in place over time.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Certification

(must be submitted)

This certification is required by regulations implementing the State Preservation Act (A.R.S. 41-861 through 41-864), effective July 24, 1982. It is understood that **recipients of state funds are required to comply with this law** throughout the project period. The State Historic Preservation Act mandates that all State agencies consider the potential of activities or projects to impact significant cultural resources. Each State agency is required to consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer with regard to those activities or projects that may impact cultural resources. All projects that affect the ground-surface that are funded by AWPF require SHPO clearance **including those on private lands.**

PROJECT TITLE: Tres Alamos Ranch Dirt-Tanks-to-Aquatic-Habitat Conversion Project

Please answer the following questions which provide information about the potential of the project to impact cultural resources:

1. Does the project have the potential to disturb the surface and/or subsurface of the ground?
   YES: __X__ **NO:** ____.
2. Are there any buildings or structures (including mines, bridges, dams, canals, etc.) which are 50 years or older within the project area that have the potential to be disturbed by the proposed activity?
   YES: ____ **NO:** __X__.
3. Are there any known prehistoric and/or historic archaeological sites within the project area?
   YES: ____ **NO:** __X__.
4. Are you aware of any archeological investigations that have been performed within one (1) mile of the project area?
   YES: ____ **NO:** __X__.

If you have answered "**NO**" to all of the above questions, please sign on the line below certifying that the activity or project is in compliance (and will remain in compliance throughout the project period) with the State Historic Preservation Act. **YOU MUST SUBMIT THIS FORM WITH YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION.**

_____

Authorized Signature

_____

Date

If you have answered "**YES**" to any of the questions above, please answer the following questions.

SHPO Certification

If you answered yes to question #1, specifically identify any surface or subsurface impacts that are expected. Attach extra sheets if more space is needed.

Building 4-wire barbed-wire fence around 5 existing dirt tanks. In three instances, digging 18-inch-deep trenches for pipes to connect wells to storage tanks that will provide water to livestock troughs. Cleaning 5 existing dirt tanks by pushing sediment onto existing berms.

If you answered yes to question #1, describe the current ground surface condition within the entire project area boundary (i.e., is the ground in a natural undisturbed condition, or has it been bladed, paved, graded, used for agriculture, etc.). Attach extra sheets if more space is needed.

The areas where fencing will be built are natural and undisturbed. The pipeline trenches will be dug in an area that has previously been cultivated. The cleaning of sediment will occur in the beds of dirt tanks that have been previously bladed and graded.

If you answered yes to question #2, list the sites, their names, and provide a brief description of the site.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Has the project area been previously surveyed for cultural resources by a qualified Archaeologist?

YES: ____ **NO:** ____.

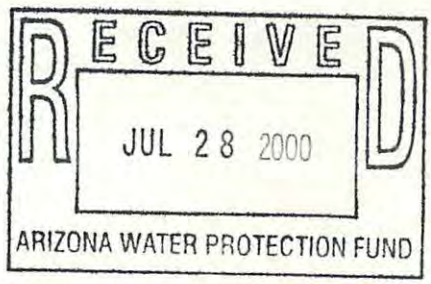
DON'T KNOW: _X_.

If yes, submit a copy of the Archaeologist's report with your application.

YOU MUST SUBMIT THIS FORM WITH YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION

WPF 0268

Macfarland Donaldson
[redacted]
Huachuca City, Arizona 85616



Water Protection Fund
500 W 3rd. St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Dear Sirs:

This is a letter of support for the proposed Water Protection Fund Project of the Tres Alamos Ranch, Congress, Az., for the project year of 2000.

I myself have received a Water Protection Fund grant (No. 98 - 049), which is still in process and am familiar with some of the requirements of a WPF grant proposal.

The Tres Alamos dirt tanks to Aquatic Habitat conversion appears to me to be the exact type of protection that will benefit the arid lands of the Joshua Tree / Congress Fan area. When man made supplemental waters are established in a previously waterless landscape, wildlife dependance follows. Duncan Blairs' proposed changes will not only enhance these critical livestock water, but greatly expand the quantity and quality of wildlife habitat, In the proposed projects methods; numbers 3. fence waters,4. Plant native riparian flora, and 5. establish permanent water supply are all essential to the promotion of wildlife diversity and success of the project.

