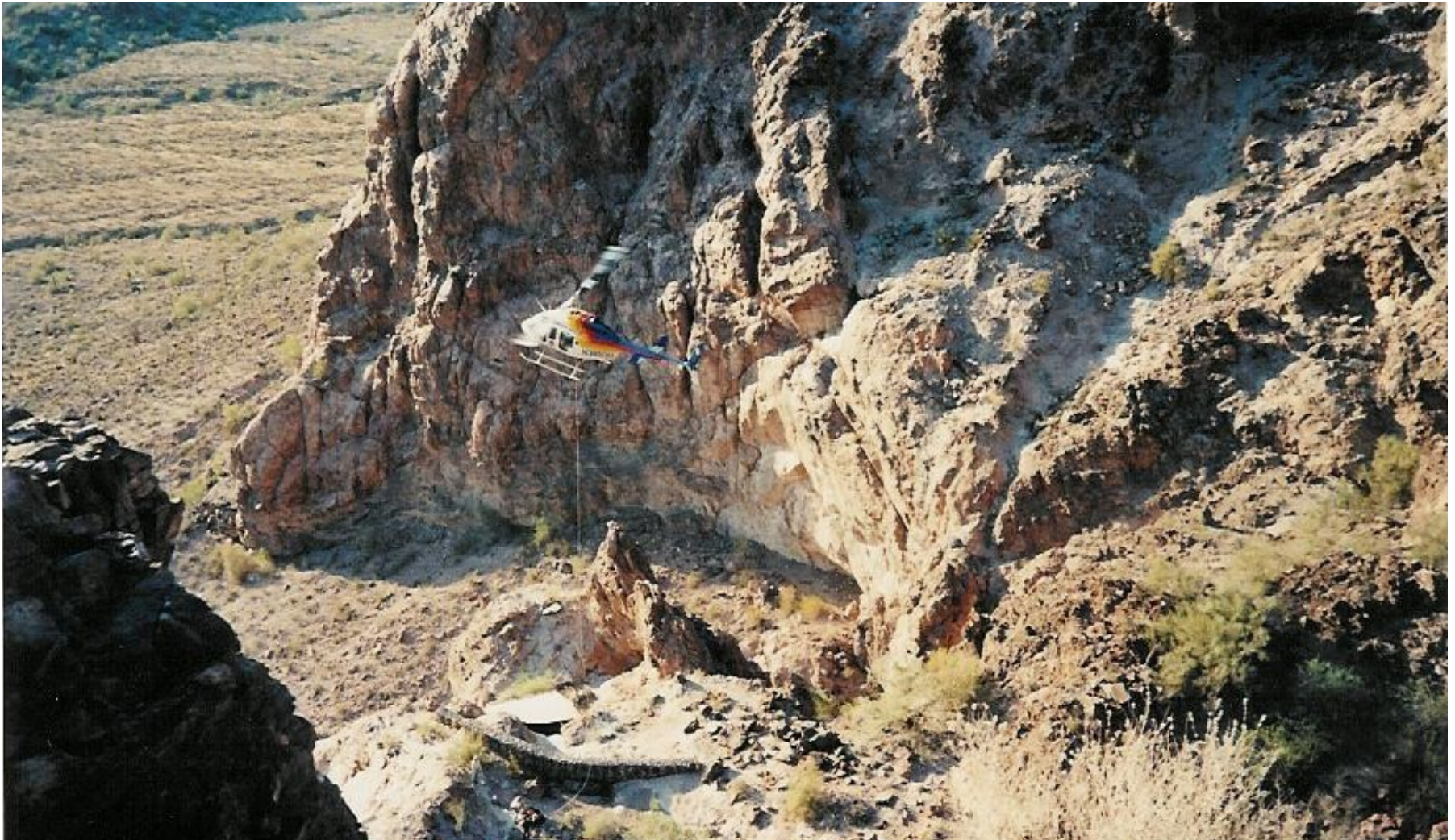


The Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society

**A discussion of what we do
and why**

Arch Tank

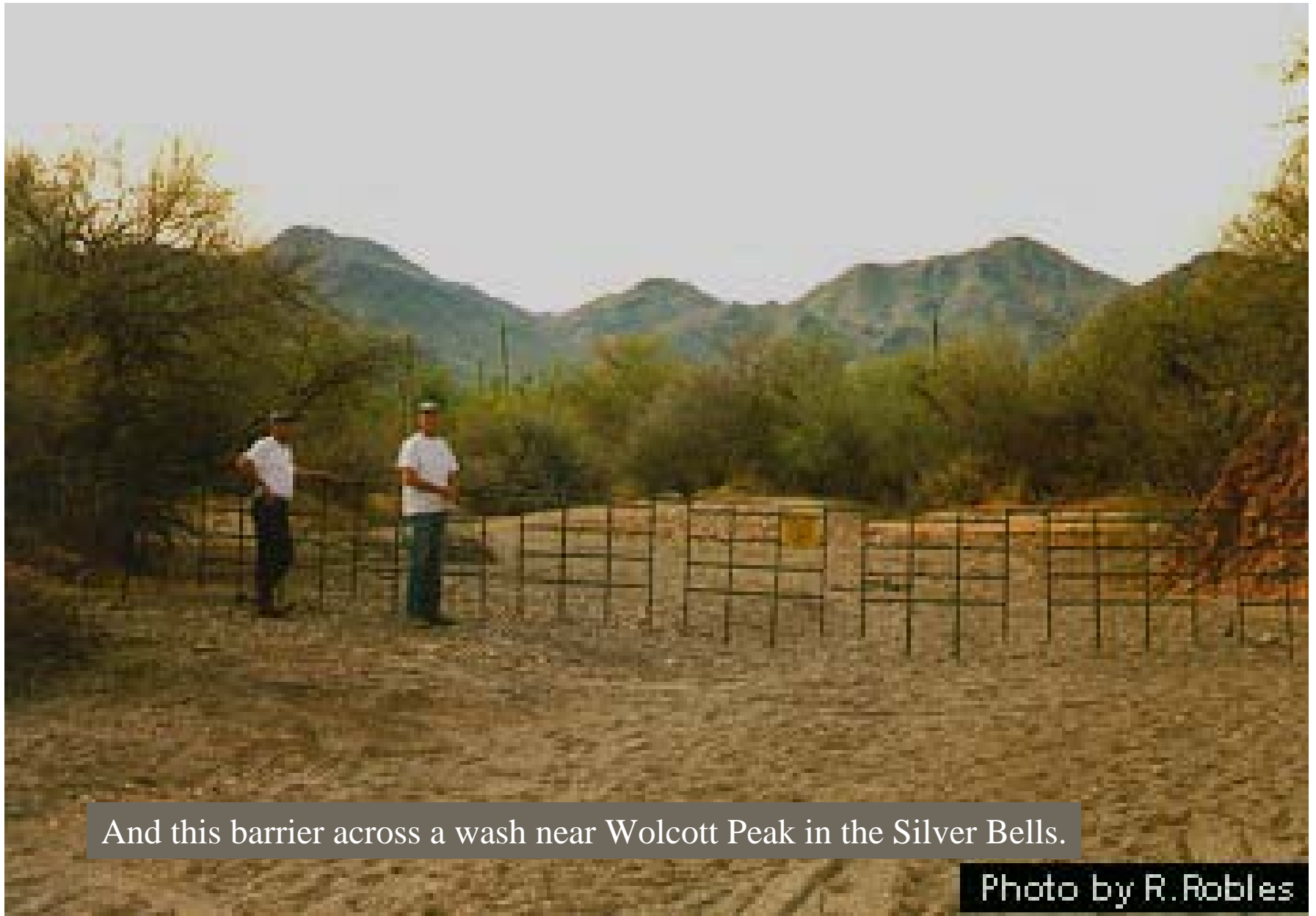


For more than 37 years the primary focus of the ADBSS has been the development of wildlife waterholes like this one constructed last Spring at Arch Tank in the Bighorn Mountains.

Road Barriers

We also work on a host of other projects including building wildcat road barriers into bighorn habitat like this one on the east side of Ragged Top Mountain in the Silver Bells Mountains.





And this barrier across a wash near Wolcott Peak in the Silver Bells.

