

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

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Project Title: Pinetop Mountain Water Catchment Redevelopment	Project No. 09-309
Region/GMU: FOR3/GMU 17A	HPC: Prescott
Project Type: Water Catchment Maintenance/Redevelopment	
Project Description: The Pinetop Mountain Water Catchment Redevelopment Project would seek to perform significant maintenance to the existing structure. Replacing/repairing the elevated collection apron and the water delivery system would be the focus of the project. The proposed project would take place on the Walnut Creek and Camp Wood Allotments of the Prescott National Forest in the southwestern portion of Unit 17A on Pinetop Mountain. (Photographs 1 & 2).	
Wildlife Species to Benefit: Mule Deer (60%), Elk (20%), Javelina (10%), Turkey (10%)	
Possible Funding Partners:	
Implementation Schedule: Beginning: February 2010 Completed: June 2011	
PROJECT FUNDING	
SBG Funds Requested: \$ 7,500	
Cost Share Funds: \$ 10,600	
Total Project Costs: \$ 18,100	
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION	
Applicant: Darren G. Tucker (please print) Telephone: (928) 636-9130	Address: 5325 N. Stockton Hill Rd., Kingman, AZ 86409
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel)	
Coordinated with: AGFD, Prescott National Forest (Chino District Ranger), L O Ranch (Owner/Operator), 7 Up Ranch (Owner/Operator)	Date:
Applicant's signature:	Date:

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:
Game Branch
Arizona Game and Fish Department
5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086
RoThompson@azgfd.gov



Photograph 1
Photograph of Pinetop Mountain Catchment looking east.

NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS: In Arizona hot and dry conditions often pose a significant bottleneck for mule deer and other wildlife species. For nearly two decades Arizona has experienced a period of prolonged drought conditions. Compounding the problems from lack of adequate permanent water is the stress put on habitat surrounding the remaining water holes. These areas can receive heavy use from wildlife and livestock that are tied to these waters. If repeated over a broad area, these circumstances may contribute to low survival of juveniles and to adult animals being in poor condition entering the breeding season, ultimately resulting in low recruitment rates for these populations. Mule deer appear to be especially susceptible to these conditions.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Repair existing Prescott National Forest water catchment to provide reliable permanent water source for wildlife and livestock.
- Reduce concentrations of these animals around currently existing waters, which can lead to habitat degradation.



Photograph 2
Photograph of Pinetop Mountain Catchment looking southwest.

PROJECT STRATEGIES:

- Coordinate with livestock permittees and Prescott National Forest
- Develop construction plan
- Short term repairs by AGFD Development Branch to catch some water during summer of 2009
- Conduct redevelopment using AGFD Development Branch construction crew.
 1. Provide labor and transport of materials to perform extensive maintenance at the Prescott National Forest Pinetop Mountain livestock/wildlife cooperative water catchment in GMU 17A on the Prescott National Forest.
 2. Replace approximately 20 sheets of warped plywood and all of the tin on the collection roof. The tin will be replaced with 72 pieces of 3' x 24' tan-colored 26 gauge steel R-panel.
 3. Replace both unserviceable tank outlet valves and any plumbing necessary to reinstate the connectivity to both livestock troughs and the wildlife trough.
 4. Replace the existing wildlife trough with a wildlife-friendly fiberglass trough, and erect an approximately 50' x 50' wildlife-friendly livestock enclosure pipe rail fence around the wildlife trough.

5. Remove all project generated debris to be disposed of in the proper trash/recycle receptacles.

PROJECT LOCATION: Pinetop Mountain is located in west-central Arizona, in Yavapai County and is approximately 35 miles northwest of Prescott. The project site is located on Prescott National Forest on the border of the Walnut Creek and Camp Wood allotments. The L O and 7 Up Ranches hold the grazing permits for these areas respectively. The proposed project will occur in the following Township/Range/Section:

T17N, R6W, Section 20, NW, NW



LAND OWNERSHIP AT PROJECT SITE (Please state specifically if PRIVATE PROPERTY and provide landowner's name): USDA, Prescott National Forest.

IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT? N/A

HABITAT DESCRIPTION: The project area is located in southwestern Unit 17A. Elevation at the project site is 7,011 feet above sea level. The area is composed of a mix of pinyon/juniper woodland, Gambel's oak and ponderosa pine. Herbaceous species are dominated by grama grasses with cliffrose, mountain mahogany and other browse species making up the shrub component. The project site is on top of Pinetop Mountain, which includes about one square mile of relatively flat ground. Elevation falls off sharply all around the mountain, with surrounding landforms including rolling hills, small plateaus and canyons. Natural water is scarce with man-made sources supplied in dirt tanks and developed springs.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS: Please see attached detailed budget analysis.

