

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

HPC Project Number:	18-607
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PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Diamond Butte dirt tank maintenance and new dirt tank construction		
Game Management Unit:	23	Region:	Region 6
Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):		Was the project presented to the LHPC?	
Payson Natural Resources Committee		Yes	
Project Location: (Please provide lat/long in decimal degrees or meters of project area using datum WGS84 or NAD83. If project is larger than one point, please include them all. Provide an accompanying shapefile as an attachment for the project area).			
LATITUDE/NORTHING:			
LONGITUDE/EASTING:			
MULTIPLE LOCATION COORDINATES: Please separate coordinate pairs with names & commas. (ex. Bob's Tank 34.365, -110.663, Clear Spring 34.55, -110.107, etc.): Brushy Tank 34 5.07, -111 13.022, Hot Tank 34 3.72, -111 2.84, Spring Creek Tank 34 6.388, -111 4.997, Goldmine Tank 34 5.115, -111 3.041, Amy Tank 34 4.693, -111 2.013, Promise Land Tank 34 5.154, -111 1.452, Nacho Tank 34 3.513, -111 3.01, Bryant Canyon Tank 34 4.004, -111 2.618, Fred Tank, Unnamed Tank, Fuller Mesa Tank,			
Project Type:	Water project		
Water Project Action (if applicable):	New construction and maintenance of existing earthen dirt tanks		
Habitat Restoration Action (if applicable):	NA		
Other Project Type and Action (if applicable):			
Has this project been submitted in previous years?	Yes		

PROJECT SUMMARY

Describe the proposed action only. Please use plain English, what action are you proposing? (If applicable, please reference any completed compliance including EAC#).

Brief Project Summary:

This proposal is to provide funding to the permittee of the Diamond Butte Allotments to facilitate the rental of a dozer and purchase diesel fuel needed to clean out existing dirt tanks (3), apply bentonite to existing tanks (3), and construct 6 new dirt tanks located along Forest Roads 130-134. A total of 12 tanks will be cleaned or built. The owner of the Diamond Butte Ranch and the local wildlife manager will facilitate the rental of the dozer, purchasing of the fuel, and coordinate the labor. The owner will split the cost down the middle for the project. This will result in an HPC cost per tank of \$2,158.

Primary Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:		Elk 40% White tail deer 25% , Mule Deer 20%, Javelina 5%, Bear 5%, and Lion 5%
Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year)	START DATE: 10/01/2019	COMPLETION DATE: 10/22/2019

PROJECT FUNDING

Project Funding	Itemized Use of Funds
<p>*Qualifying Cost Share should be restricted to support (materials, compliance, and or labor) of the proposed action ONLY (same time and place). Please do not include previously purchased supplies or past completed work.</p> <p><u>HPC Funds Requested</u></p> <p>Amount: \$ 25,900</p> <p><u>Cost Share or Matching Funds</u></p> <p>Diamond Butte Ranch - In kind labor (3 workers @27 days @ \$14.14) @8hrs/day - \$9,163</p> <p>Use of equipment, coordination, facilitation, etc. – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2,000 </p> <p>Dozer (rental, transport, fuel) - \$1,850/day for 13 days = <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$24,050 -clean/repair 6 existing tanks of which 3 will have bentonite applied.</p> <p>USFS (NEPA research, ARCH clearances, site visits, equipment use, etc.) – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$1,000 </p> <p>Amount: \$ 36,213</p> <p>Organizations(s):</p> <p>Tonto National Forest Arizona Game and Fish Diamond Butte Ranch</p> <p><u>Percent Match</u> 58% (approximate)</p> <p><u>Total Project Cost</u></p> <p>Amount: \$ 62,113</p>	<p>Please email separate quotes if HPC funds are to be used to purchase materials or contracted labor: HPC@azgfd.gov.</p> <p>Dozer Rental - \$1,850/Day Total</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fuel purchase (diesel) • transport fees • rental fees • operator fees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 New Tanks cleaned out @ 14 days of use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$25,900 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Average 1-2 days transport(walk) dozer to sites for some tanks ▪ Average 1-2 days per tank construction <p>Requested Amount - <u>\$25,900</u></p>

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Please indicate the status of the Project's compliance. if you are unsure, please reference:

HPC Compliance Checklist (<https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/hpc/forms/>).

