

ARIZONA ANTELOPE FOUNDATION

BONITA GRASSLAND BOUNDARY FENCE MODIFICATION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

Project Location: We will be working on private lands approximately 31 miles north of Wilcox and 1-mile west of Bonita, AZ off the High Creek Road.

Project Begins: Saturday, September 30th. Please meet at camp at 8:00AM. This is a one day project. If you arrive after 8:00 AM someone in camp will direct you to the project worksite.

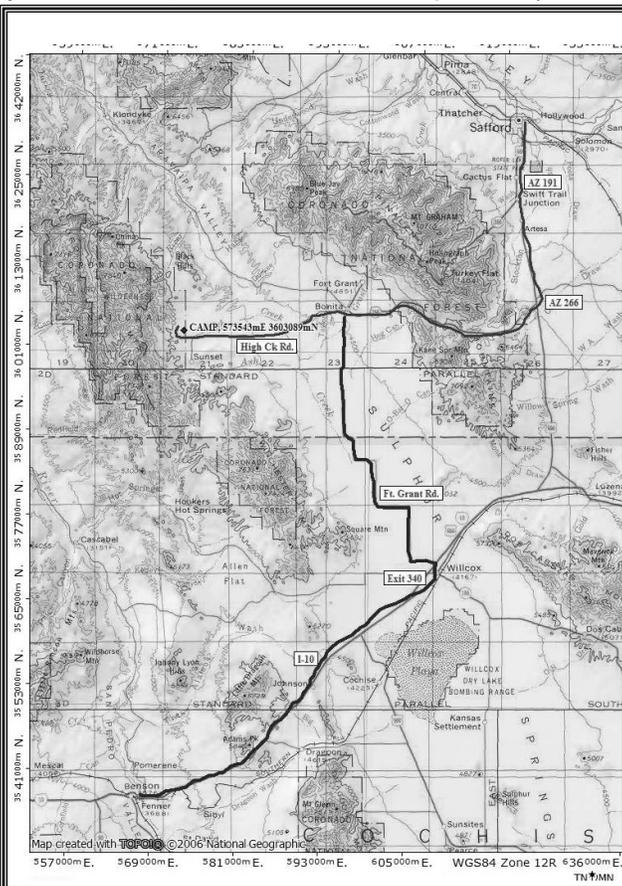
Project Activity: We will be modifying 3 miles of existing boundary fence between the KJ and Bonita Ranches. This will entail removal of the bottom strand of barbed and replace it with smooth wire 16" above ground. The fence consists of wooden and metal t-posts, along with various stay materials. We will fix unrepairable stays and replace with new and add metal t-posts at required locations. We will be able to utilize ATV's along the fence line. Volunteer drop off and vehicle parking is available at the start points Location is north of the High Creek Road, approximately 1 mile west of the Bonita Store.

Pronghorn Benefits: This effort is located in direct proximity to ongoing mesquite removal for the Bonita Grasslands NRCS/G&F restoration project with a goal of improving up to 10,000 acres in the next 4 years. Over the past 7 years, the areas adjacent to and within this project have been grubbed, new waters and boundary fence installed. These projects will help ensure that resident pronghorn and mule deer can safely utilize open grassland corridors without interference due to fence line obstructions. It will assist in accomplishing a key portion of the overall Bonita Plains pronghorn travel corridor improvement project.

NFWF Grant Benefits: All labor hours, materials and mileage will be used to match the AAF's \$430K 9-year grant for our "Southeastern Arizona Grasslands Pronghorn Initiative". The grant has a goal of improving up to 100,000 acres of "Pronghorn habitat connectivity".

Meals: Please provide your own lunch to eat in the field on Saturday. The AAF will provide dinner for all volunteers on Friday and Saturday nights and continental breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

What to Bring: Work gloves (The AAF will have a limited supply), snacks, water, personal gear, orange safety vest (if you have one, otherwise one will be provided).



Directions to Camp:

AAF project/camp site will be on USFS lands, approximately 1.5 miles west of the High Creek Road/Sunset Loop intersection. Access to the site is along a maintained travel corridor route, the site is trailer friendly. It is located approximately 33 miles west of the intersection of AZ 191 and AZ 266, and 35 miles north of I-10 and Fort Grant intersection from exit 340.

Camp GPS coordinates: Datum NAD83 0573543 E/ 3603089 N OR N32.33.46 W110.13.00

From Safford: Drive south 17 miles on AZ 191 to AZ 266. Turn southwest onto AZ 266, continue 19 miles to Bonita School (located just south of 266 on Fort Grant Road). Take High Creek Road (dirt road), located on north side of Bonita School, west approximately 14.5 miles to High Creek Road/Sunset Loop curve. Continue west along fenced travel corridor access road 1.5 miles to Campsite.

From Wilcox (Route2): Turn north from I-10 at exit 340 (past Shell/Truck Stop) on Fort Grant Road. Drive the main paved road approximately 30 miles north (it has several dog leg turns) to the Bonita School. Just north of the school, turn left and proceed west on High Creek Road (dirt road) for approximately 14.5 miles to High Creek Road/Sunset Loop curve. Continue west along fenced travel corridor access road 1.5 miles to Campsite.

Contact: Glen Dickens at (520-247-4907) for project information. If you are planning to attend, **please RSVP** to info@azantelope.org by **September 25th** so we can plan to have enough food and tools

Visit our website for a larger printer-friendly map
www.azantelope.org



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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

September 30 Habitat Project Bonita-Wilcox
November 13 AAF Annual Meeting & Elections

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www.azantelope.org