I also feel that the establishment of these five biologically friendly dirt tanks will have a positive effect upon the immediate aquifer through percolation enhancement and run off entrapment. This proposed project has enough merit that Donn Rawlings of the Prescott Audubon Society has committed time and resources towards it's success. These partnerships between concerned citizens of the State are exactly what will create a harmonious approach to land use in our State.

When Ranchers such as Mr Blair have the foresight and commitment to put real monies and effort into a positive change for wildlife and the resource, the State of Arizona has a unique opportunity to support and further this sort of progressive thinking within the Ranching Community. I as a member of that community wholeheartedly support this project and hope the Water Protection Fund does as well.

Respectfully submitted by,

Macfarland Donaldson

WPF 0268

Wickenburg Unified School District No. 9

July 27, 2000

Mr. Roger Manning, Chairman
Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission
500 North Third Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Dear Mr. Manning:

After speaking with Mr. Duncan Blair of the Tres Alamos Ranch earlier this summer, the Wickenburg School District is aware of his attempts to enhance wildlife habitat, support biological diversity, and demonstrate a wildlife friendly option to the conventional uses of five dirt tanks on the property. By excluding livestock use from the dirt tanks, Mr. Blair is ultimately attempting to provide alternative water sources at the Tres Alamos Ranch. Wickenburg Unified School District #9 is supportive of his efforts.

In my discussions with Mr. Blair earlier this summer, I am particularly interested in the possibility of Wickenburg High School students participating in the Tres Alamos Project. Since the ranch is only about 30 minutes from the Wickenburg area, this would be an excellent comparative project for our environmental science students. With the development of our own outdoor classroom on the new high school site, our students have had the opportunity to learn firsthand about water conservation and all that entails. I am certain that the Tres Alamos Project, in a large arid landscape, complements the objectives of the Wickenburg wetland project, a recipient of an AWPF grant. I am certain that student monitoring at both sites would be value-added and educationally beneficial for all parties involved.

I look forward to the opportunities that the Tres Alamos Project will afford the students and staff at Wickenburg High School. The school district is supportive of Mr. Blair's efforts to obtain funds needed for the proposed Water Protection Fund project.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me in regards to this matter. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Douglas Price
Superintendent

40 W. Yavapai Street Wickenburg, Arizona 85390 520-684-5556

WPF 0268

Sharlot Hall MUSEUM
415 W. GURLEY STREET • PRESCOTT, AZ 86301 • 520.445.3122 • FAX 520.776.9053 • www.sharlot.org

July 31, 2000

Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission
ATTENTION: Reuben Teran
500 N. 3rd St.
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Dear Mr. Teran:

The purpose of this letter is to support the grant application of Tres Alamos Ranch and its managing partner, Duncan Blair. The Tres Alamos Dirt Tanks and Water Wells Project is laudable in its foresight and in its adaptive use of a traditional ranching practice. The Sharlot Hall Museum, the largest museum near the project area, endorses the four objectives of Tres Alamos Ranch, which include:

a. Enhancing wildlife inhabitants (the Museum is involved with this objective in other areas of Yavapai County).

b. Supporting biological diversity (the Museum is in a partnership with other major educational institutions on the same objective, again in other areas of Yavapai County).

c. Drought proofing the ranch operations (drought proofing seems an optimistic term, especially given the summer we are having; I wish Tres Alamos the best in that regard).

d. Demonstrating a wildlife friendly option to the conventional use of dirt tanks (Any water that resides on the land, be it naturally introduced or artificially placed, will result in frequent wildlife use and dependence. Tres Alamos is astute in seeking this wildlife friendly option).

Congress, Arizona in the southern region of the Museum's mission area is one of the last places in Central Arizona where ranching can continue to be productive, especially if innovative and adaptive measures are taken.

We believe such is the case with this grant application.

Sincerely,

Richard Sims

Richard S. Sims
Director