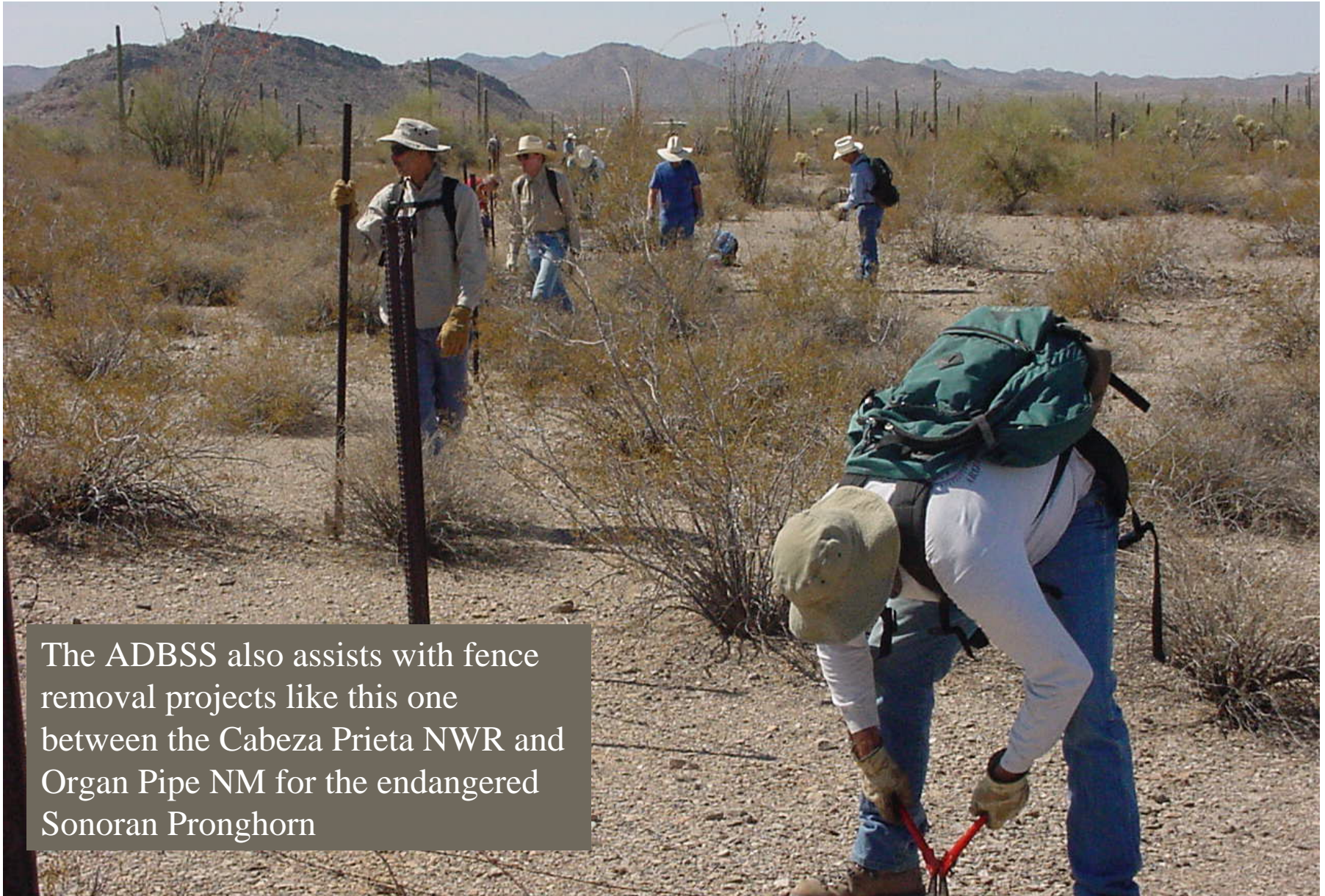
Photo by R. Robles



And this fence and gate to an old mine claim on the west side of Ragged Top.

Photo by R. Robles

Fence Removal



The ADBSS also assists with fence removal projects like this one between the Cabeza Prieta NWR and Organ Pipe NM for the endangered Sonoran Pronghorn



More than 3.5
miles of old
fencing was cut
down.

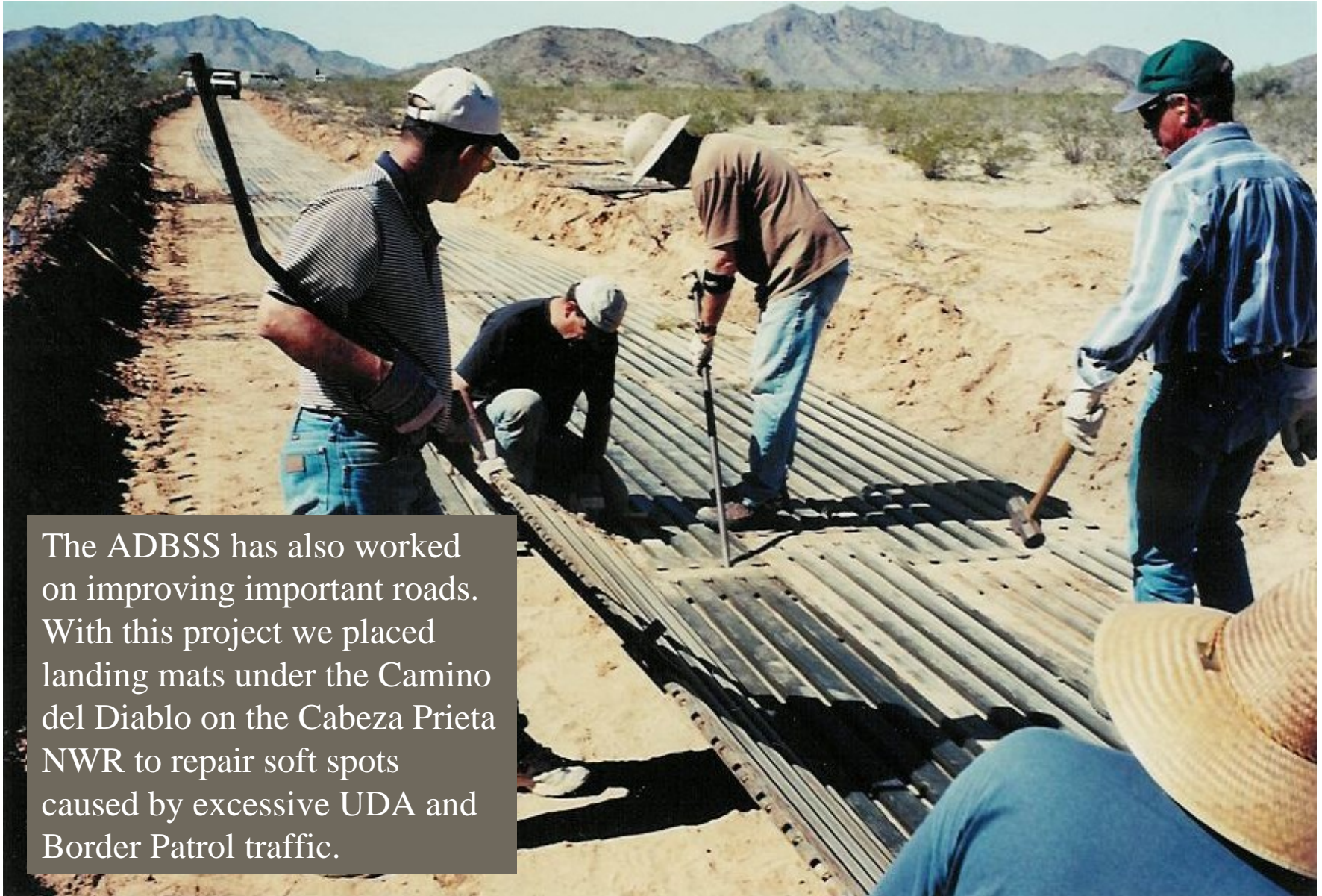


Gathered up...

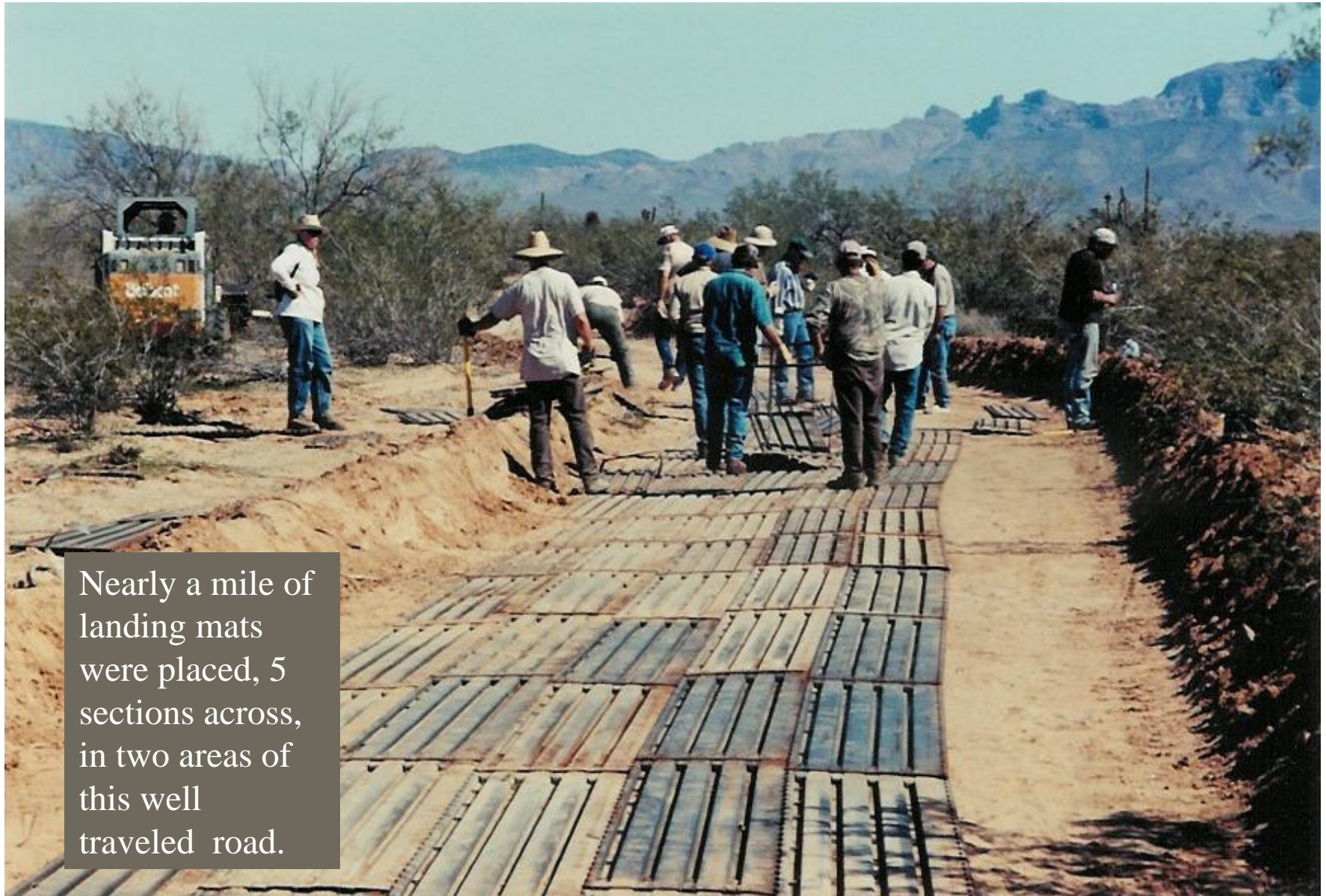


And removed.

