

HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL

Game Branch / HPC Project Number:	15-103
Possible Funding Partners:	

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Game Management Unit 1, Saint Josephs Reservoir/Wetland exclosure fence replacement

Region and Game Management Unit: Region / GMU 1

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):

- Alpine/ Springerville HPC

Was the project presented to the LHPC?

YES NO

Has this project been submitted in previous years? YES NO

If Yes, was it funded? YES NO → **HPC Project #:**

Project Type: Habitat Maintenance

Brief Project Summary: Replace existing cattle exclosure fences within the Wallow Fire burn perimeter, around critical wetland habitat areas.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Elk, Pronghorn, Deer and water fowl

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date: May 2016

Project End Date: August 2016

Environmental Compliance:

NEPA Completed: YES No N/A

Projected Completion Date: _____

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

YES No N/A

Projected Completion Date: April 2016

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A

To be Completed by: Under Special Use Permit

Projected Completion Date: _____

PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested: \$ 10,000.00

Cost Share or Matching Funds: \$ 10,000.00

Total Project Costs: \$ 20,000.00

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print):
Tyler Richins, Wildlife
Manager AGFD

Address: 2878 E. White Mtn. Blvd.
Pinetop, AZ. 85935

E-mail: trichins@azgfd.gov

Telephone: 928-240-2493

Date: 8/25/2015

AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):

Project has been coordinated with: USFS, Apache-Sitgreaves, Springerville Ranger District

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Saint Josephs Reservoir was identified as an important waterfowl wetland in the late 1970's. A cattle exclosure fence was constructed around this wetland in the early 1980's. The fence is approximately 1 mile long and surrounds an area of approximately 43 acres. This exclosure has not only benefited waterfowl, it has also been very beneficial for other wildlife including elk, antelope, and deer. Another important feature of this wetland is that the Department owns the water rights and the fence will help in the preservation of this head water.

In 2011, the Wallow Fire burned through this cattle exclosure. The fence, which was already in poor condition, was weakened and is in need of replacement.

We currently have a special use permit with the forest service to maintain this fence. The placement of the fences and development of these wetlands was a joint project between the USFS and Arizona Game and Fish Department and the replacement of this fence is supported by both Agencies.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

Replace approximately 1 mile of 4 stranded barbed wire fence to wildlife standards.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

This project will require the removal of the current existing dilapidated fence, the disposal of the old materials, and the replacement of the fence with brand new materials.

PROJECT LOCATION:

This project is located within the boundaries of Game Management Unit 1, just north of Pat Knoll near Forest Road 285.

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

United States Forest Service, Apache-Sitgreaves, Springerville Ranger District

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

This exclosure is located around a high elevation natural basin with emergent vegetation, including sedges and rushes, and a subalpine grasslands component comprised mostly of bunchgrass.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

\$10,000.00 -**Labor** for fence removal and new fence construction (\$11,500.00/ mile) – Arizona Conservation Corps

Cost Share or Matching Funds

\$5,000.00- **Materials** for fence replacement, provided by Water Fowl Funds, AGFD (\$5,500.00/mile)

\$3,000.00- **Removal** of old fence, coordinated by AGFD (\$3,000.00/mile)

\$1,500.00- **Labor** for fence replacement, AGFD (\$11,500/mile)

\$500.00- **Materials** for fence replacement, AGFD (\$5,500.00/mile)

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

USFS, Apache-Sitgreaves, Springerville Ranger District and Arizona Game and Fish Department

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

Yearly inspection by AZGFD Wildlife GMU 1 Wildlife Manager or regional staff

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

Upon inspection coordinate needed maintenance to ensure the wetland fence enclosure integrity is maintained

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Tyler Richins, Wildlife Manager, AGFD



