


**Arizona Water Protection Fund
Application Cover Page
FY 2023**

WPF2301

Title of Project: Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project											
Type of Project: <input type="checkbox"/> Capital or Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> Research	Stream Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Perennial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intermittent <input type="checkbox"/> Ephemeral										
Your level of commitment to maintenance of project benefits and capital improvements: <input type="checkbox"/> < 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5-10 years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11-15 years <input type="checkbox"/> 16-20 years											
Applicant Information: Name/Organization: Arizona Association of Conservation Districts Address 1: 7467 E Broadway Blvd Address 2: N/A City: Tucson State: AZ ZIP Code: 85710 Phone: (830) 719-5372 Fax: N/A Tax ID No.: XXXXXXXXXX											
Inside an AMA: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, which AMA: <input type="checkbox"/> Phoenix <input type="checkbox"/> Tucson <input type="checkbox"/> Prescott <input type="checkbox"/> Pinal <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Cruz											
Contact Person: Name: Deborrah Smith Title: Executive Director Phone: (830) 719-5372 Fax: N/A e-mail: smith.aacd@gmail.com											
Arizona Water Protection Fund Grant Amount Requested: \$261,000 If the application is funded, will the Grantee intend to request an advance: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No											
Matching Funds Obtained and Secured: <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Applicant/Agency/Organization:</u></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>Amount (\$):</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Applicant</td> <td style="text-align: right;">150,800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Apache NRCD</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right" colspan="2">Total: 160,800</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Applicant/Agency/Organization:</u>	<u>Amount (\$):</u>	1. Applicant	150,800	2. Apache NRCD	10,000	3.		Total: 160,800	
<u>Applicant/Agency/Organization:</u>	<u>Amount (\$):</u>										
1. Applicant	150,800										
2. Apache NRCD	10,000										
3.											
Total: 160,800											
Any Previous AWPf Grants: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please provide Grant #(s): WPF-17-188											
Has your legal counsel or contracting authority reviewed and accepted the Grant Award Contract General Provisions? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A											
Signature of the undersigned certifies understanding and compliance with all terms, conditions and specifications in the attached application. Additionally, signature certifies that all information provided by the applicant is true and accurate. The undersigned acknowledges that intentional presentation of any false or fraudulent information, or knowingly concealing a material fact regarding this application is subject to criminal penalties as provided in A.R.S. Title 13. The Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission may approve Grant Awards with modifications to scope items, methodology, schedule, final products and/or budget.											
Deborrah Smith	Executive Director (830) 719-5372										
Typed Name of Applicant or Applicant's Authorized Representative	Title and Telephone Number										
											
Signature	08/26/2022										
	Date Signed										

Timberline - Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project Executive Summary

The project area is located within the bounds of the Dobson Timberline Ranch, located in Apache County, AZ and the Apache Natural Resource Conservation District. 1800 acres of Little Colorado River Watershed (LCRW) will be treated for the invasive brush species juniper to support grassland restoration, which will improve watershed conditions by increasing infiltration and stabilizing soil. The area will be monitored for ground cover improvement. Treatment of the proposed 1,800 acres of watershed will build on the previously funded and successful AZ WPF funded grant #17-188 Project, which this proposed project borders, thus enhancing landscape-level improvement of the watershed.

Within the 1,800-acre treatment area runs Wildcat Creek, which feeds directly into the Little Colorado River (listed as impaired water by the EPA). Living within the LCR are the endangered species: Spike, Spine Dace, and Loach Minnow. There is also a noted presence of E. coli in the LCR.

Applications: Timberline Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project

Profile

smith.aacd@gmail.com

Project Title

Timberline - Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project

Organization Name

Arizona Association of Conservation Districts

Application Cover Page

1-ApplicationCoverPageForm_AWPF_FY2023-APACHE DOBSON.doc

Executive Summary

2-ExecutiveSummary_AWPF_FY2023_APACHE.doc

Project Overview

3-ProjectOverview_AWPF_FY2023_APACHE.doc

Project Location and Environmental Contaminant Information

4-ProjectLocation_EnvironmentalContaminantInformationForm_AWPF_FY2023-APACHE DOBSON.doc

Scope of Work

5-ScopeOfWorkTemplate_AWPF_FY2023-APACHE DOBSON.doc

AWPF Detailed Budget

6-AWPF_ApplicationDetailedBudgetTemplate - APACHE DOBSON.xlsx

Matching / Cost Share Budget

7-MatchingFunds_CostShare_ApplicationDetailedBudgetTemplate_APACHE DOBSON.xlsx

Arizona Watershed Map

8-ArizonaWatershedMapForm_AWPF_FY2023-APACHE DOBSON.doc

Project Location: Schematic Maps

Quads and TRS Labeled.pdf

Project Location: Schematic Maps (cont.)**Project Location: Ownership Maps**

Land Ownership.pdf

Project Location: Ownership Maps (cont.)**State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Review Forms**

9-StateHistoricPreservationOfficeForms_AWPF_FY2023.doc

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Review Forms (cont.)**State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Review Forms (cont.)****State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Review Forms (cont.)**

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Review Forms (cont.)

Key Personnel

Deborah Smith, AACD Executive Director and Darick Knight, Apache NRCD Chairman

Key Personnel (cont.)

Project Site Photographs

Photos.pdf

Project Implementation Plans

Improve watershed health by controlling invasive brush (juniper) to restore the LCRW to historic grassland conditions.

The Grantee will implement a pre-treatment and post-treatment vegetation monitoring plan.