If you have questions regarding the requirement of an EAC, contact AGFD's Project Evaluation Program:

(https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/planning/projevalprogram/) .			
***Please email supporting compliance documents to HPC@azgfd.gov ***			
AGFD EA Checklist Completed:	NA	Completion Date:	
NEPA Completed:	Yes	Completion Date:	08/2018
State Historic Preservation Office/ Archaeological Clearance:	Yes	Completion Date:	08/2018

CONTACT INFORMATION

Applicant

The project applicant is the responsible party for seeing the work through to completion.

APPLICANT NAME: Danny Rodriguez

PHONE: 928-525-4380

ORGANIZATION: Arizona Game and Fish Department

EMAIL: JRodriguez@azgfd.gov

ADDRESS: 7200 E University Dr Mesa, AZ 85207

AGFD Project Proponent

The Project Proponent is responsible for compliance, implementation, and annual/final reporting requirements.

AGFD CONTACT NAME: Danny Rodriguez

PHONE: 928-525-4380

Cooperators

COOPERATOR NAME(S), ORGANIZATION, ROLE IN PROJECT:

Tonto National Forest - Kelly Bedson

Diamond Butte Ranch – Permittee

PROJECT NEED AND DESCRIPTION

Please use direct language: why is this project important? What problem will be solved? How will you implement it, and how will the habitat be enhanced? Please include # of acres, methods, roles, and any phases. Please be specific and thorough.

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

The areas of Walnut Canyon and Bryant Canyon within the Diamond Butte allotment are within areas of GMU 23 North that hold an abundance of wildlife. The limiting resource is the availability of water within these areas. The earthen dirt tanks currently hold water, but do not retain the water very long due to breaches within the clay lining or other damages sustained during weather. The primary wildlife that utilizes these areas includes elk and deer. These areas are also periodically used by cattle increasing the need for water distribution. Currently, 3 existing dirt tanks (Hog tank, Fred Tank, and Brushy Tank) are in need of a clean out and repair. These tanks are primary waters used by wildlife and livestock during summer months. The preexisting tanks are silted in and the berms of some are breached. As a result, the tanks either do not hold water or do not hold as much water as they should. Cleaning out and repairing these tanks will provide vital water to the numerous elk, deer, and other wildlife that frequent this area.

A few other dirt tanks in need of bentonite include Blackjack, Fuller Tank 1, and Unnamed tank. These dirt tanks are no longer retaining water efficiently and need to be lined with additional clay substrate.

I am proposing 6 new dirt tanks to be constructed along forest roads 130 and 134 - Walnut Canyon, Bryant

Canyon, east of the flying W Ranch. These tanks have been visited by the permittee and TNF and clearances are projected to be completed this fall. The primary goal of this project is to provide annual water west of Young in sections heavily used by wildlife and cattle when they are on the pasture.

These sites have been visited by the permittee and Tonto National Forest in a comprehensive analysis of water distribution needs within the Soldier Camp Allotment.

In addition, a separate Arizona Game and Fish Department Landowner Incentive project was proposed and approved for a pipeline project near Little Walnut Canyon to increase the water distribution in the Soldier Camp allotment. This adds to the need for water distribution within the area. This project will run over 3 miles of poly line from a water holding tank to a range trough for wildlife and livestock.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

PROJECT OBJECTIVES: A total of 12 tanks will be cleaned out or built using a requested HPC funding amount of \$25,900. This will result in an HPC cost per tank of a low \$2,158. The permittee intends to provide funding and labor for a total of \$35,213, of which \$24,050 is to be used for Dozer rental and expenses.

