

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

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Project Title: Ellinwood Grassland Maintenance/Bosco Tank	Project No. 09-606
Region/GMU: Region 6 Unit 23	HPC: Payson Natural Resources Committee
Project Type: juniper push and new catchment construction	
Project Description: This proposal is for a juniper thinning of about 1000 acres and the construction of a new water catchment in unit 23 East of the Hells Gate Wilderness. The rancher in the Ellinwood allotment will do all the work with his own equipment. This proposal is to reimburse him for the fuel costs. The project will dovetail nicely with the work the rancher has already done in the area. In the past two years the rancher has done 15 water improvement projects on the Ellinwood and Christopher Mountain allotments.	
Wildlife Species to Benefit: Elk (40%), Mule deer (30%), Whitetail (30%)	
Possible Funding Partners:	
Implementation Schedule: Beginning: January 2010 Completed: July 31, 2012	NEPA Compliance: (if applicable) Completed: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Projected Completion Date:
PROJECT FUNDING	
SBG Funds Requested: \$20,000	
Cost Share Funds: \$42,900	
Total Project Costs: \$62,900	
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION	
Applicant: Dave Daniels (please print) Telephone: (928)474-3142	Address: Arizona Game and Fish Department 7200 E. University Mesa AZ 85207
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel)	
Coordinated with: Woody Cline, Rancher, Ellinwood allotment	Date: 8/24/09
Applicant's signature:	Date:

**SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:
Game Branch
5000 W. Carefree Hwy
Phoenix, AZ 85086**

WAS PROJECT PRESENTED TO THE LOCAL HPC? YES X NO

HAS PROJECT BEEN SUBMITTED IN PREVIOUS YEARS? IF SO WAS IT FUNDED?

No

NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

The plant community in the area is primarily pinon/juniper woodland. Through the years junipers have invaded the area and are currently on need of removal to reestablish grassland areas that historically occurred in the area. Removal of junipers would be accomplished through the use of a dozer push. After removal and drying, the treated juniper slash could need to be burned to enhance the production of grasses and forbs. The area is popular among elk and deer hunters.

The construction of Bosco tank will bring water to an area that has not had much water in the past thus expanding suitable wildlife habitat.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The primary objective of this project is to enhance grassland habitat through the use of a dozer push to remove junipers on about 1000 acres of historic grasslands. The rancher (Woody Cline) is also going to build a new dirt catchment to hold water in an area that could really use a good wildlife water source.

The Woody Cline has already done a tremendous amount of work on the Ellinwood and Christopher Mountain allotments. In the past couple of years he has done 15 water improvement projects. With Woody using his own equipment and doing the work it will cost close to \$100,000 less than hiring a contractor.

PROJECT STRATEGIES:

Use a dozer push to remove junipers on approximately 1000 acres of historic grassland.

PROJECT LOCATION:

Push: T 10N, R 12E, Sections 1,6,4,9,8,7 and 12

Tank: T 10 1/2N, R 12E Section 19

LAND OWNERSHIP AT PROJECT SITE (Please state specifically if PRIVATE PROPERTY and provide landowner's name):

The land is managed by the United States Forest Service, Tonto National Forest. Payson Ranger District

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

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

The plant community in the area is primarily grassland and pinon/juniper woodland at an average elevation of 5500 feet above sea level. Species include various grasses, alligator, pinion pine, and oak brush. The diversity of plant species would increase after treatment with more grasses, shrubs and forbs.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

SBG funds requested = \$20,000

AZ Game and Fish Department = \$800

USFS = \$2000

Woody Cline (Rancher) = 40,100 calculated labor costs at \$10 per labor hour

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Arizona Game and Fish Department – Special Big Game Funds

- Provide funding for fuel reimbursement.
- Provide in-kind contributions in the form of project origination and project coordination.

U.S Forest Service, Tonto National Forest, Payson Ranger District

- * Provide administrative support in the form of necessary NEPA and archaeological clearances.
- * Provide letter of approval for implementation of project.

Woody Cline, Rancher, Ellinwood allotment

- Provide bull dozer and operator through project completion.

Payson Natural Resources Committee

- Review Project

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

The project proponent will ensure project completion with coordination between the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Payson Ranger District.

This area would be surveyed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and will be monitored for wildlife use.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

Project maintenance and monitoring will be completed by the project proponent

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

The project proponent is responsible for completing the project completion report.

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (see attached worksheet):

TREE SHEARING (AGRA-AXE, PUSH) PROJECTS (see attached worksheet):

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT **TREE SHEARING WORKSHEET**

PROJECT NAME: Ellinwood Grassland maintenance

- 1) **What is the estimated acreage of the project?**
1000

- 2) **How are the trees going to be cleared? (agra axe, chain saw, push):**
Dozer Push

- 3) **What is the estimated number of trees per acre?**
50-70

- 4) **Describe trees to be cleared (species, estimated diameter, single stem, multi-stem):**
Juniper trees <12" dbh, multi-stem

- 5) **Describe terrain (slope, soil type, rocks, etc.)**
Flat to moderate slope and areas of rocky terrain.

- 6) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument, etc). If private land, list landowner.**
N/A

- 7) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**
Type of access (mark one): ___ 2x4 vehicles ___ 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 ___ NO

Is the site relatively accessible for tree shearing equipment? ___ YES ___ NO

Please describe any restrictions to public access:

TOPO! map printed on 08/24/09 from "ellinwood juniper push.tpo"