This plan includes:

- Finalized maps of each treatment area.
 - o (Each of the three treatment areas will be finalized with total acres mapped after cultural clearance and permitting is completed (Not to exceed 1,800 total).
- Established photo points pre-treatment and post-treatment.
- Cover data collected at each established points, analyzed and summarized in progress reports.

There are two main objectives to monitoring:

1. To characterize the tree stands before and after treatment – i.e. to document that the treatment was done and what the tree cover and/or density was before and after. The data can also be used to monitor re invasion in the long term.
2. To monitor the effects of the treatment on ground cover and vegetation composition. The purpose of the treatments is to improve watershed condition and improve forage for wildlife and livestock. These are the indicators of those objectives. The results may not be apparent for several years after treatment, depending on precip and management.

- The best way to document these changes is to use the standard monitoring format – frequency, DWR, ground cover and photos in permanently located plots (designated monitoring areas). Tree cover and density can also be estimated on the same sampling sites.
- Locating sampling sites – There should be at least one sampling site per treatment area up to three sites depending on size of treatment area. It is not practical to locate these randomly, so the sites must be selected. Selection should aim to represent the most important ecological sites, typical cover and density of trees, and key livestock grazing areas if possible (at least they should not be too close or too far away from water).
- At each site the following data will be collected:
 - o Frequency, DWR, ground cover – 4 parallel transects of 50 quadrats each. Length of transects should be at least 100 paces with quadrat at 2 pace intervals, longer transects would give better info on trees. The transects should be about 10 paces apart. (This is wider spacing than usual, but it would be better where tree cover exists to avoid successive quadrats under the same tree or clump of trees.) Keep on one ecological site.
 - o Estimate percent tree cover on the sampled site – also size classes, reproduction, species.
 - o Estimate density (trees/acre)
- At each site the GPS coordinates will be recorded and a general view photo made in 4 directions with the first on the transect bearing. Bearings will be recorded.

Existing Plans / Reports / Information

No Existing Plans.docx

Existing Plans / Reports / Information (cont.)

Existing Plans / Reports / Information (cont.)

Letters of Community Support

Support Letters Total.pdf

Letters from Entities Pledging Matching Funds

Support Letter ANRCD.pdf

Evidence of Control and Tenure of Land

Landowner Letter of Support.pdf

Evidence of Control and Tenure of Land (cont.)

State Permit Lease Agreements.pdf

Project Site Access / Permission to Conduct Work

Lessee of project area has supplied letter of support and access.

Evidence of Physical and Legal Availability of Water

State Permit Lease Agreements.pdf

Evidence of Physical and Legal Availability of Water (cont.)**OPTIONAL: Additional Project Information****OPTIONAL: Additional Project Information****OPTIONAL: Additional Project Information****OPTIONAL: Additional Project Information****OPTIONAL: Additional Project Information****OPTIONAL: Additional Project Information****View Budget Worksheet****View Application Goals**

<https://portal.ecivis.com/#/peerGoals/C6D2067A-4383-49BC-87B0-68C80EF4FC90>

Applications: File Attachments

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Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project

Project Overview

Background

The project area is located within the bounds of the Dobson Timberline Ranch, located in Apache County, AZ and the Apache Natural Resource Conservation District. 1800 acres of Little Colorado River Watershed (LCRW) will be treated for the invasive brush species juniper to support grassland restoration, which will improve watershed conditions by increasing infiltration and stabilizing soil. The area will be monitored for ground cover improvement. Treatment of the proposed 1,800 acres of watershed will build on the previously funded and successful AZ WPF funded grant #17-188 Project, which this proposed project borders, thus enhancing landscape-level improvement of the watershed.

Within the 1,800-acre treatment area runs Wildcat Creek, which feeds directly into the Little Colorado River (listed as impaired water by the EPA). Living within the LCR are the endangered species: Spike, Spine Dace, and Loach Minnow. There is also a noted presence of E. coli in the LCR.

Goals

1. To improve LCRW conditions using near-stream restoration treatments that improve water quality or increase water quantity.
2. To protect/restore habitat needs for fish and wildlife.

Objectives

1. Improve watershed health by controlling invasive brush (juniper) to restore the LCRW to historic grassland conditions.
2. Improve ground cover (i.e., reestablish grasslands) to reduce soil erosion, stabilize soil, and increase water infiltration.
3. Restore habitat needs for fish and wildlife (i.e., endangered Spike, Spine Dace, and Loach Minnow)
4. Reduce turbidity and amount of E. coli present in the LCR.

Statement of Problems/Causes

The invasive brush species juniper has expanded its range up to 10 times over the past 150 years in large areas of the western rangelands from the Great Basin to the Great Plains (Miller and Tausch, 2001). Increases in the project area are consistent with those trends. Numerous studies have documented the effect of juniper canopy on the productivity and diversity of grasses, forbs, and shrubs (Pieper 1990; Jameson 1967; Miller and Tausch 2001). Studies in various locations have shown understory grass, forb, and low shrub production to be reduced by around 50% when tree cover reaches 25-40% and virtually eliminated when tree cover is over 60%, although the exact relationships vary depending on local environment. Furthermore, AZGFD (2011) indicated that pronghorn populations in the project area have been declining due, at least partly, to habitat fragmentation due to juniper invasion. Without brush treatments, juniper invasion and infilling will continue until the capacity of the site to support juniper is reached (over 2/3 potential tree cover and drastic effects, 85%+, on understory), at which point other vegetation and hydrologic function is

compromised (increased overland flow, increased soil erosion, decreased water infiltration, increased turbidity).

Statement of Solutions

Watershed health directly affects the health of perennial and intermittent rivers and streams. To improve watershed health, mechanical brush control methods will be used to treat 1,500 acres of juniper. Based on a programmatic agreement in the area, the used of rubber tires to masticate the juniper exempts the project area from going through an archeological clearance process.