Road Improvement Work



The ADBSS has also worked on improving important roads. With this project we placed landing mats under the Camino del Diablo on the Cabeza Prieta NWR to repair soft spots caused by excessive UDA and Border Patrol traffic.



Nearly a mile of landing mats were placed, 5 sections across, in two areas of this well traveled road.

Captures/Transplants

Capture and relocation project. Sheep are nut gunned from a helicopter, hobbled and hooded and then flown in a net to the staging center and processing site.



A air delivery of sheep to the staging area.



Captures

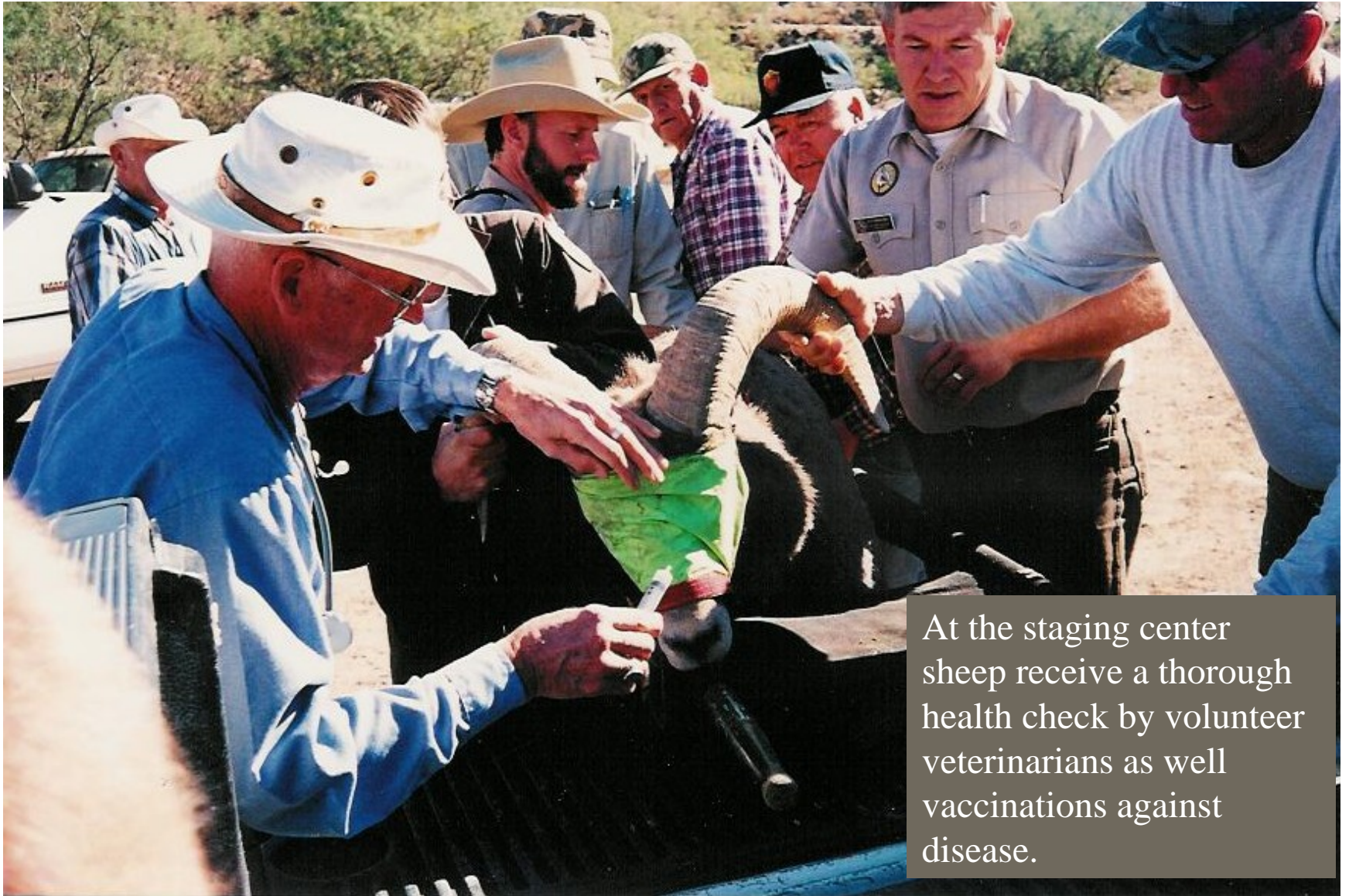


Transporting sheep from the landing area to the staging center.



A hood and a caring hand help to calm the sheep.

Veterinary Care



At the staging center sheep receive a thorough health check by volunteer veterinarians as well vaccinations against disease.

The Release



And finally the sheep are released to repopulate a new area.



Young sheep emerging
from a transport box.

Telemetry Monitoring

The ADBSS also assists with telemetry monitoring and surveys of sheep populations.



Work at Phoenix Zoo

The ADBSS was instrumental in creating the bighorn sheep exhibit at the Phoenix Zoo and continues this support with associated weekend improvement projects.

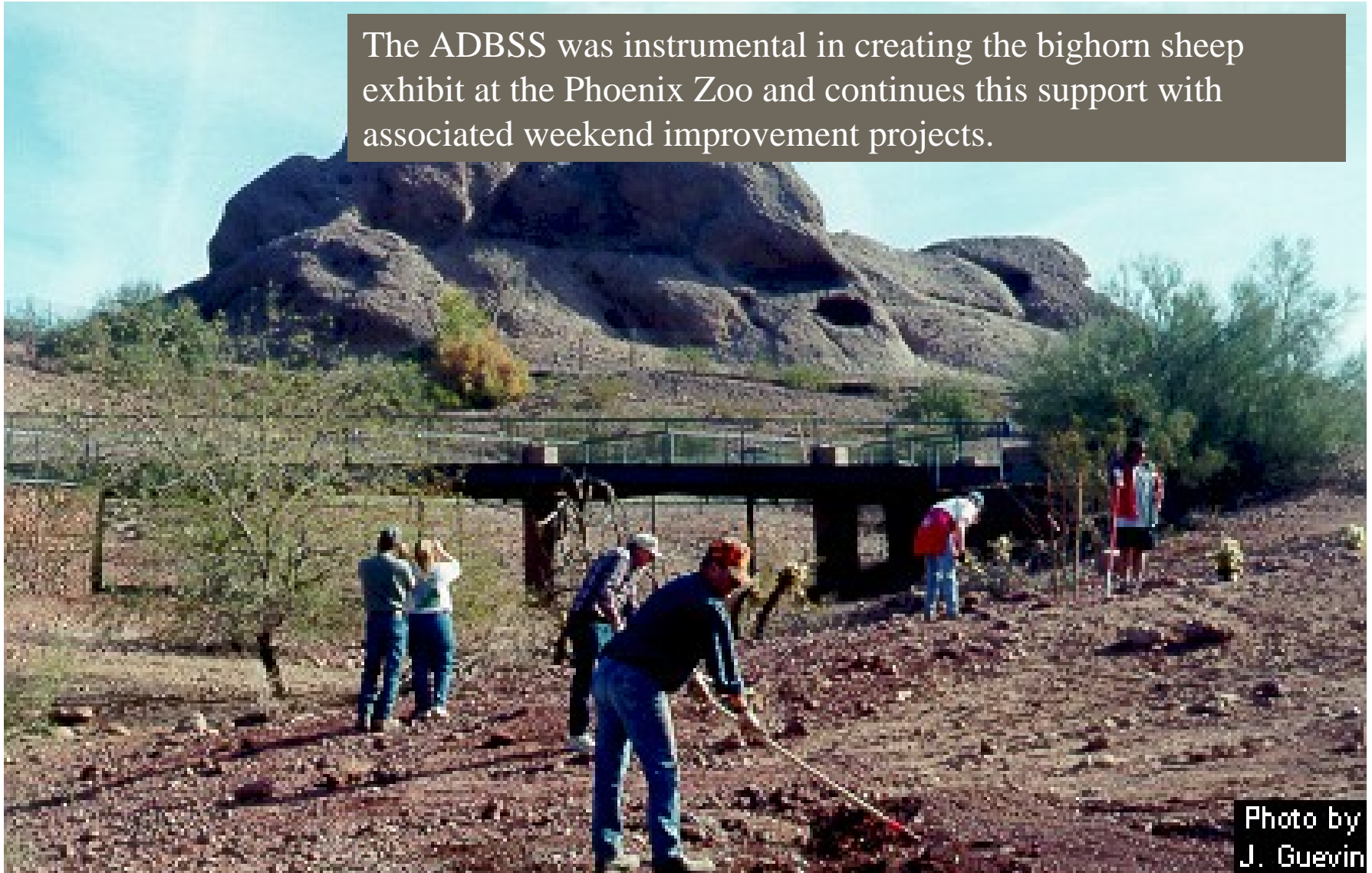
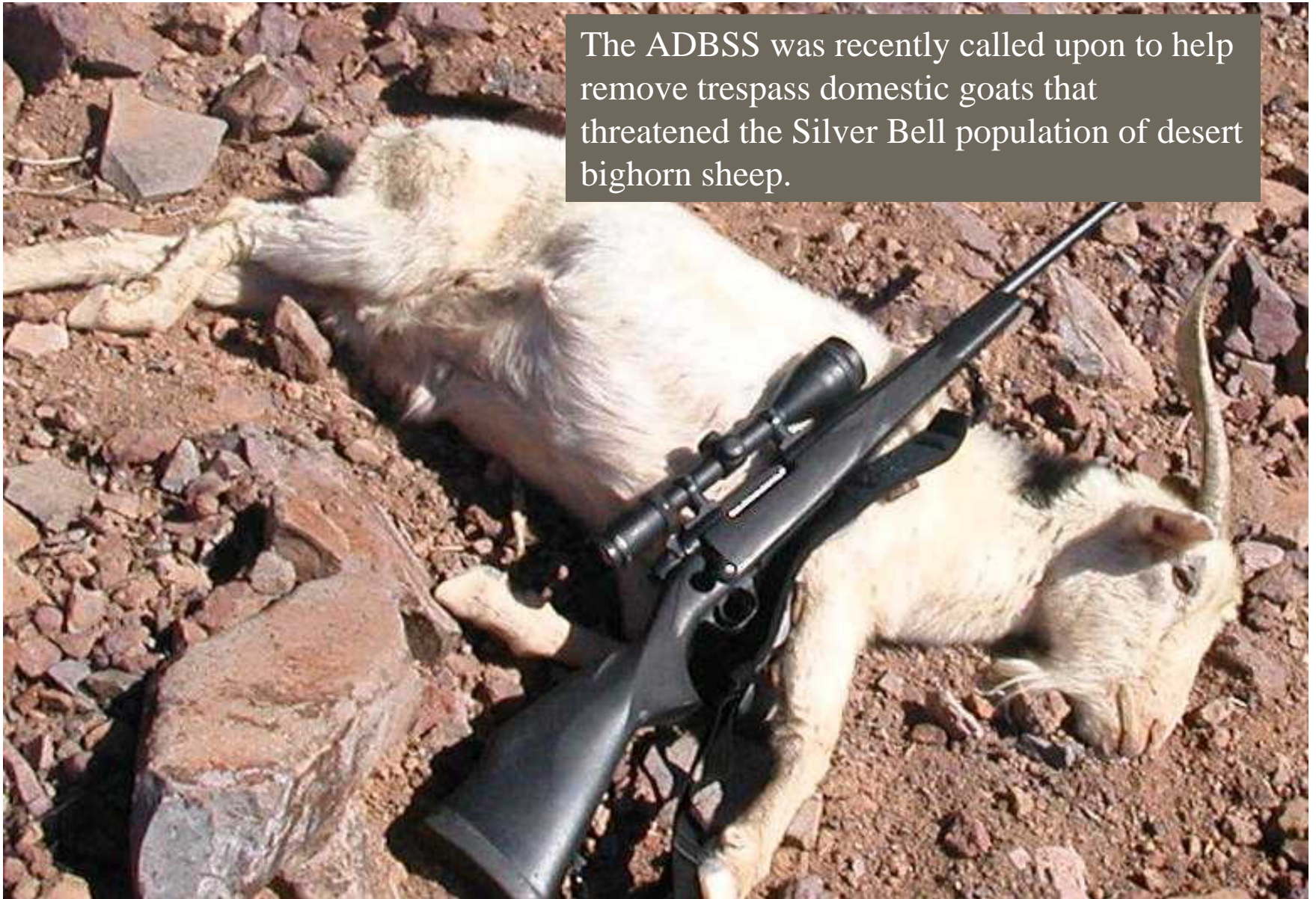


