

SONORAN PRONGHORN MONTHLY UPDATE

June 17, 2005

Captive Breeding: All 17 pronghorn in the pen are doing well. Pronghorn continue to forage on palo verde seedpods, as well as other vegetation. They seem to be using the washes more. Both adults and fawns are using the free standing waters in the pen.

Monitors have been irrigating the forage in the pen. Trees and perennial forage are still fairly green and providing good forage.

We have finally hired the third monitor for the pen, and he will start next week.

Water Projects: The archaeologist from MCAS Yuma went out and looked at the 2 sites for the Marine waters with Game and Fish personnel. Archaeological and NEPA work is proceeding on the 2 Marine waters.

Forage Enhancements: Lower Well forage enhancement has been finished. One trial irrigation has taken place. Personnel pumped water from the well to the storage tanks, and then pumped from the storage tanks to the plots. We estimate the well produces ~ 20 gallons/minute sustained. The water was partially filled and several arrays were watered. We still need to add some air vents to increase the flow of water. Plans are to irrigate again there next week.

The Granite Mountains forage site on BMGR has been irrigated twice for several days. We added several free flowing valves in order to water more washes. The water was also filled and a camera set up. While irrigating there on May 19, we saw 3 pronghorn (2 adult females and one fawn) on the plots!

Charlie Bell and Adobe Well forage enhancement plots have also been irrigated.

Other Projects: Nothing to report at this time.

Wild Pronghorn: Organ Pipe personnel observed 6 pronghorn in the Pozo Nuevo Hills area. BMGR monitors have not been seeing any pronghorn on the tactical ranges lately.