Pre- and Post-treatment monitoring of the treated area will be conducted by the Apache NRCD.

The removal of juniper will allow grasslands to reestablish, thus increasing ground cover which will help reduce overland flow, decrease soil erosion, increase water infiltration, and decrease turbidity throughout the watershed which increases water quality and supports water conservation.

Statement of Project Years of Benefit to the Resource and General Public

It has been documented that the proposed treatment of juniper is good for 15-20-years before treatment is needed. The project area lessee will maintain the site for 20 years.

The proposed watershed restoration will help to restore fish and wildlife habitat and improve water quality for wildlife, livestock, and people.

Project Location & Environmental Contaminant Information FY 2023

Project Location Information			
1. County: <u>Apache</u>	2. Section(s): See Map	3. Township T10N	4. Range: R26E
5. Watershed: <u>Little Colorado River</u>		PLEASE SEE LEASE Agreement for full Legal Description and all Sections etc.	
6. 8 or 10 Digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 150200			
7. Name of USGS Topographic Map where project area is located: <u>Cerro Hueco</u>			
8. State Legislative District: <u>07</u> (Information available at: https://azredistricting.org/districtlocator/)			
9. Land ownership of project area: <u>Private and State</u>			
10. Current land use of project area: <u>Agriculture</u>			
11. Size of project area (in acres): 1600			
12. Stream Name: <u>Canero</u>			
13. Length of stream through project area:			
14. Miles of stream benefited:			
15. Acres of riparian habitat:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhanced <input type="checkbox"/> Maintained <input type="checkbox"/> Restored <input type="checkbox"/> Created			
16. General description and/or delineation for the area of impact of the project within the watershed. Rolling hills, grasslands invaded by invasive species.			
17. Provide directions to the project site from the nearest city or town. List any special access requirements: Highway 60 and 191 from Springerville Arizona			
Environmental Contaminant Location Information			
1. Does your project site contain known environmental contaminants? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO 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? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO 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? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO			

**Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project
Scope of Work**

Task #1: Permits, Clearances, Authorizations, and Agreements

Task Description: The Grantee must obtain and submit to the AWPf Project Manager all necessary permits, authorizations, clearances, and agreements, and perform any consultations required to complete the tasks listed in the Scope of Work, including but not limited to:

- Agreement between the Grantee/landowner for the implementation of this AWPf-funded project.
- National Environmental Policy Act clearance documentation if required.
- Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation with US Fish and Wildlife Service, if necessary.
- Documentation of State Historic Preservation Office cultural resource clearance.
- Permit from the Arizona State Land Department authorizing this project to be implemented on State Trust Lands (to be applied for by permittee).
- Subcontract agreement(s) for mechanical brush treatment.
 - Subcontract(s) must be reviewed and approved by the AWPf project manager prior to execution of any sub-contract.

All necessary permits, including access agreements or other documentation allowing all sub-contractors or other project personnel access to all portions of the project site must be obtained and submitted prior to commencement of project activities.

The Grantee must submit to the AWPf Project Manager documentation of State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) cultural resource clearance; or all documentation necessary to obtain such clearance, including an archeological survey, if necessary. Upon receipt of any documentation necessary to obtain SHPO clearance, the AWPf Project Manager shall forward the documentation to SHPO for its review.

Although this conservation treatment as planned is covered under cultural clearance programmatic agreements as “excluded” activities, clearance or concurrence that historic properties will not be affected must be obtained from SHPO and any historic areas removed from total treatment area.

AACD Staff AAA certified archeologist will map and report as required.

Task Purpose: To comply with all local, state and federal permit requirements, environmental laws and to insure legal access to the project area for the project term.

Deliverable Description: Copies of all necessary permits, clearances, authorizations, and agreements necessary to implement the Scope of Work and copy of Cultural Clearance Report.

Responsible Personnel: Deborah Smith, Project Manager

Deliverable Due Date: Prior to initiation of any applicable subcontracted work or any field activities.

Reimbursable Cost: \$27,000 (1/4 cost of the cultural survey)

Task # 2 Mechanical Brush Treatment

Task Description:

Treatment Area I: The Grantee shall submit a report detailing the mechanical removal of approximately 600 acres of juniper species within the approved project area in year one of the project.

Treatment Area II: The Grantee shall submit a report detailing the mechanical removal of approximately 600 acres of juniper species within the approved project area in year two of the project.

Treatment Area III: The Grantee shall submit a report detailing the mechanical removal of approximately 600 acres of juniper species within the approved project area in year two of the project.

Task purpose: Improve watershed health by controlling invasive brush (juniper) to restore the LCRW to historic grassland conditions.

Deliverable Description:

1. Report detailing completed juniper removal with maps and photos of project work from established pre-treatment photo monitoring points.
2. Report detailing completed juniper removal with maps and photos of project work from established pre-treatment photo monitoring points.
3. Report detailing completed juniper removal with maps and photos of project work from established pre-treatment photo monitoring points.

Responsible Personnel: Deborrah Smith, Project Manager

Deliverable Due Dates:

1. *March 31, 2024*
2. *September 30, 2024*
3. *March 31, 2025*

Reimbursable Cost:

1. \$78,000
2. \$78,000
3. \$78,000

Total - \$234,000

Task #3: Implement Vegetation Monitoring Activities

Task Description: The Grantee will implement a pre-treatment and post-treatment vegetation monitoring plan.