This project will utilize heavy machinery to clean out and repair 3 existing dirt tanks: Hog Tank, Fred Tank and Brushy Tank. The preexisting tanks are silted in and the berms are in need of repair. These old tanks will be excavated and will have the berms rebuilt. These tanks do not hold water well and will be evaluated whether the clay substrate was damaged and if bentonite will be needed.

In addition, 3 dirt tanks will be lined with bentonite. The dirt tanks include Black Jack, Fuller Tank, and Unnamed Tank. These dirt tank's clay layer is no longer retaining water efficiently and need additional substrate to aid in water retention. The bentonite will be on site and will not need to be purchased.

The construction of the 6 new dirt tanks will follow forest service guidelines, which will include staying within the imprint of the sections surveyed. Other objectives include excavating the dirt tank while minimizing impacts to the vegetation. Dirt berms will strategically be constructed as well as spillways to prevent erosion.

Each of the dirt tanks will be located off Forest Roads 130-134

This strategy for this proposal is to provide funding to the permittee to rent a dozer, a trailer to haul it, and purchase diesel fuel to clean out 6 preexisting dirt tanks and to build 6 new dirt tanks located along forest roads 130 and 134. The owner of the Diamond Butte Ranch will facilitate the rental of the dozer, the purchasing of the fuel, and provide labor. Arizona Game and Fish Department will coordinate with the permittee and provide assistance as needed.

Due to the rugged terrain and distance from each dirt tank, the permittee along with hired labor will need to walk the heavy machinery in some of the more rugged areas. Because of this, additional days have been added to the in kind labor costs. The cost would be cheaper to rent the equipment straight through as opposed to breaking up the rental throughout the following months. It would also save on equipment use as opposed to driving it back and forth.

The following is a breakdown of the tanks and estimated total costs per group. * HPC cost per tank will be \$2,158. Total project cost per tank is \$5,093.

New Tanks Proposed (Highest Priority) - \$ 30,557

- Goldmine Tank
- Promise Tank
- Amy Tank
- Bryant Tank
- Nacho Tank
- Spring Tank

Dirt Tank Clean outs - \$15,278

- Hog Tank
- Fred Tank
- Brushy Tank

Dirt Tank clean outs with bentonite application - \$15,278

- Black Jack Tank
- Fuller Tank
- Unnamed Tank

LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

US Forest Service – Tonto National Forest

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN: Diamond Butte Ranch Permittee will monitor waters

PROJECT MAINTENANCE: Diamond Butte Ranch permittee

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY: Danny Rodriguez

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS LIST:

Approval from USFS Tonto National Forest Pleasant Valley Ranger District has been emailed for the maintenance. The clearance paperwork will be emailed for the new dirt tanks.

Have supporting documents been submitted?

Yes, I emailed them to: HPC@azgfd.gov

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Diamond Butte dirt tank clean out and new tank construction

- 1) **Was a site visit completed (Date and with whom)?** Yes- Tonto National Forest – Kelly Bedson and Diamond Butte Ranch – Clay Wills - June 2017

- 2) **If this is a dirt tank project, has the site historically held reliable water?** Yes