Photo by
J. Guevin

Goat Removal

The ADBSS was recently called upon to help remove trespass domestic goats that threatened the Silver Bell population of desert bighorn sheep.



Other Activities

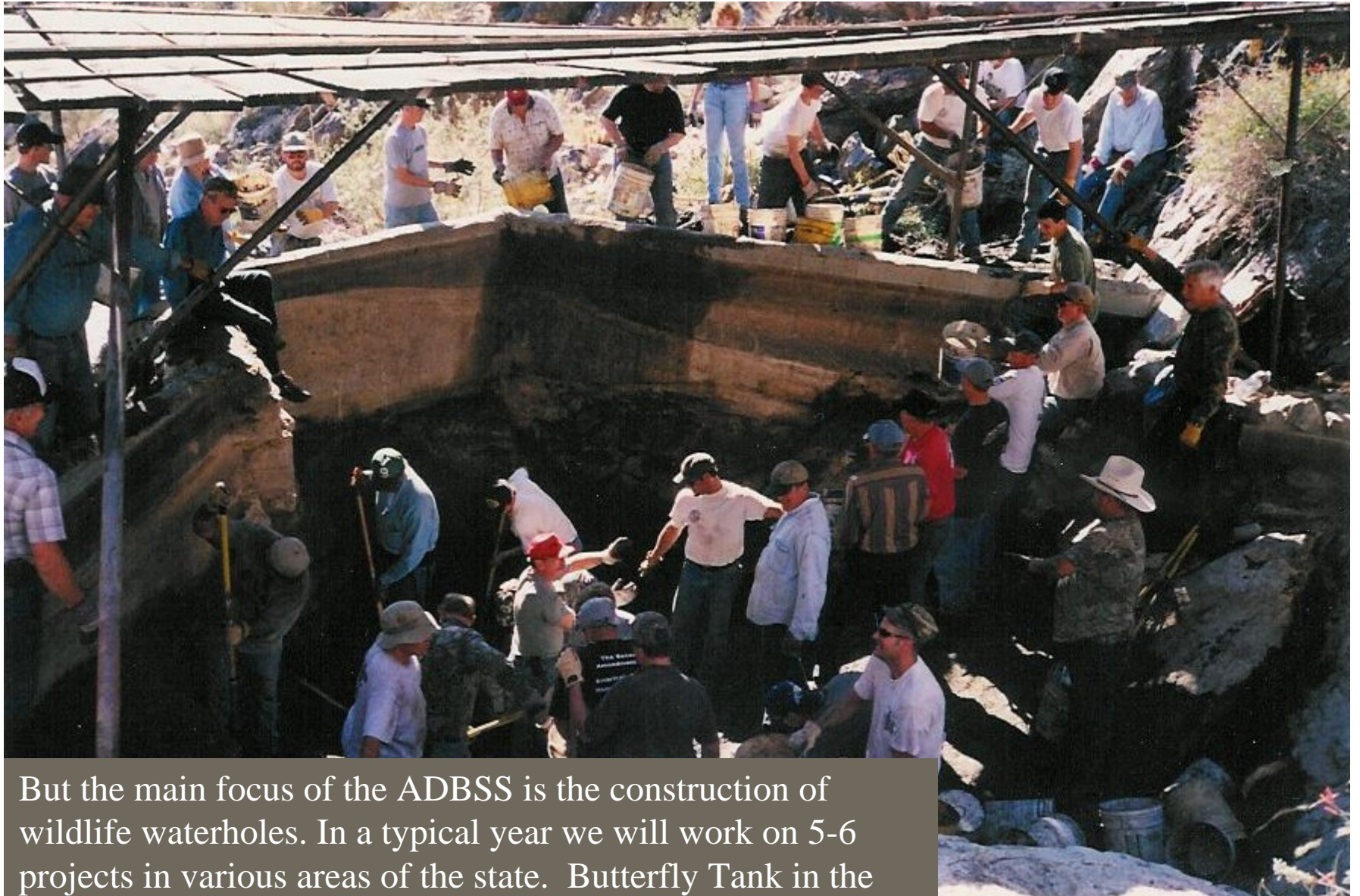
- **Research projects and studies**
- **Land management planning processes**
- **Fundraising**
- **Scholarships**
- **Public information, education and outreach programs**
- **Hunters clinic**
- **Conservation advocacy**

Map



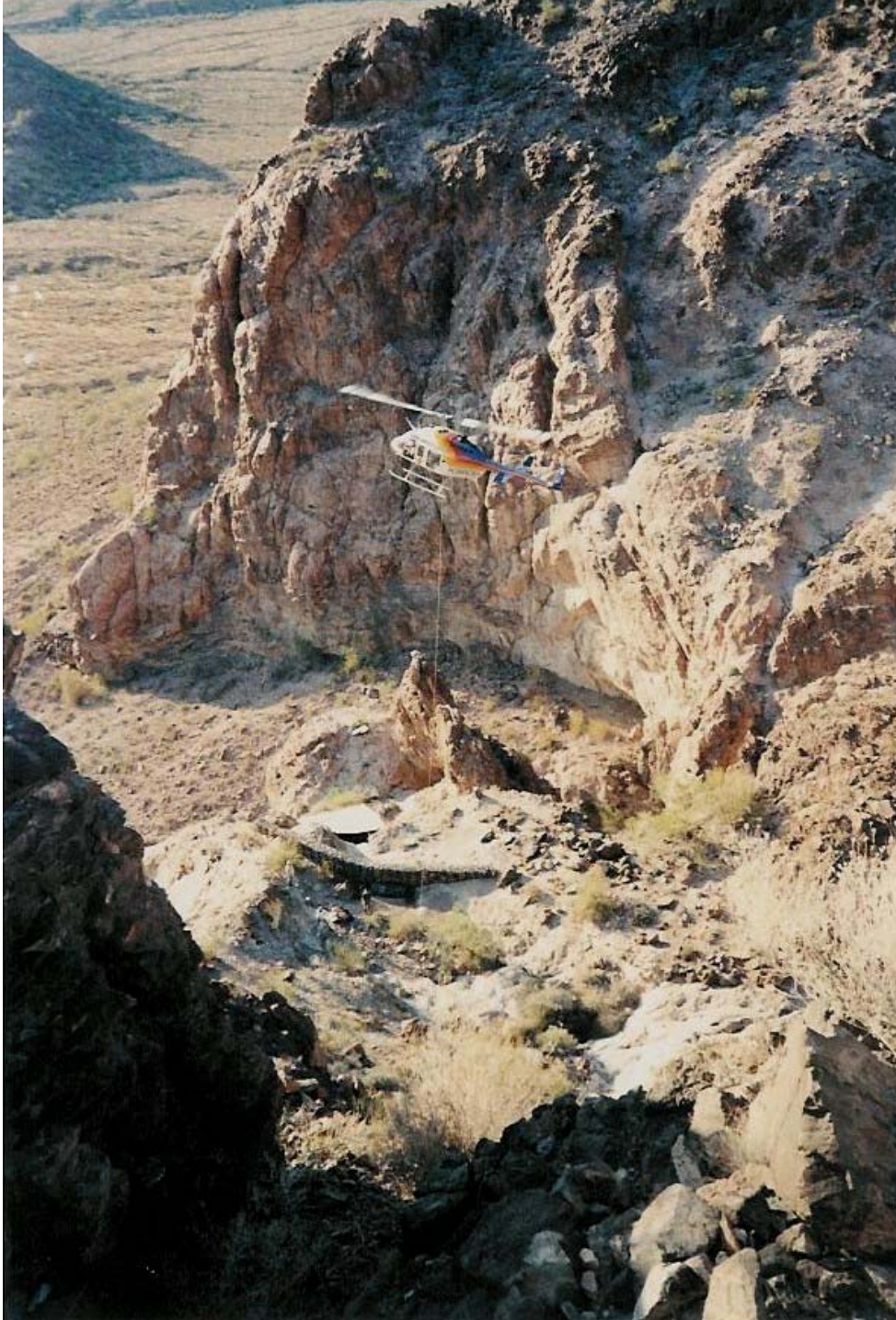
Statewide map showing locations of mountain ranges which currently hold a population of desert bighorn sheep.