This plan includes:

- Finalized maps of each treatment area.
 - (Each of the three treatment areas will be finalized with total acres mapped after cultural clearance and permitting is completed (Not to exceed 1,800 total).
- Established photo points pre-treatment and post-treatment.
- Cover data collected at each established points, analyzed and summarized in progress reports.

Task Purpose: To help explain the environmental processes and vegetative changes occurring due to project work, and to assess the success of the project.

Deliverable Description: The Grantee shall submit a detailed monitoring report which will describe monitoring efforts, data collected and summarized for the project reporting period. Report shall include all data, data summaries, photographs, and maps of activities.

Responsible Personnel: Daric Knight, Apache Chairman

Deliverable Due Dates:

- March 1, 2024 (Pre-treatment monitoring report)
- November 30, 2025 (Post-treatment monitoring report)

Reimbursable Cost: \$0.00

Task # 4 Final Report and Oral Presentation

Task Description: The Grantee must prepare and submit a comprehensive final report in accordance with the Arizona Water Protection Fund Final Report Guidelines. The final report must include a summary of all methodologies used, outcomes of all tasks, analysis of all project data, suggestions for any changes or future actions, and an evaluation of the success of meeting Project objectives. The Grantee must provide all data generated under this Contract unless otherwise specified in the Special Provisions.

The Grantee must make an oral presentation of a summary of the Final Report to the AWPFC Commission within 90 days of the contract termination date.

Task Purpose: To provide a comprehensive final report for public distribution that gives a detailed description of the project and highlights its benefits to the State of Arizona.

Deliverable Descriptions:

- Project Final report
- Final Presentation before the Commission

Responsible Personnel:

- Project Final report – Daric Knight, Apache NRCDC Chairman

- Final Presentation before the Commission – Daric Knight, Apache NRCD Chairman, and Mr. Dobson, Landowner/Lessee

Deliverable Due Dates:

- Final report – January 31, 2026
- Final Presentation before the Commission - TBD

Reimbursable Cost: \$0

AWPF Fund Request

NOTE: This table is provided as a guide to help develop your project budget and AWPF fund grant request. Feel free to modify this table as needed to accurately describe your proposed budget details.

Arizona Water Protection Fund Grant Application Detailed Budget

Task 1:					
	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total	Notes
Direct Labor Costs					
AACD Staff AAA Certified Archeologist	1800	Acres	\$ 15.00	\$27,000.00	(1/4 of total cost \$60/acre)
Direct Labor Subtotal					
Outside Service Costs					
Outside Services Subtotal					
Other Direct Costs					
Other Direct Subtotal					
Capital Outlay, Equipment, Supplies, Per Diem, Travel, etc.					
<i>(Note: mileage reimbursement is limited to \$0.445/mile)</i>					
Other Direct Subtotal					
Task Subtotal					

AWPF Fund Request

Other Direct Subtotal						
Task Subtotal						
Optional: AWPF Administrative Costs (not to exceed 5% of Task Subtotal)						
			Task 3 Total	\$0.00		
Task 4:						
	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total	Notes	
Direct Labor Costs						
Direct Labor Subtotal						
Outside Service Costs						
Outside Services Subtotal						
Other Direct Costs						
Other Direct Subtotal						
Capital Outlay, Equipment, Supplies, Per Diem, Travel, etc. <i>(Note: mileage reimbursement is limited to \$0.445/mile)</i>						

Matching Funds - Cost Share

NOTE: This table is provided as a guide to help develop your project budget and matching funds / project cost share budget. Feel free to modify this table as needed to accurately describe your proposed budget details.

Matching Funds / Cost Share Budget

Task 1:					
	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total	Notes
Direct Labor Costs					
AACD Staff Rate	108	days	\$ 600.00	\$ 64,800.00	Coordination
AACD Staff AAA Certified Archeologist	1800	acres	\$ 45.00	\$ 81,000.00	(3/4 of total cost \$60/acre)
Direct Labor Subtotal					
Outside Service Costs					
Outside Services Subtotal					
Other Direct Costs					
Other Direct Subtotal					
Capital Outlay, Equipment, Supplies, Per Diem, Travel, etc.					
Other Direct Subtotal					
Task Subtotal					
			Task 1 Total	\$ 145,800.00	

Matching Funds - Cost Share

Task 2:					
	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total	Notes
Direct Labor Costs					
Direct Labor Subtotal					
Outside Service Costs					
Outside Services Subtotal					
Other Direct Costs					
Other Direct Subtotal					
Capital Outlay, Equipment, Supplies, Per Diem, Travel, etc.					
Other Direct Subtotal					
Task Subtotal					
			Task 2 Total	0	
Task 3:					

Matching Funds - Cost Share

	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total	Notes
Direct Labor Costs					
AACD Technical Staff	2	rate	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	Pre & Post Monitoring
Direct Labor Subtotal					
Outside Service Costs					
Outside Services Subtotal					
Other Direct Costs					
Other Direct Subtotal					
Capital Outlay, Equipment, Supplies, Per Diem, Travel, etc.					
Other Direct Subtotal					
Task Subtotal					
			Task 3 Total	\$ 10,000.00	
Task 4:					
	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total	Notes
Direct Labor Costs					

Matching Funds - Cost Share

Direct Labor Subtotal					
Outside Service Costs					
Outside Services Subtotal					
Other Direct Costs					
Final Report & Presentation	1	Type	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
Other Direct Subtotal					
Capital Outlay, Equipment, Supplies, Per Diem, Travel, etc.					
Other Direct Subtotal					
Task Subtotal					
			Task 4 Total	\$ 5,000.00	
Total Match				\$ 160,800.00	

