

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Fore.
Servi.

Verde Ranger
District

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Reply To: 2360

Date: March 18, 1997

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MAR 20 1997

NORBERT G. WEDEFOHL, Clerk
By *Christine Wagner*
Deputy

Verde Ditch Company
P.O. Box 2345
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

Gentlemen:

Listed below are the Forest Service's stipulations in regards to the relocation of the Verde Ditch in T. 13N., R. 5E., Section 21.

The project proposal consists of moving approximately 225 feet of the Verde Ditch back to its original location. The fill in the original ditch will be removed and this ditch will be lined with concrete. In addition, a 2 foot high concrete wall would be constructed facing the river (on the north and east side) and a 4 foot high concrete wall would be built facing the cutbank (south and west side).

The following stipulations will only apply to the relocation of the ditch and the pouring of the concrete to line the ditch and form the walls. These stipulations do not cover any additional work that has been proposed such as backfilling behind the wall and stabilizing the cutbank containing the exposed archaeological site. Stipulations to cover these additional activities will be formulated at a later date.

- 1- All work within the archaeological site associated with any mitigative ditch activities will be monitored by a professional contract archaeologist. All costs associated with the contract archaeologist will be the responsibility of the Verde Ditch Company. If any intact cultural materials (i.e. stratigraphy, features, burials) are exposed, all work is to stop immediately and the Verde District archaeologist notified.
- 2- All construction activities will take place within previously disturbed areas along the river side of the ditch. No new areas will be disturbed.
- 3- Excavated material from the ditch will be placed in the area between the existing ditch and the new ditch. If additional storage space is needed, a location will be negotiated with the Forest officer in charge.
- 4- All vehicle access will be from the Roadrunner Ranch Road along the existing ditch road.
- 5- Existing recreation facilities (parking area, trail and bridge) may be used for foot access only to the construction area. Existing cuts in the bank will not be used for access to the construction area unless prior approval is obtained from a Forest officer (i.e. for placement of pumping equipment and machinery).

Caring for the Land and Serving People

6- The selected contract archaeologist must be approved by the Prescott National Forest.

7- The Verde Ranger District must be informed as to construction start dates and work schedules.

8- No construction equipment, supplies or waste shall be placed, parked or stored in the area between Salt Mine Road and the ditch. All construction debris will be removed from the area upon completion of the project.

9- A monitoring report must be submitted by the contracting archaeologist to the Verde District archaeologist.

If any extenuating circumstances (i.e. inclement weather, bank failure, scheduling problems, etc.) are to arise during construction that are not covered by these stipulations, the Forest officer is to be advised immediately so that alternatives can be discussed and negotiated.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact our office at the above phone number.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Bonomo
THOMAS D. BONOMO
District Ranger

cc: L. Richard Mabery, P.C.
cc: Judge Richard Anderson
cc: Ann Howard, State Historic Preservation Office