

Northern Larimer County Habitat Partnership Program Application Form

Project Name: Bobcat Canyon Spring Development

Responsible Persons/partners: Rabbit Creek Ranch

Location: 10 North, 71 West, Section 13

Date Project expected to be initiated and completed: September 2005

1. **Describe the Project. If there are design specifications please describe and or attach any drawings.**

This is a spring development project in Bobcat Canyon to improve the livestock water source for the surrounding grazing areas. The current situation forces the livestock to drink from a small amount of surface water from the site of the spring development. Due to the amount of water available on the surface, the livestock have been historically harmful to the riparian areas. The spring that is proposed to be developed will collect the water from the gully bottom and divert the water to a point away from the riparian area.

There will be an eight foot stock tank used to store and provide water to livestock and wildlife. This stock tank will be permanent. Four posts will surround the tank to hold in place.

The collection system will be constructed in the location of optimum seepage. An impermeable plastic will be buried in the seep to the depth of bedrock or dry soil. Upstream from this barrier the collector will be placed; two wings of the collector made of leach field pipe wrapped with screen, which will deliver the water to the collecting basin. The collecting basin will be an 18 in culvert, to allow the particles to settle out, and supply the water to the two inch supply line.

Because of the remote nature of this spring, the supply line will be laid in the ravine bottom on the ground surface to reduce labor. For about fifteen feet from the tank, this supply line will be buried to reduce possible damage. The two inch pipe should be sufficient to withstand being stepped on without collapsing, until the natural vegetation grows around it.

The drain of the tank will be made of the one inch pipe, and directed back to the ravine bottom which water was removed.

2. What are the benefits of the project?

The benefits of this project include but are not limited to the rehabilitation of the riparian area, and improved livestock watering facilities.

Due to the quantity and location of the water in this area, the cattle and sheep that are grazed here have impacted the riparian areas. The impact has and is causing an opening for noxious weeds to move in, as well as the loss of habitat of several small animals. This spring development will reduce the livestock traffic in the riparian areas.

The surrounding grazing land is sufficient for between 50 and 70 AUM's. This project will provide the livestock with a more reliable source of water. In the past Rabbit Creek Ranch has had to limit the grazing in this area because of water limitations; due to limited grazing, there has been an increase in the fire danger.

3. How will this project specifically benefit wildlife?

The development of a spring in Bobcat Canyon can benefit wildlife in a number of ways. One way that this will benefit wildlife is to provide a more reliable source of water for the larger species. A second way is the reduced impact that the livestock will have on the riparian areas, which will enhance the habitat for small riparian dwelling animals. A third way is an improvement in the grazing management possibilities which will improve the ecology of the area.

4. **What is the dollar amount that you are requesting from the Northern Larimer County HPP?**

Rabbit Creek Ranch is requesting that the Northern Larimer County HPP support this project by cost sharing one half of the total cost.

Supplies				
Object	Description	Amount	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Pipe	100 psi 2" (ft)	300	\$1.54	\$462.00
	180 psi 1" (ft)	100	\$0.62	\$62.00
Stock Tank	8 foot steel	1	\$254.00	\$254.00
Posts	Treated 4"	4	\$4.89	\$19.56
Wire	Barb wire (ft)	64	\$0.03	\$1.92
Fittings	pipe connections	Random		\$100.00
Collector	18" culvert, leachfield pipe, plastic			\$100.00
Fuel	Travel (gal)	80	\$2.00	\$160.00

Total Supplies = \$1,159.48

Labor		
Time	Unit Cost	Total Cost
120	\$15.00	\$1,800.00

Total Labor = \$1,800.00

Total Estimate Cost= \$2,959.48

Amount Requested= \$1,479.74

5. **Please estimate the final cost and the source of funding to complete the project, including in kind contributions.**

The spring development will be funded by Rabbit Creek Ranch, with one half of the cost supported by HPP. The final estimated cost of the project is \$3233.43.

Rabbit Creek Ranch will support ¼ of the total cost of the project, while the landowner will support the final ¼ of the total cost. The current landowner has committed to this understanding; the attached correspondence demonstrates this fact.

6. **If applicable what do you anticipate your maintenance costs to be, and will you be able to fund ongoing maintenance?**

The anticipation of future maintenance costs for this project are assumed to be minimal in the next 20 years. Rabbit Creek Ranch will take care of future maintenance costs.

7. **How does this project support or enhance current management efforts on the property or adjacent lands?**

The spring development in Bobcat Canyon will improve the grazing management capabilities of the surrounding areas. The proximity of this spring is close to the Lower Cherokee Park Division of Wildlife property; the improvement of available water will allow more migration of deer and other large species in the area.

8. **How will the success of this project be evaluated?**

Rabbit Creek Ranch will determine the success of this project based on the production of water that is supplied by the spring. Another measure of success will be the improvements of the ecology of the riparian areas.