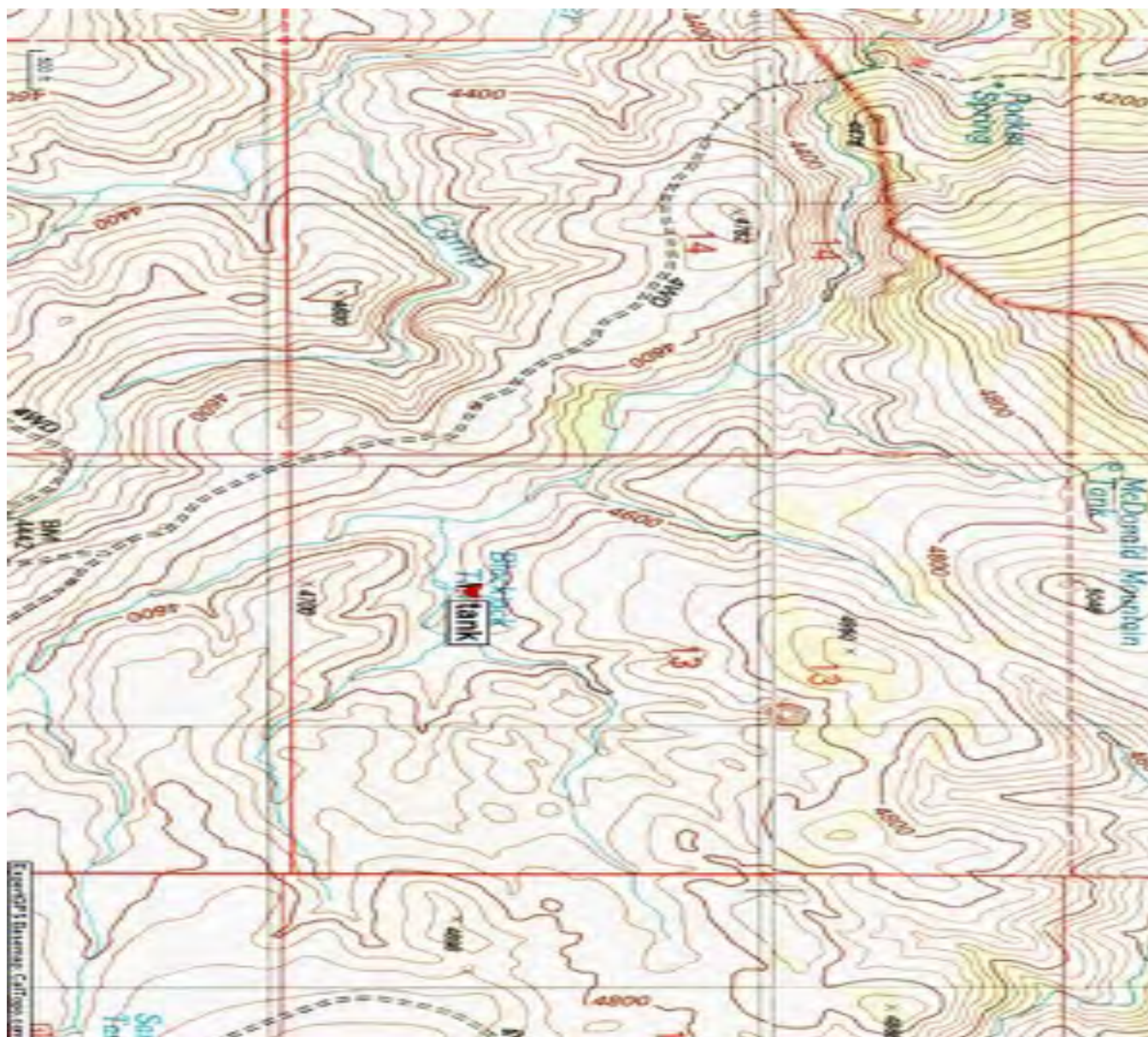
- 3) **If this is a dirt tank project and soil data is available, what type of soil is at the site?** Clay