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Arizona Game & Fish Department:

- ◆ Provide construction crew to complete work.
- ◆ Provide technical evaluation, planning and implementation oversight.

Prescott Habitat Partnership Committee:

- ◆ Publicly support project.
- ◆ Assist in providing volunteer help if needed

Prescott National Forest:

- ◆ Conduct sight visit.
- ◆ Provide archeological and biological evaluation/clearance if needed.
- ◆ Provide funding to assist with purchasing materials.

L O Ranch:

- ◆ Provide backhoe tractor and operator for project work.
- ◆ Assist with monitoring and maintenance.

7 Up Ranch:

- ◆ Provide funding to assist with purchasing materials.
- ◆ Assist with monitoring and maintenance.

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN: Frequent visits to the catchment by L O and 7 Up Ranch personnel as well as AGFD.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE: Minor maintenance and repairs will be made by the L O and/or 7 Up Ranch. More significant work may involve a partnership between the ranches, Prescott National Forest and AGFD.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY: Darren G. Tucker

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (see attached worksheet):

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PROJECT NAME: Pinetop Mountain Water Catchment Redevelopment

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent "Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?"** Prioritization scoresheet completed and submitted Region III Game Program on July 28, 2009.
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.** Ed Jahrke; numerous phone calls, emails and site visit on May 28, 2009.
- 3) **What is the estimated annual inches of precipitation for the area? (mark one)**
 2-4 4-6 6-8 8-10 10-12 **XX** 12-14 14-16 >16
- 4) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**
XX YES (please complete #5 below) NO (skip #5 below)
- 5) **For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:**
Name of water source: Apache Creek or Brown Spring. Considered semi-perennial, may be dry under certain drought conditions.
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank, etc.): Creek and spring
Ownership of water source: Prescott National Forest
Distance in miles from project: 1 mile. However, 800 feet elevation separates the water sources.
- 6) **Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts?** YES **XX** NO
- 7) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument, etc). If private land, list landowner.** Prescott National Forest, adjacent to Apache Creek Wilderness Area.
- 8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**
Type of access (mark one): 2x4 vehicles **XX** 4x4 only foot only**
**If foot access only: Distance in miles: Approx. hiking time:

-- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES **XX** NO

-- Please describe any restrictions to public access: None
- 9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.** See budget analysis table below.
- 10) **Was a site visit completed?** **XX** Yes No
May 28, 2009 (Darren Tucker, Ed Jahrke, Wade Albrecht)

BUDGET ANALYSIS
PINETOP MOUNTAIN WATER CATCHMENT REDEVELOPMENT

ANTICIPATED COSTS:

PROJECT COMPONENT and COOPERATOR	COST-SHARE DOLLARS	GRANT DOLLARS REQUESTED
ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT/HPC FUNDING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction materials for project (total cost: \$11k, minus \$1k from 7 Up Ranch and \$2.5k from PNF = \$7.5k) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 72 sheets of R-panel - \$5,500 ➤ 20 sheets of plywood - \$500 ➤ Fiberglass Wildlife-friendly trough - \$900 ➤ Misc. plumbing supplies - \$1,000 ➤ 50' x 50' Wildlife-friendly pipe rail fence - \$1,500 ➤ 2 livestock troughs - \$1,600 ➤ Total = 11,000 • AGFD Development Branch labor and vehicle costs for construction. • AGFD Development Branch short term repairs to catchment (June of 2009). 	 \$ 3,000 \$ 1,000	\$ 7,500
ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT REGION III and DEVELOPMENT BRANCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide wildlife manager support for grant preparation, project planning and implementation. Calculated as 5 days @ \$200/day • 	\$ 1,000	
L O RANCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide backhoe tractor and operator • Provide personnel to monitor catchment and perform minor maintenance to system if needed. Calculated at 10 visits @ \$25/visit 	\$ 1,000 \$ 250	
7 Up Ranch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide funding for construction materials • Provide personnel to monitor catchment and perform minor maintenance to system if needed. Calculated at 10 visits @ \$25/visit 	\$ 1,000 \$ 250	
USDA- PRESCOTT NATIONAL FOREST <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide assistance in project planning. 1 day @ \$200/day. • Provide needed NEPA compliance 2 days @ \$200/day. • Provide funding for purchase of R-panel roofing material. 	\$ 200 \$ 400 \$ 2,500	
TOTALS:	\$ 10,600	\$ 7,500

PROJECT TOTAL: \$18,100