

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number:	16-208
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PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Suicide Allotment Pipeline	
Region and Game Management Unit: Region II, GMU 12BW	
Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Strip Habitat Working Group 	Was the project presented to the LHPC? YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Has this project been submitted in previous years? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, was it funded? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> → Funded HPC Project #(s):	
Project Type: Water Pipeline, Water Storage, Water Troughs	
Brief Project Summary: A two pronged 5.4 mile extension of an existing USFS pipeline onto BLM lands will provide 10,000 gallons of water storage and 6 new year round water sources for mule deer in an area of critical winter range that currently does not have perennial water.	
Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Mule Deer 100%	

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year): <u>Project Start Date:</u> 2016 <u>Project End Date:</u> 2017	Environmental Compliance: NEPA Completed: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Projected Completion Date: <u>December 2017</u> State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Projected Completion Date: <u>December 2017</u> Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be Completed by: <u>Joe Curry</u> Projected Completion Date: _____
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PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:	\$ 19,070.00
Cost Share or Matching Funds:	\$ 79,727.00
Total Project Costs:	\$ 98,797.00

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print): Todd M. Buck	Address: 3500 S. Lake Mary Rd. Flagstaff, AZ 86001	E-mail: TBuck@azgfd.gov
Telephone: 928-856-0740		Date: 9/1/16

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

Project has been coordinated with:
USFS, Arizona Strip Habitat Working Group, Arizona Strip NRCS, Arizona Strip BLM

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

In 2016 large tracts of the GMU 12BW winter range are without perennial water sources as a result of prolonged drought and the unreliable nature of existing dirt tanks.

As of 2016 there is only 1 winter range water development on the Suicide Allotment in GMU 12BW. Essentially all dirt tanks within the allotment have been dry during the winter months for the past 10 years unless the permittee hauls water. As a result of this substantial decrease in reliable water sources the deer distribution has become very concentrated around the water development which does provide water. In an effort to mitigate these concerns a pipeline extension, water storage tanks, and 6 new water locations were identified to encourage improved distribution of both deer and cattle. The end result of this effort will be a dramatic increase in both the reliability and distribution of water within the Suicide Allotment on the winter range of GMU 12BW.

The Suicide Pipeline will be constructed in an area considered winter mule deer range and will fill a void of approximately 4,800 acres. This water will also allow for better distribution of wintering deer in an effort to reduce the impacts of drought and increase the area available to 12BW wintering deer herd.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this project is to extend an existing USFS pipeline onto BLM lands, add 10,000 gallons of water storage, and install 6 troughs along the waterline in order to mitigate the effects of prolonged drought and improve water reliability and distribution for both mule deer and cattle.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

Utilize SBG Funds to rent and haul heavy equipment including a D6N Bulldozer w/ripper (1 week), 420F Backhoe (2 weeks), and an HDPE Pipe Welder.

PROJECT LOCATION: N36°44.511' W112°21.151' Elev. 6233' (See attached Map)

LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

(if the project area is private property, please state specifically and provide the landowner's name)

- United States Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management ownership

IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A COOPERATIVE BIG GAME STEWARDSHIP or LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?
YES[] NO[] N/A[]

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

The habitat type is typically referred to as mule deer winter range. The Suicide Pipeline is at an elevation of approximately 6233' and the primary vegetation consists of various grasses and forbes, sagebrush (*Artemesia tridentata*), and cliffrose (*Cowania mexicana*), pinion trees (*Pinus sp.*), and Utah juniper trees (*Juniperus utahensis*).

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

Dozer D6N w/ripper includes Freight (1 week)	\$10,186.00
Backhoe 420F includes Freight (2 weeks)	\$ 8,084.00
HDPE Pipe Welder (2 Weeks)	\$ 800.00
TOTAL =	\$19,070.00

Cost Share or Matching Funds (for volunteer labor rates please refer to the worksheet below)

Labor (3 weeks, 3 man crew)	\$ 6,787
NRCS Funds (materials purchase)	<u>\$72,940</u>
Total Matching Funds	\$79,727

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

The Arizona Strip District of the BLM has completed all NEPA documentation for the project.

Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Arizona Strip Habitat Working Group.

Fredonia Field office of the NRCS.

WOULD IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT ASSIST IN PROVIDING, MAINTAINING, OR FACILITATING RECREATIONAL ACCESS?

YES[] NO[X] N/A[]

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

The district wildlife manager will inspect the completed project. In addition, animal use at the site will be documented by the district wildlife manager during survey efforts and during all incidental visits to the site.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

The permittee or BLM personnel will perform all maintenance.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Todd Buck, AZGFD Region II Wildlife Manager III

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (*please use the worksheet below*):

TREE CLEARING/REMOVAL PROJECTS (*please use the worksheet below*):

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT **WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET**

PROJECT TITLE: Suicide Allotment Pipeline

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”** YES
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**
N/A
- 3) **What is the estimated annual inches of precipitation for the area? (mark one)**
2-4 4-6 6-8 8-10 10-12 12-14 14-16 >16
- 4) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**

YES (please complete #5 below) NO (skip #5 below)
- 5) **For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:**
Name of water source:
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank):
Ownership of water source:
Distance in miles from project:
- 6) **Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts?** YES NO
- 7) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument). If private land, list landowner.**
- 8) **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: _____ Approximate hiking time: _____

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

-- Please describe any restrictions to public access:
- 9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**
- 10) **Was a site visit completed?** Yes No
If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date. Todd Buck summer 2016.

Customer(s): BRENT J MACKELPRANG
 Approximate Acres: 4113

Suicide Pipeline

Date: 5/11/2016
 Field Office: FREDONIA SERVICE CENTER
 Agency: USDA - NRCS
 Assisted By: Clare Poulsen