Attachment: 8-ArizonaWatershedMapForm_AWPF_FY2023-APACHE-DOBSON.doc

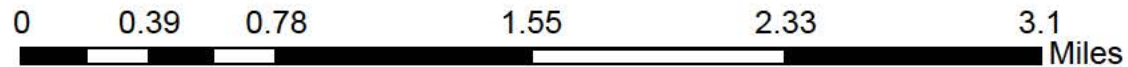
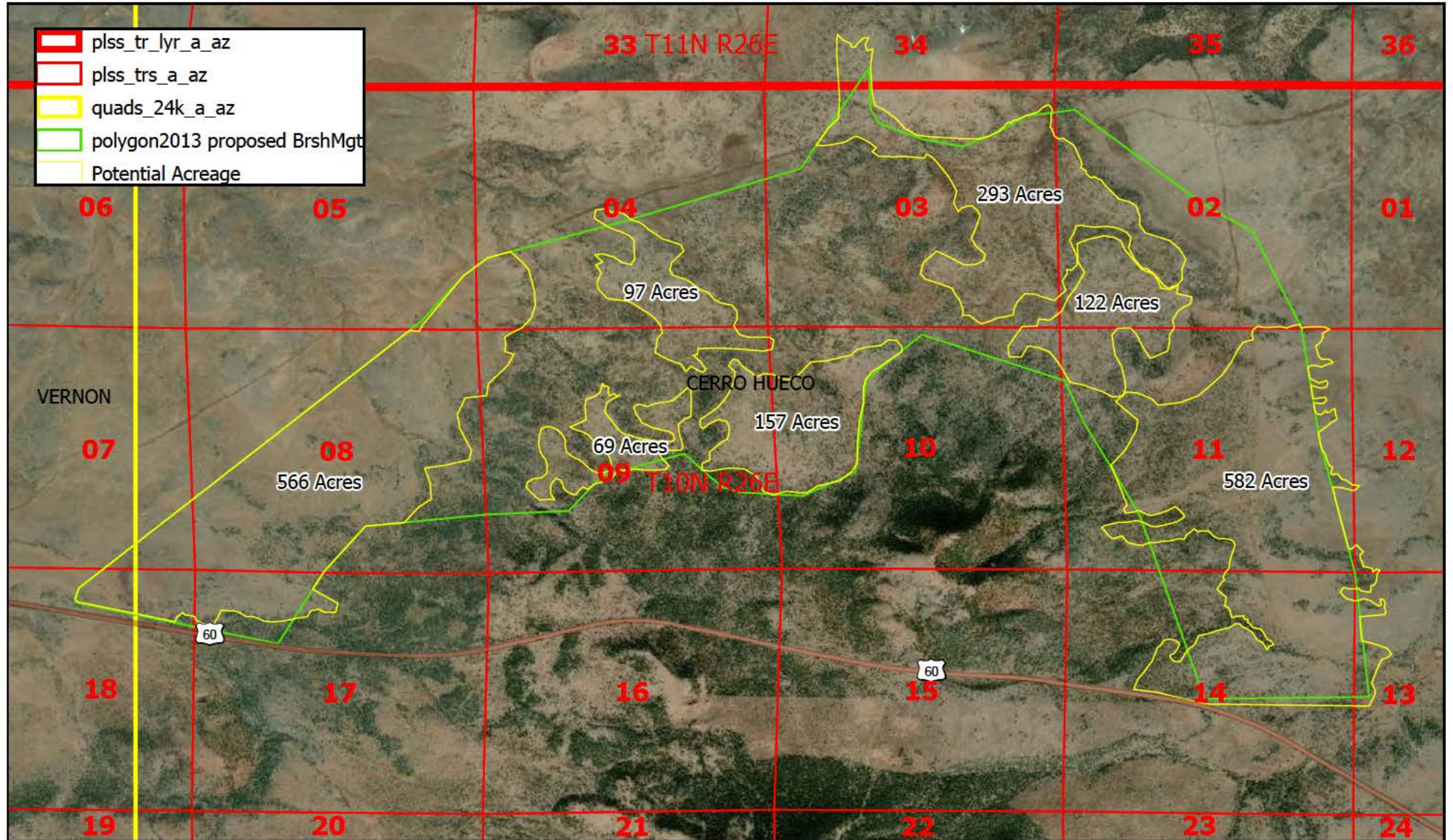
This file format cannot be displayed in a PDF.

Potential Acreage to be Verified on Site

Date Printed:
8/23/2022 4:03 PM

Customer(s): Apache NRCDD
Field Office: Springerville Service Center
District: Apache NRCDD

Agency: USDA - NRCS
State and County: AZ, Apache County
Assisted By: James Eddy



Scale: 1:37,015



Prepared with assistance from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

Land Ownership Project Area



State Land Ownership in Proposed Project Area

Legend

Land Ownership

- State
- Bureau of Land Management
- National Park Service
- US Forest Service
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Indian Reservations
- Military
- Local or State Parks
- Private
- Other

Arizona Conservation District Boundaries

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Review Form

In accordance with the State Historic Preservation Act (SHPO), A.R.S. 41-861 *et seq.*, effective July 24, 1982, each State agency must consider the potential of activities or projects to impact significant cultural resources. Also, 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. Therefore, it is understood that **recipients of state funds are required to comply with this law** throughout the project period. All projects that affect the ground-surface that are funded by AWPf require SHPO clearance, **including those on private and federal lands.**

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) must review each grant application recommended for funding in order to determine the effect, if any, a proposed project may have on archaeological or cultural resources. To assist the SHPO in this review, the following information **MUST** be submitted with each application for funding assistance:

- A completed copy of this form, and
 - A United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute map
 - A copy of the cultural resources survey report if a survey of the property has been conducted, and
 - A copy of any comments of the land managing agency/landowner (i.e., state, federal, county, municipal) on potential impacts of the project on historic properties.
- NOTE: If a federal agency is involved, the agency must consult with SHPO pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA); a state agency must consult with SHPO pursuant to the State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA),
- OR**
- A copy of SHPO comments if the survey report has already been reviewed by SHPO.