Back to Water hole Projects

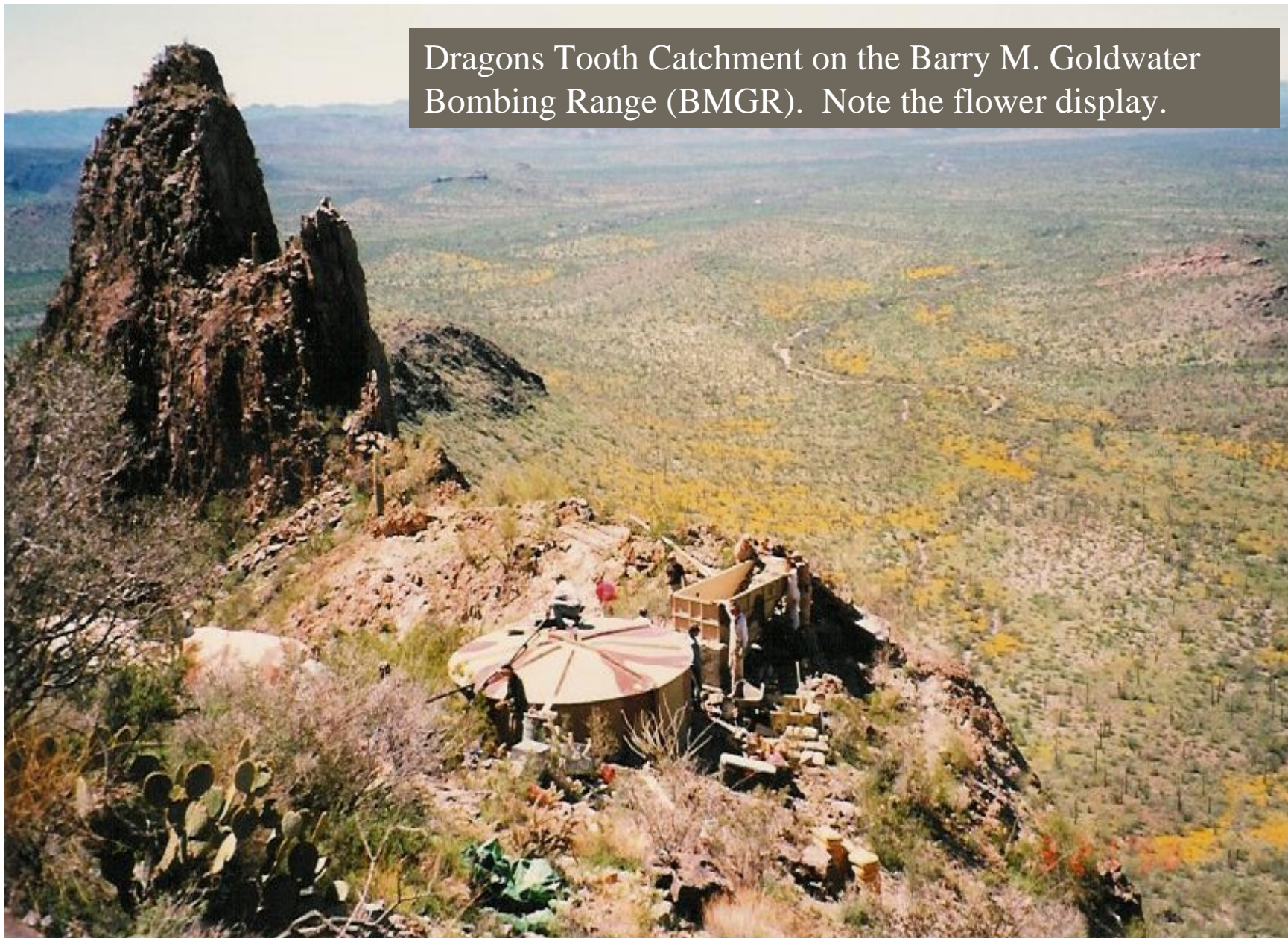


But the main focus of the ADBSS is the construction of wildlife waterholes. In a typical year we will work on 5-6 projects in various areas of the state. Butterfly Tank in the Sierra Estrella Mountains.

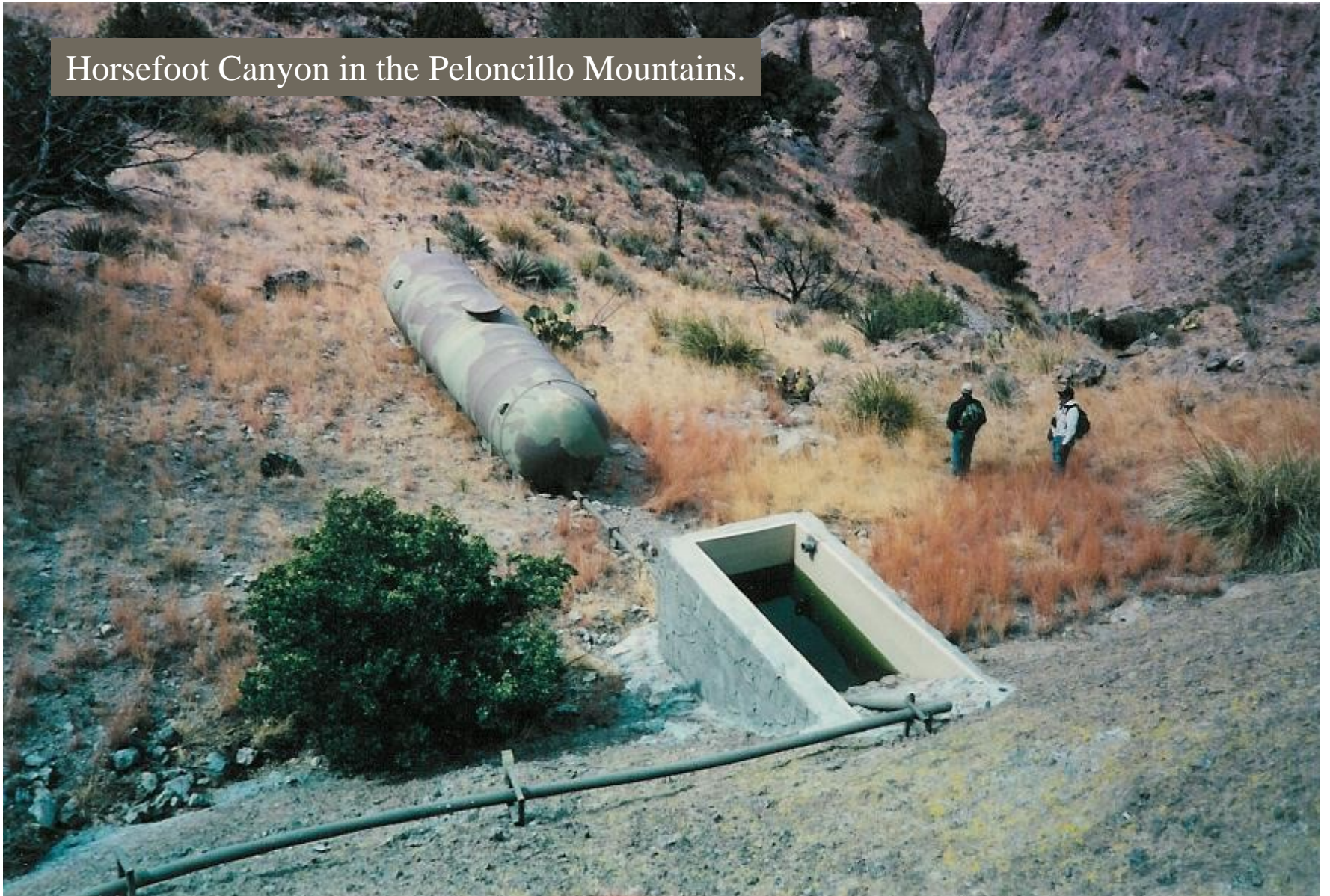
Arch Tank in the
Bighorn
Mountains. Note
helicopter
support for this
remote project
site.