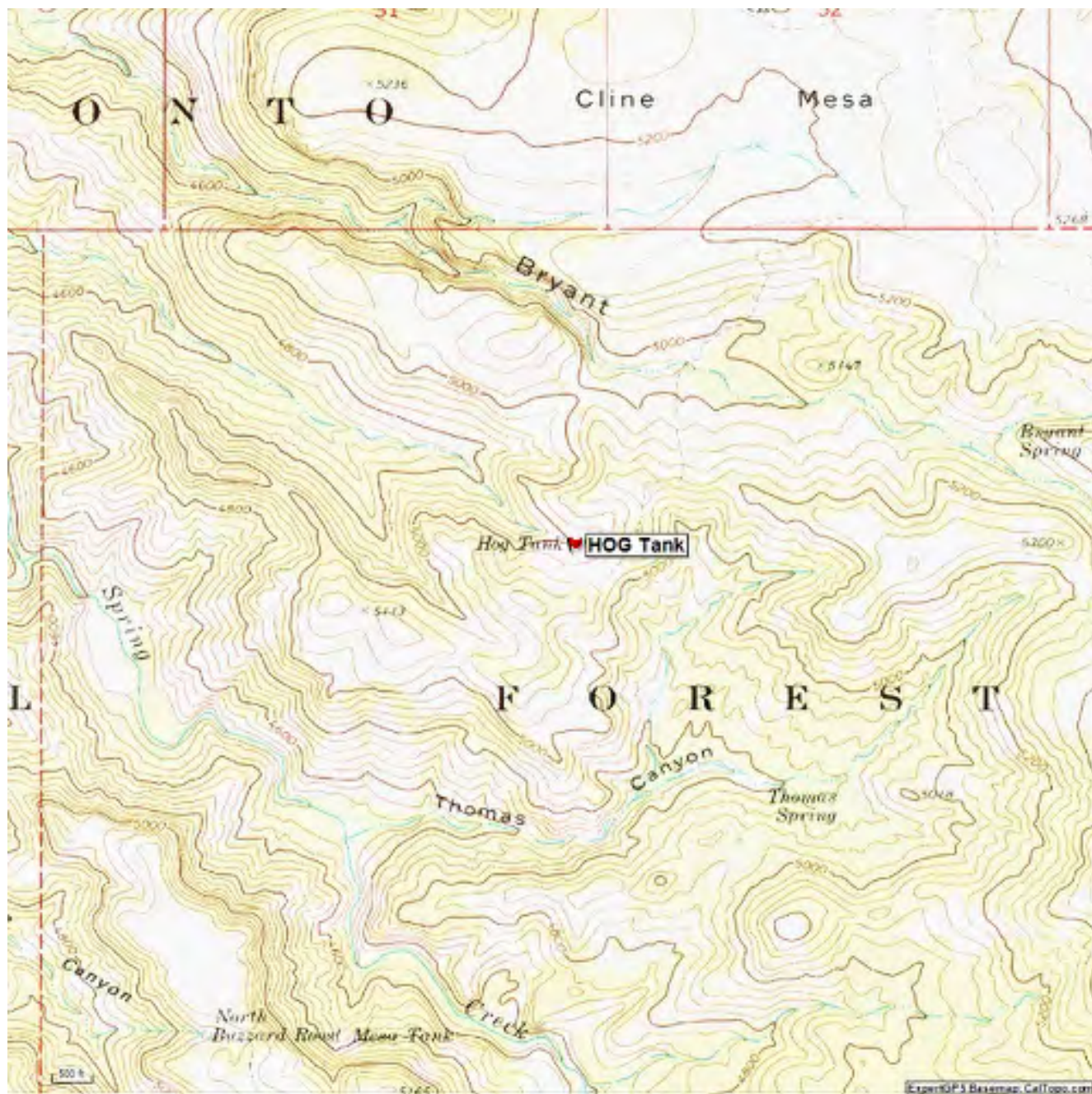
- 4) **If this is a water catchment project, please list the Development Branch coordination date:**
N/A