Please answer the following questions:

1. Grant Program: AZWPF
2. Project Title: Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project
3. Applicant Name and Address: Arizona Association of Conservation Districts
4. Current Land Owner/Manager(s): Carey Dobson
5. Project Location, including Township, Range, Section: T10N R26E – See Map
6. Total Project Area in Acres (or total miles if trail, fence line, etc.): 1,800 Acres
7. Does the proposed project have the potential to disturb the surface and/or subsurface of the ground?
 YES NO
8. Please provide a brief description of the proposed project and specifically identify any surface or subsurface impacts that are expected: Mechanical Brush Treatment
9. Describe the condition of the current ground surface within the entire project boundary area (for example, is the ground in a natural undisturbed condition, or has it been bladed, paved, graded, etc.). Estimate horizontal and vertical extent of existing disturbance. Also, attach photographs of project area to document condition: Unknown until cultural clearance
10. Are there any known prehistoric and/or historic archaeological sites in or near the project area? YES
 NO Unknown until cultural clearance
11. Has the project area been previously surveyed for cultural resources by a qualified archaeologist? YES
 NO UNKNOWN

If YES, submit a copy of the survey report. Please attach any comments on the survey report made by the managing agency and/or SHPO

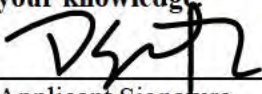
12. Are there any buildings or structures (including mines, bridges, dams, canals, etc.), which are 50-years or older in or adjacent to the project area? YES NO

If YES, complete an Arizona Historic Property Inventory Form for each building or structure, attach it to this form and submit it with your application.

13. Is your project area within or near a historic district? YES NO UNKNOWN until Cultural Clearance

If YES, name of the district:

Please sign on the line below certifying all information provided for this application is accurate to the best of your knowledge.

 / 08/26/2022 Deborah Smith
Applicant Signature /Date Applicant Printed Name

FOR SHPO USE ONLY

SHPO Finding:

- Funding this project will not affect historic properties.
 Survey necessary – further GRANTS/SHPO consultation required (*grant funds will not be released until consultation has been completed*)
 Cultural resources present – further GRANTS/SHPO consultation required (*grant funds will not be released until consultation has been completed*)

SHPO Comments:

For State Historic Preservation Office:

Date:

**STATE OF ARIZONA
HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM**

Please type or print clearly. Fill out each applicable space accurately and with as much information as is known about the property.

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION

For properties identified through survey: Site No. _____ Survey Area: _____

Historic Names (enter the name(s), if any that best reflect the property's historic importance): _____

Address: _____

City or Town: _____ Vicinity County: _____ Tax Parcel No.: _____

Township: _____ Range: _____ Section: _____ Quarters: _____ Acreage: _____

Block: _____ Lot(s): _____ Plat (Addition): _____ Year of plat (addition): _____

UTM Reference – Zone: _____ Easting: _____ Northing: _____

USGS 7.5' quadrangle map: _____

ARCHITECT: _____ not determined known Source: _____

BUILDER: _____ not determined known Source: _____

CONSTRUCTION DATE: _____ known estimated Source: _____

STRUCTURAL CONDITION

- Good (*well maintained; no serious problems apparent*)
- Fair (*some problems apparent*) Describe: _____
- Poor (*major problems; imminent threat*) Describe: _____
- Ruin/Uninhabitable

USES/FUNCTIONS

Describe how the property has been used over time, beginning with the original use: _____

Sources: _____

Attach a recent photograph of property in this space. Additional photographs may be appended.

PHOTO INFORMATION

Date of photo: _____
View Direction (looking towards): _____

SIGNIFICANCE

To be eligible for the National Register, a property must represent an important part of the history or architecture of an area. The significance of a property is evaluated within its historic context, which are those patterns, themes, or trends in history by which a property occurred or gained importance. Describe the historic and architectural contexts of the property that may make it worthy of preservation.

A. HISTORIC EVENTS/TRENDS – Describe any historic events/trends associated with the property: _____

B. PERSONS – *List and describe persons with an important association with the building:* _____

C. ARCHITECTURE – Style: _____ no style

Stories: _____ Basement Roof Form: _____

Describe other character-defining features of its massing, size and scale: _____

INTEGRITY

To be eligible for the National Register, a property must have integrity (i.e. it must be able to visually convey its importance). The outline below lists some important aspects of integrity. Fill in the blanks with as detailed a description of the property as possible.

Location - Original Site Moved: Date: _____ Original Site: _____

DESIGN

Describe alterations from the original design, including dates: _____

MATERIALS

Describe the materials used in the following elements of the property:

Walls (structure): _____

Walls (sheathing): _____

Windows: _____

Roof: _____

Foundation: _____

SETTING

Describe the natural and/or built environment around the property: _____

How has the environment changed since the property was constructed? _____

WORKMANSHIP

Describe the distinctive elements, if any, of craftsmanship or method of construction: _____

NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS (if listed, check the appropriate box)

Individually Listed; Contributor; Non-contributor to _____ Historic District

Date Listed: _____ Determined eligible by Keeper of National Register (date: _____)

RECOMMENDATIONS ON NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY (opinion of SHPO staff or survey consultant)

Property is is not eligible individually.