Dragons Tooth Catchment on the Barry M. Goldwater Bombing Range (BMGR). Note the flower display.



Horsefoot Canyon in the Peloncillo Mountains.



Little Black
Mountain #3,
Bill William
Mountains.
Aerial view
shows the
collection apron,
storage tank and
drinking trough.

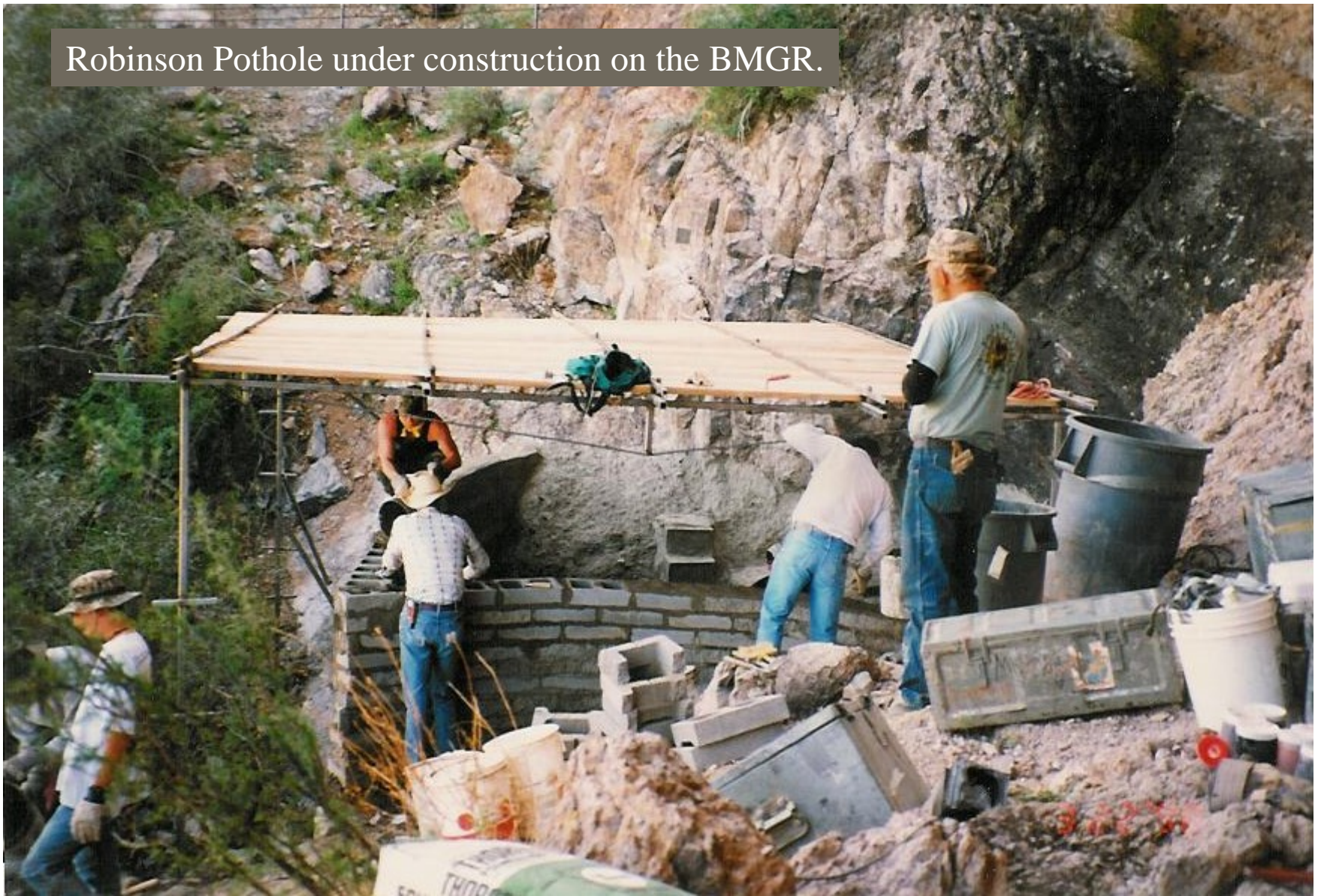


Mohawk Mountain #1 redevelopment underway, Mohawk Mountains.



Photo by
D. Marquardt

Robinson Pothole under construction on the BMGR.



Hewitt Ridge in the Superstition Mountains.



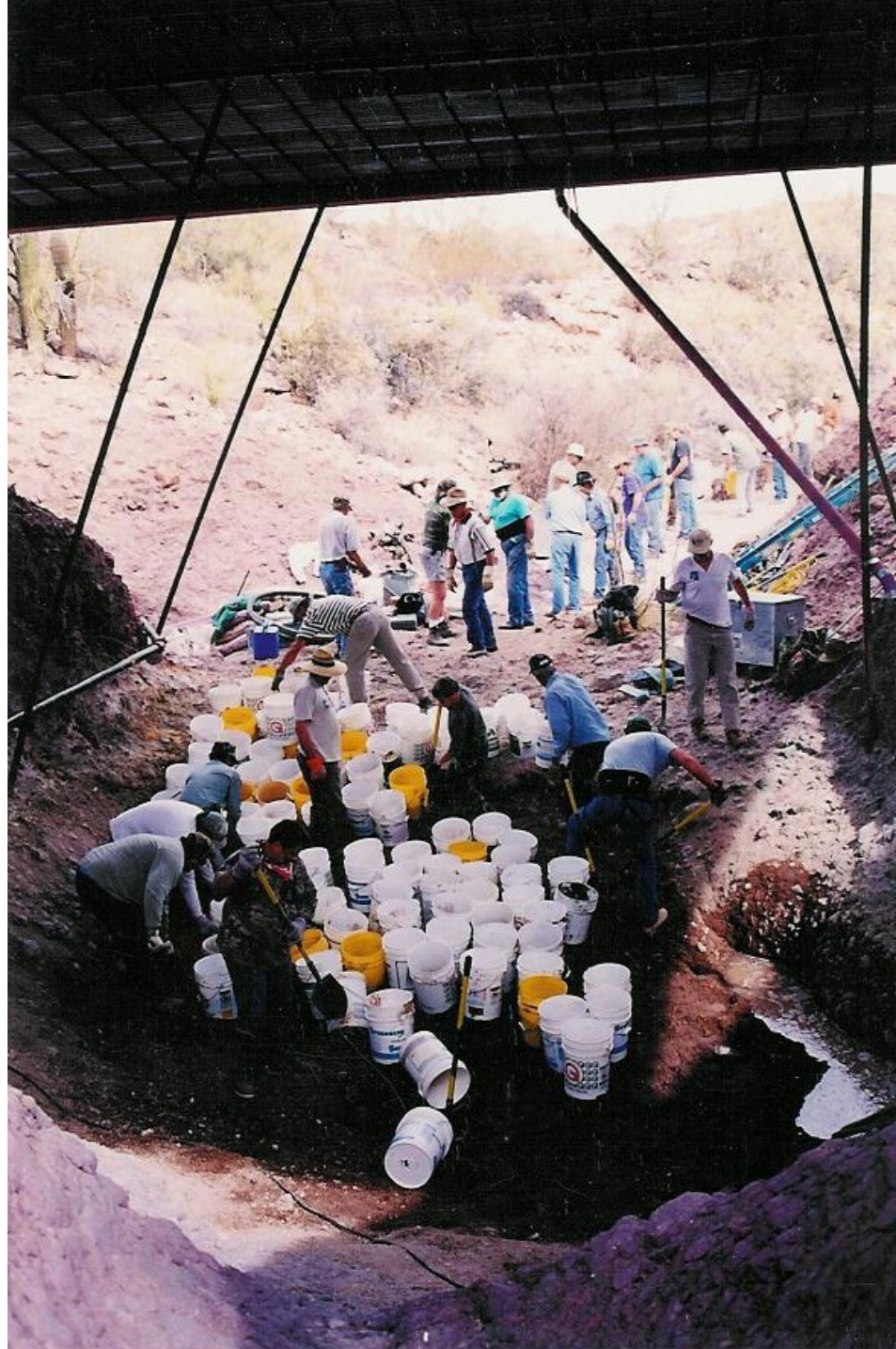


Signal Peak Pothole, Gila Bend Mountains. Tank is being sealed with a mortar lining.

Ridgeline
Catchment. A new
water development
in advance of a
planned transplant
into the Virgin
Mountains.



Silt removal
“muckout”
project.
Moonshine
Tank, KOFA
NWR.



The “muckers” shoveling sand and silt into buckets.



Typical bucket
line to remove
silt and debris.



Estimated 55 CY of material or 90 tons removed. Moonshine Tank, KOFA NWR.





Cleaned and finished Moonshine Tank on the KOFA NWR.

Triple Eye
Tank in the
Eagletail
Mountains.



Photo by V. Green

For the Bighorn Sheep



All this hard work and devotion for a noble and majestic native animal that we all can enjoy and treasure...the desert bighorn sheep.



A ewe and her lamb.



Silver Bell sheep. Photo by Brian Jansen.



A skyline ram.

Aravaipa Canyon desert sheep. Photo by Dave Pence.



Bighorn ram in typical rocky terrain.



