Guzzler: DFW #37 - USFS #2-22

Location: USFS Forest Service Road 6N18 (Haskell Canyon Road)
SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 Section 30, T.6 N, R 14W (SBB&M)
Long. 118°21'19.26"W / Lat. 34°36'54.10"N

Assessment of Benefit to Wildlife

This guzzler was originally installed in the late 1960's by the Dept of Fish & Game. Also known as the Gopher Flat #1 guzzler, this guzzler has been ravaged over time by weather and range fires. The last known report written about this guzzler was on January 12, 1972, in which they state this guzzler "has holes, needs a new manhole cover and a new top for the tank". With this guzzler restored, this wildlife water guzzler will be the only wildlife water source for 640 acres.
**Restoration Repairs Performed:**

Due to USFS restrictions on excavating and expanding area footprint, it was decided not to install the Galvanized Steel Big Game Drinker Box. Restoration to Tank & Apron were performed as described, including a 100ft of steel mesh fencing as a visible barrier to keep motor vehicles out, i.e. Motorcycles & ATVs.
SCVQUWF’s success to date for this Project is the physical restoration of guzzler unit DFW#37 / USFS 2-22. Guzzler unit DFW#37 / USFS 2-22 was rehabilitated on 8/7/2015 and once again holds water available for immediate use by a wide variety of native wildlife species, both game and non-game. DFW#37 / USFS 2-22 is situated in a very arid region of ANF public lands which continues to experience extended drought conditions. Although it is too soon to evaluate the specific impact this watering unit has had on local wildlife and which species it may benefit, SCVQUWF’s Habitat Restoration volunteer members are committed to long term monitoring of all of the guzzler units we have restored to date, including this one. One of our members, Joe Cota, is a local professional geologist who has assisted in locating many of the old guzzlers and has assisted in determining which of these units are most important to rehabilitate based on location of the unit, proximity to known natural water sources, and habitat. He has conducted groundwater reconnaissance surveys in the vicinity of most of the units we have restored. It is Mr. Cota’s opinion that these man-made water resources will become increasingly important over time for the survival of many game and non-game animals. As climate change continues, the average precipitation in the region will decrease. Many of the natural springs and streams in the area which have historically been relied upon by wildlife will continue to diminish over the next several decades and could possibly dry up entirely. Therefore, restoration of each of these units is a success in itself. In the coming year, SCVQUWF’s volunteers will be installing game cams and monitoring of certain guzzler units. This wildlife monitoring work is in progress. At present we are trying to locate a Brood Count instructional video that had been prepared by the now defunct Quail Unlimited in the 1970’s or 1980’s so that our members can be properly trained. We also understand that USGS wildlife biologists are developing a systematic methodology for wildlife monitoring which we will be researching. In summary, the measurable environmental success of this project to date is the re-establishment of a former man-made water resource that we believe will become increasingly important over time. SCVQUWF will continue to monitor DFW#37 / USFS 2-22 to ensure it is still holding clear, fresh water. We will continue to research effective methodology for brood count and wildlife monitoring in an effort to quantitatively evaluate the positive impacts restoration of the guzzler has had on native species.

**Cost: Final cost for materials:**

1) Ames Research Super Primer (10 gallons) x 2 @ $ 179.99 each $ 359.98
2) Ames Research Blue Max Liquid Rubber (10 gal) x 2 @ $ 179.99 $ 359.98
3) Ames Research SafeT Deck Smooth - Tan (10 gal) x 2 @ $ 179.99 $ 359.98
4) Ames Research Safe T Deck Granulated - Dark Brown (10 gal) x 2 @ $ 179.99 $ 359.98
5) Trowels, Rollers and Misc supplies $ 250.00
6) QuickCrete 50 square ft (38 - 60lbs bags) @ $ 3.00 per bag $ 114.00
7) 6x6 Steel Remesh (4x7 sheets) x 4 @ 10.00 each $ 40.00
8) CUDDEBACK TRAIL CAMERA MODEL E2 $ 300.00
9) Hardwire Cloth Fencing 48”x 100’ with Post &Ties $ 188.44
10) Informative Signage $ 75.00

Total $ 2407.36

**In Kind Value:**

1) Man Hours 445 hours @ $ 27.59 $ 12277.55
2) Mileage 3250 miles @ .575 $ 1868.75
Quail & Upland Wildlife Federation  
Santa Clarita Valley Chapter  
PO Box 802738  
Santa Clarita, CA 91380  
661-733-1740

Bill To  
California Dept Fish & Wildlife  
1812 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95811

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Total  $2,407.36