Property is is not eligible as a contributor to a listed or potential historic district.

More information needed to evaluate.

If not considered eligible, state reason: _____







No Existing Plans

August 19, 2022

RE: Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project

To the Arizona Water Protection Fund Grant Committee:

I am writing to document the Apache Natural Resource Conservation Districts' support and contribution to the Arizona Association of Conservation Districts' project proposal—Timberline-Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Improvement Project—to the Arizona Water Protection Fund.

This project is within the boundaries of the Apache NRCD and represents the natural resource conservation work we support and promote within Arizona. The conservation districts of the state have a statutory responsibility to “provide for the restoration and conservation of lands and soil resources of the state, the preservation of water rights and the control and prevention of soil erosion, and thereby to conserve natural resources, conserve wildlife, protect the tax base, protect public lands and protect and restore this state's rivers and streams and associated riparian habitats, including fish and wildlife resources that are dependent on those habitats, and in such manner to protect and promote the public health, safety and general welfare of the people” (Declaration of Policy, ARS Title 37 Public Lands, Chapter 6 Natural Resource Conservation Districts). Therefore, we support control of invasive brush species, like juniper, to restore grasslands and support water conservation throughout the state.

Furthermore, Apache NRCD will provide support for this project through a cash match of \$10,000 to provide pre- and post-treatment monitoring by the AZ Game and Fish Department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daric Knight". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Daric Knight
Apache NRCD Chairman
Authorized Signatory for Apache NRCD



Fw: Timberline-Upper Little Colorado Watershed Improvement Project

1 me age

Mr. Knight and the Proposal Review Committee,

I have reviewed the application and the scope of work involved in the AWPf grant proposal. The area encompassing this project is valuable pronghorn habitat and is characterized by historic grasslands with encroaching juniper woodlands. It is also occupied by elk and mule deer. The removal of junipers and the improvement of grassland habitat will directly benefit pronghorn in the immediate area. The pronghorn in this area are suffering from loss of habitat due to housing developments to the north and juniper encroachment from the south. The re-establishment of native grass species will help stabilize soils and reduce erosion, thereby improving watershed health in the Little Colorado River watershed downstream. The project area is regularly surveyed for pronghorn and will continue to be surveyed to evaluate and monitor changes in their distribution in relation to the habitat work. I look forward to seeing this work completed and realizing the benefits to both aquatic and terrestrial wildlife in this area.

RICK LANGLEY | WILDLIFE PROGRAM MANAGER
ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

OFFICE: 928.532.2305

EMAIL:

rlangley@azgfd.gov

azgfd.gov | **2878 E. White Mt. Blvd. Pinetop, AZ 85935**



Arizona Antelope Foundation

PO Box 1191, Mesa, AZ 85211 www.azantelope.org

August 25, 2022

Daric Knight

Apache Natural Resource Conservation District

P.O. Box 329

Springerville, AZ 85938-0329

Re: AAF Letter of Support- Arizona Water Protection Fund Grant Program – Apache NRCDFY2023 Application

Dear Mr. Knight:

This letter conveys our support from the Arizona Antelope Foundation for the Apache Natural Resource Conservation District's 2023 Arizona Watershed Protection Fund grant application.

The intent of this project proposal is to restore a historic grassland habitat ecosystem through mechanical removal of woody vegetation. These proposed strategic improvement applications target areas of Arizona's grasslands that have been heavily encroached upon by woody vegetation, reducing herbaceous vegetation and increasing soil erosion. Reducing the juniper tree woodland is predicted to increase grass and forb cover, increase water percolation into the soil, and a reduction in soil erosion. Restoring native grasslands is beneficial to pronghorn antelope and other grassland obligate wildlife species. The Arizona Antelope Foundation's mission is to keep pronghorn common and increase their distribution where feasible. This project will provide long-term benefits for wildlife and directly fits into our mission.

The Arizona Antelope Foundation is aware of other similar projects planned or completed in the adjacent areas on private, state and federal lands. Once these vegetative projects are completed the resulting positive impacts across the landscape would be much greater than conducting isolated projects scattered over large areas. This proposed project coupled with similar habitat improvement projects with the grassland restoration efforts will improve habitat on an ecological and landscape level by enhancing the watershed's health and productivity.

Yours in conservation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Meadors". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Meadors, President



Office of the State Forester

Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management



Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

David Tenney
State Forester

Apache Natural Resource Conservation District
P.O. Box 329
Springerville, AZ 85938-0329

August 23, 2022

RE: Arizona Water Protection Fund Grant Program – Apache NRCD FY2023 Application

Dear Apache NRCD Board:

Eastern Arizona has experienced the disruption of ecosystems by prolonged drought, wildfire, and the disruption of natural disturbance regimes leaving the area in dire need of forest and vegetation management. Apache County primarily lies within the Little Colorado River Watershed, an important contributor to the Colorado River and water resources in Arizona. Forest and vegetation restoration treatments have been shown to increase water yields, protect the resiliency of the watershed, and improve overall ecosystem services. That is why I support the Apache Natural Resource Conservation District's FY2023 Arizona Watershed Protection Fund grant application. Proposed treatments near Cerro Montosa will provide multi-resource benefits for watershed and range health, wildlife habitat, and fuels reduction to reduce wildfire risk. Additionally, the project will complement treatments planned or completed in the area on private, state, and federal land. As a contribution to the project, my staff and I will provide technical assistance to the Apache NRCD with long term monitoring of the project area. Additionally, DFFM will assist with the planning and implementation of any prescribed fire treatments on State Trust Lands to protect life, property, critical infrastructure, and for the long term sustainability of the project.