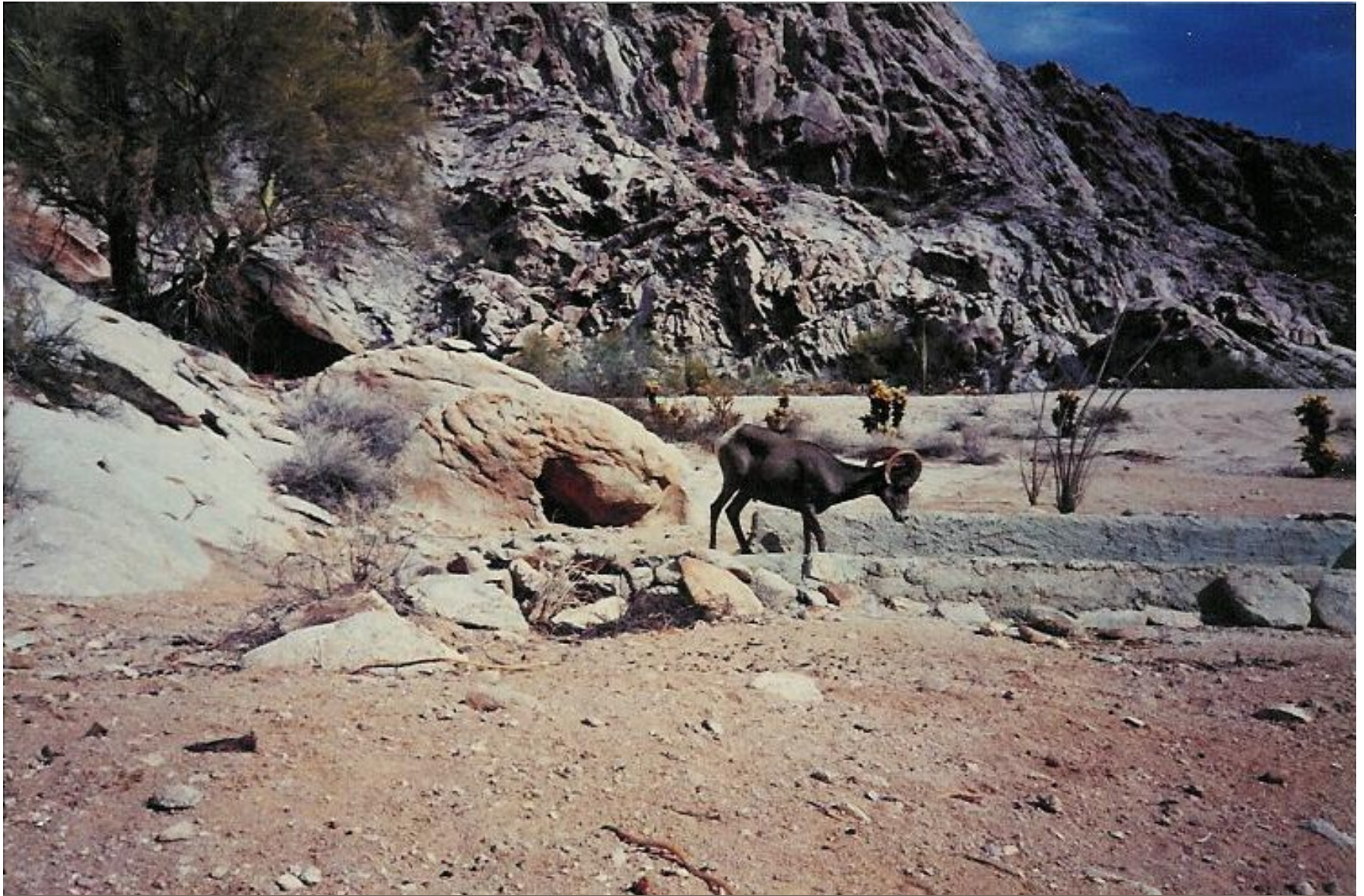
Sheep drink water

The ADBSS builds waterholes because sheep need water to live and its presence is not as reliable as it once was in Arizona. Mohawk Mountain ram coming into new redevelopment in August 2003.



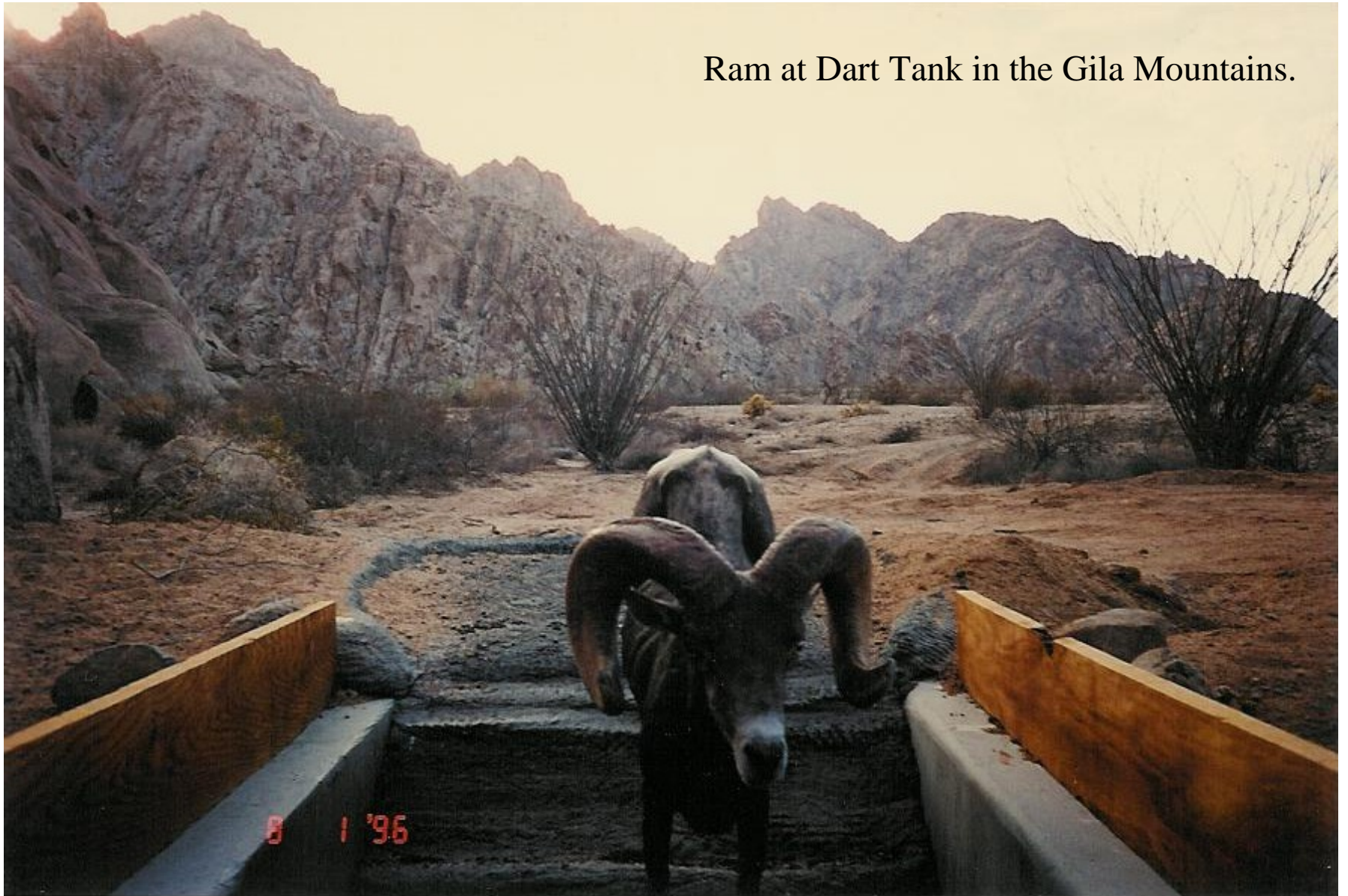
A large group of sheep going to water at Dripping Springs Catchment in the Gila Mountains.



