

Cebolla Creek Habitat Conservation Project (Pipe Fence)

Background Information

The Mertz Ranch area of the Rio Puerco BLM has been a location for landscape-scale forest restoration activities over the past decade. The BLM and NMDGF have worked together to thin thousands of acres of Ponderosa Pine in an effort to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, and to improve and restore wildlife habitats. This pipe fence project will conserve a permanent source of water for wildlife.



- Within this landscape, partners have also supported extensive ongoing natural spring and wetland restoration activities. Surface water availability is a limiting factor for wildlife in this landscape and is of vital importance for big game species.
- Along Cebolla Creek, the BLM constructed a large earth tank that is intended to help mitigate erosion issues and act as an annual source of water for wildlife on this landscape. The tank is not part of any grazing permit or infrastructure.
- A pipe fence will reduce the need for annual maintenance while providing easy access for wildlife to a permanent water source.

Rio Puerco Field Office - BLM

Project Contacts:

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Proposed Management Action

- NMDGF, in collaboration with the Rio Puerco BLM, will contract the construction of a new pipe rail fence. The perimeter of the fenced area will be approximately 1 mile, with a total enclosed area of approximately 50 acres.
- The fence will be constructed of 2 3/8" pipe, with a pipe top rail and supports and two 5/8" cables as the middle and bottom rails.
- Projected costs for this pipe fence are approximately \$25.00/ft
- Once constructed, the fence will require little to no annual maintenance
 - Google earth link

Estimated Budget for HSP: \$150,000