Sincerely,

Jon Orona
Eastern District Forester
Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management
101 Firehouse Ln
Lakeside, AZ 85929

Phone: 602-980-5798
Email: JOrona@dffm.az.gov

Duty ♦ Respect ♦ Integrity

1110 West Washington Street, Suite 100 ♦ Phoenix, Arizona 85007 ♦ Main: (602) 771-1400 ♦ Fax: (602) 771-1421



*The Mission of the Mule Deer Foundation is
to ensure the conservation of mule deer, black-tailed deer
and their habitat*

August 25, 2022

Apache Natural Resource Conservation District
P.O. Box 329
Springerville, AZ 85938

Subject: Letter of Support for the Mule Deer Foundation NFWF Arizona Water Protection Fund Grant Program –
Apache NRCDFY2023 Application

To Whom it May Concern:

The Mule Deer Foundation in Arizona fully supports the proposal from the Arizona Association of Conservation District for a grant from the Water Protection Fund program. MDF of Arizona believes that the proposed project will benefit grassland and savannah ecosystems in eastern Arizona.

Eastern Arizona has long been experiencing ecosystem disruption from drought, wildfire, and encroaching vegetation. Since Apache County lies within the Little Colorado River Watershed, it has been particularly affected by woody species encroachment. Forest and vegetation treatments have been shown to increase water yields, improve wildfire resiliency, and improve overall ecosystem health. For these reasons we support the Apache Natural Resource Conservation District's FY2023 Arizona Watershed Protection Fund grant application. This project will compliment work we are conducting on federal lands to the east and will increase improved habitat for wildlife in the area.

Thank you for letting us express our support and participation in Apache Natural Resource Conservation District's grant proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Miller", written over a white background.

Jackson Miller, Arizona Cooperative Habitat Project Coordinator
Mule Deer Foundation

Malena Hannah

928-551-1769

mhannah@mhcandp.com

PO Box 333, Saint Johns, AZ 85936



MH CONSULTING & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Arizona Department of Water Resources
Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission
1802 W Jackson St. Box #79
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Support for FY 2023 Timberline LCR Watershed Protection Project

August 25, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of the Apache NRC and their Timberline Little Colorado River Watershed Protection Project. This project is within the planning area of the 2022 Apache County Communities Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). The proposed project area is deemed high risk for wildfire. In addition to wildfire threat, the planned treatment area is within significant habitat for pronghorn antelope, deer, and elk. The project will address much needed brush removal and improve rangeland and watershed health for wildlife and cattle grazing. This project further complements projects on neighboring properties both on State and Federal lands. Collaborative projects of this type, with State and Federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners, can have a tremendous effect on preserving heritage, safeguarding economic interests, improving wildlife habitat, and protecting watersheds.

I would ask that the commission look favorably on this important project in rural Arizona.

Sincerely,

Malena Hannah
Senior Project Manager

Malena Hannah

928-551-1769

mhannah@mhcandp.com

PO Box 333, Saint Johns, AZ 85936



MH CONSULTING & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Arizona Department of Water Resources
Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission
1802 W Jackson St. Box #79
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Support for FY 2023 Timberline LCR Watershed Protection Project

August 25, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of the Apache NRC and their Timberline Little Colorado River Watershed Protection Project. This project is within the planning area of the 2022 Apache County Communities Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). The proposed project area is deemed high risk for wildfire. In addition to wildfire threat, the planned treatment area is within significant habitat for pronghorn antelope, deer, and elk. The project will address much needed brush removal and improve rangeland and watershed health for wildlife and cattle grazing. This project further complements projects on neighboring properties both on State and Federal lands. Collaborative projects of this type, with State and Federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners, can have a tremendous effect on preserving heritage, safeguarding economic interests, improving wildlife habitat, and protecting watersheds.

I would ask that the commission look favorably on this important project in rural Arizona.

Sincerely,

Malena Hannah
Senior Project Manager

**Timberline Ranch
US HWY 60
Vernon, Arizona 85940**

Carey Dobson
Timberline Ranch
P.O. Box 720
Vernon, AZ 85940

August 3, 2022

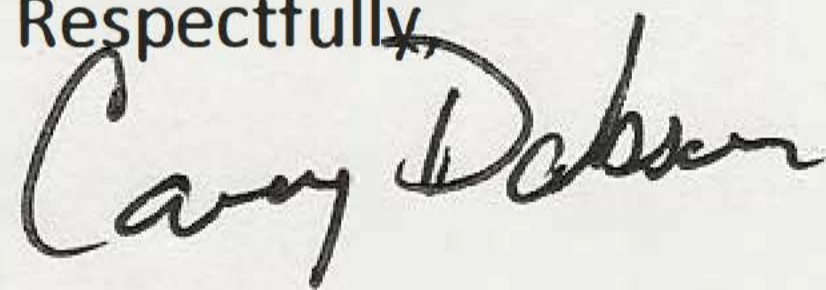
To Water Protection Fund Board,

I am owner/operator of the Timberline Ranch and the associated private lands and associated leases, both State and Federal. We have been a longtime Cooperator in the Apache Natural Resource Conservation District and have worked on numerous projects with them, the NRCS, AZGF, and other agencies in improving the natural resources in our control.

We have been aggressively working to restore the native grasslands within our ranch boundaries by removing invasive Pinon Pine and Juniper that choke these historic grasslands. The project we have planned is adjacent to a previous project on a neighboring ranch that has proven very successful and will extend this grassland restoration on a landscape scale level.

We fully support this project and look forward to continual work in restore and enhancing the native grasslands on the Timberline Ranch. We understand we are required to file for state lease treatment permits.

Respectfully,



Carey Dobson