- 5) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”** No

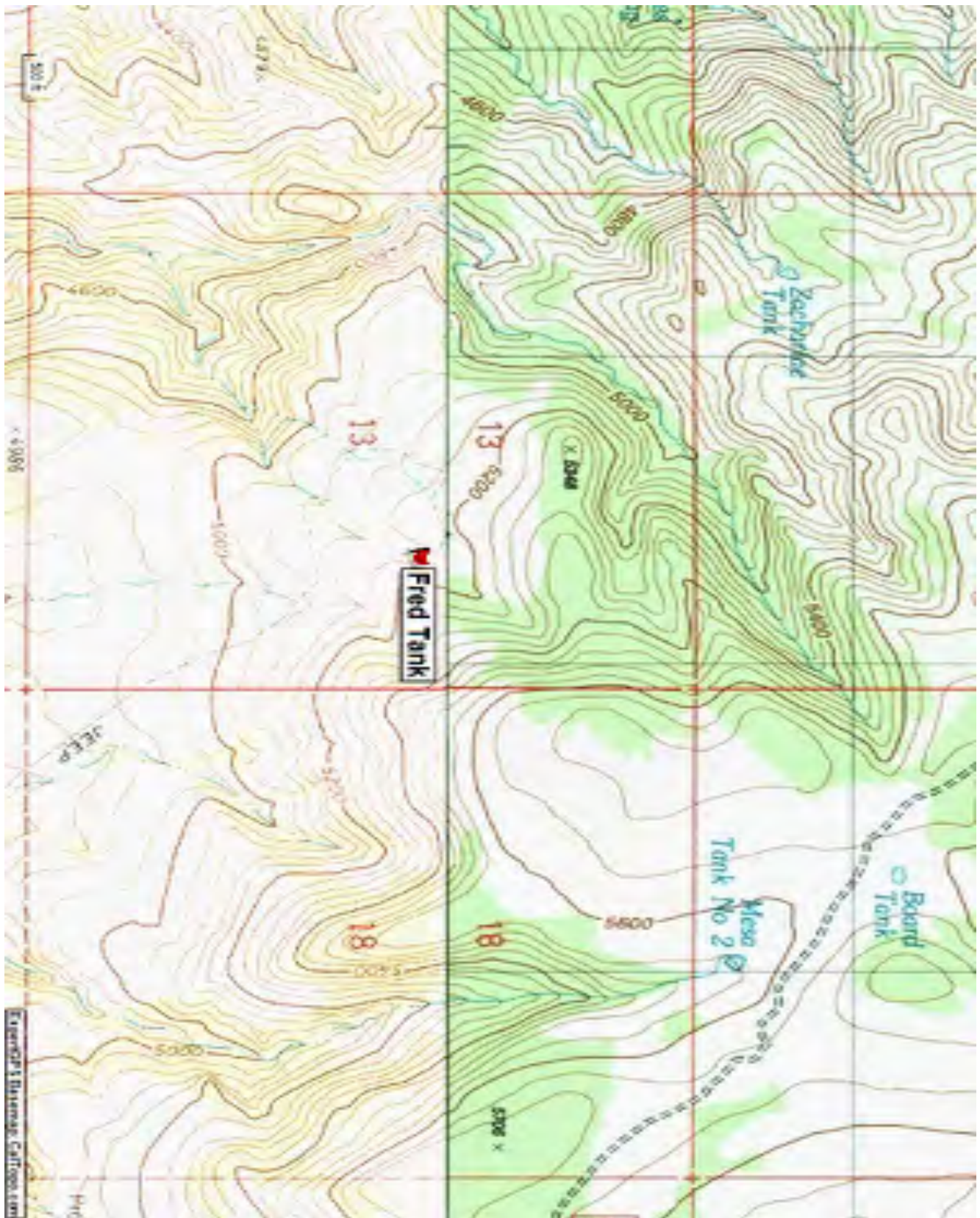
- 6) **If this is a water catchment project, please list the Development Branch personnel coordinated with:**
N/A

- 7) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**
Yes- <=1 Mile





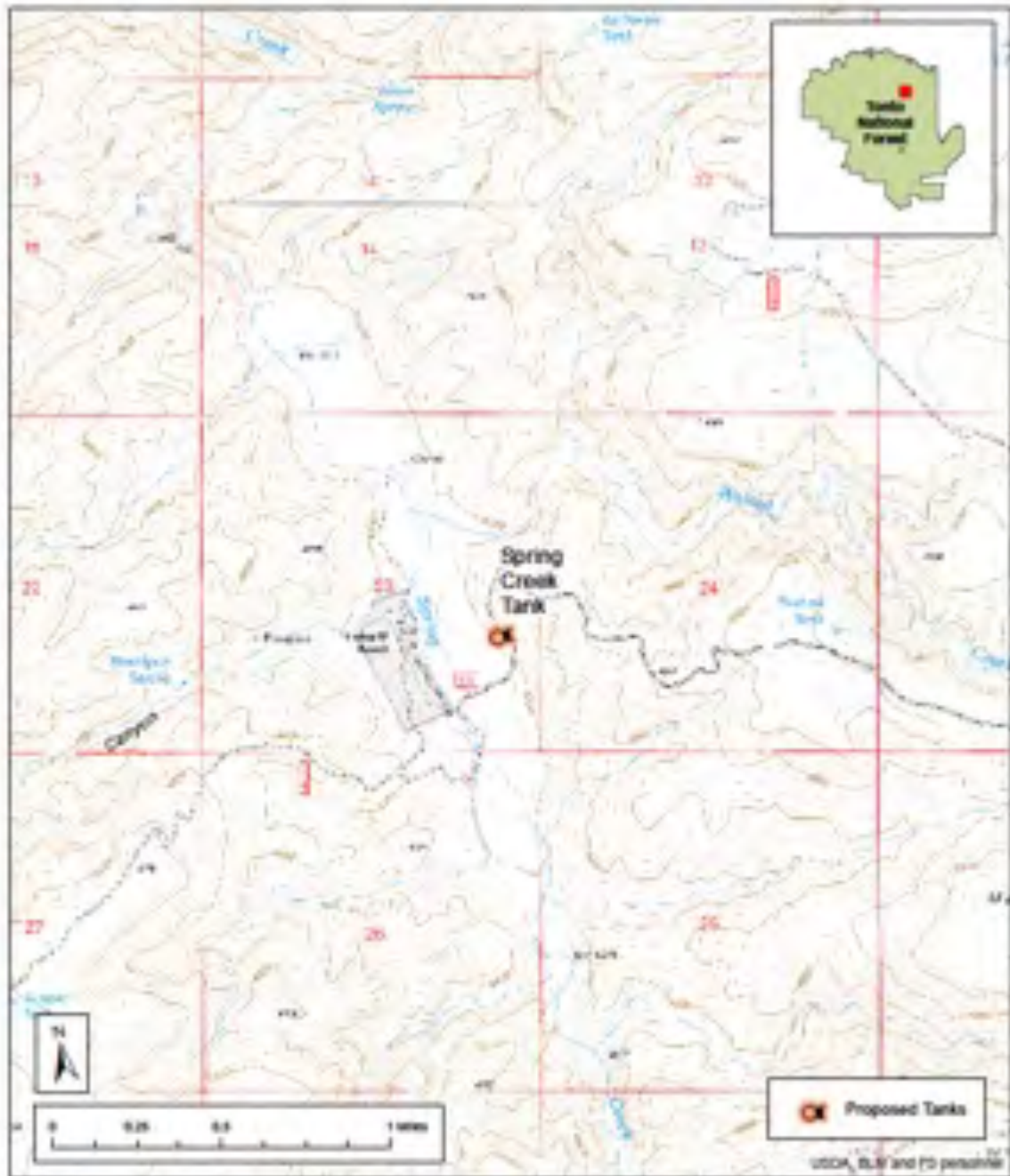








Project Name: Soldier Camp/Diamond Butte: Stocktanks
Scale: 1:24,000 Elevation: 4950 - 5100 ft.
USGS Quad: Buzzard Roost Mesa Township(s): 9N Range(s): 13E Section(s): 5
Township(s): 9N Range(s): 13E Section(s): 31, 32, 33
Map Created By: Kelly Bedson, 6/15/16



Project Name: Soldier Camp/Diamond Butte: Stocktanks
Scale: 1:24,000 Elevation: 4200 ft.
USGS Quad: Buzzard Roost Mesa Township(s): 9N Range(s): 12E Section(s): 23
Map Created By: Kelly Bedson, 8/15/16