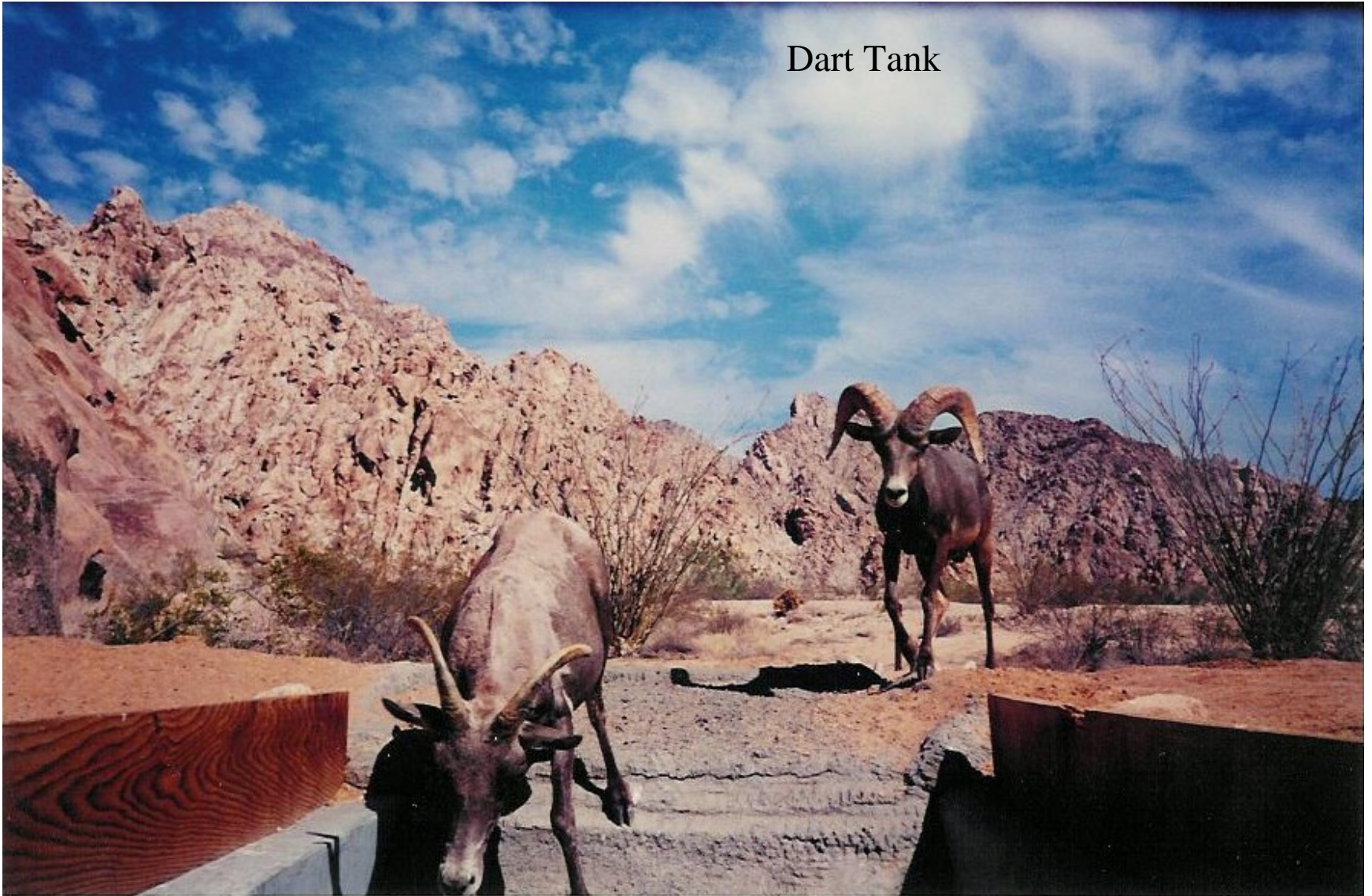


Small ram stepping down into the drinker at Lamb Tank in the Tinajas Altas Mountains.

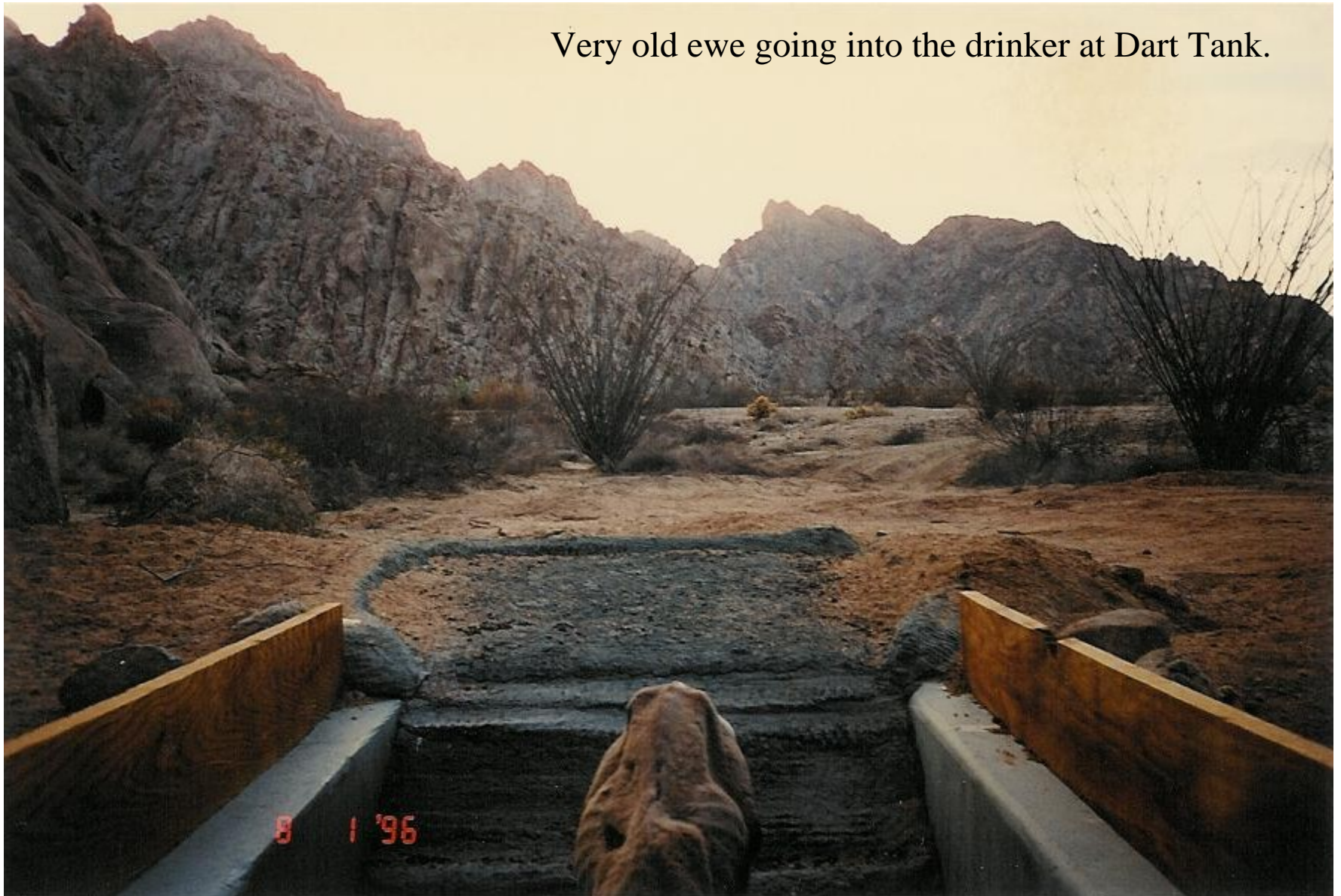
Ram at Dart Tank in the Gila Mountains.



Dart Tank



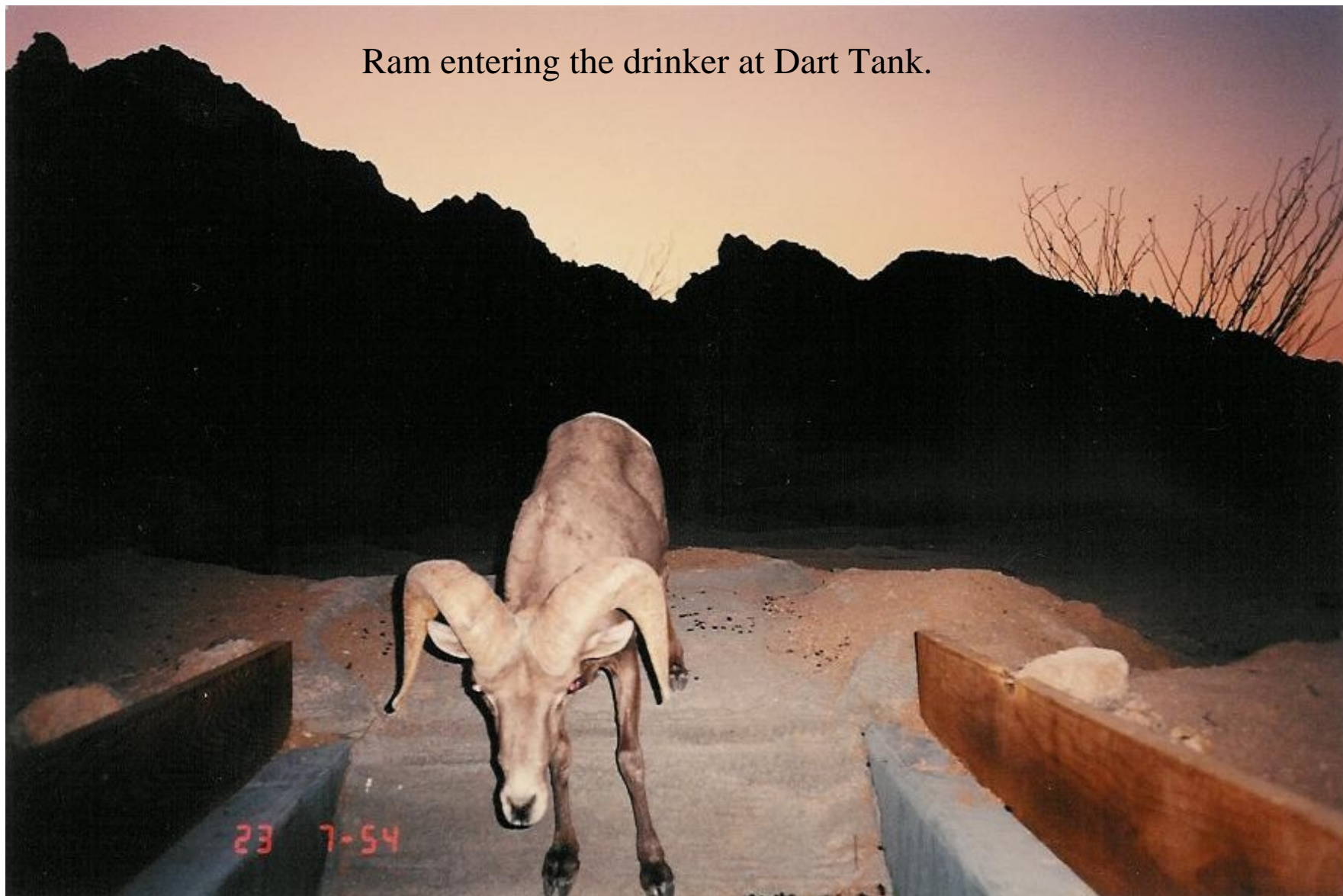
Very old ewe going into the drinker at Dart Tank.



The same ewe exiting Dart Tank a few moments later.
Note the full belly of water.



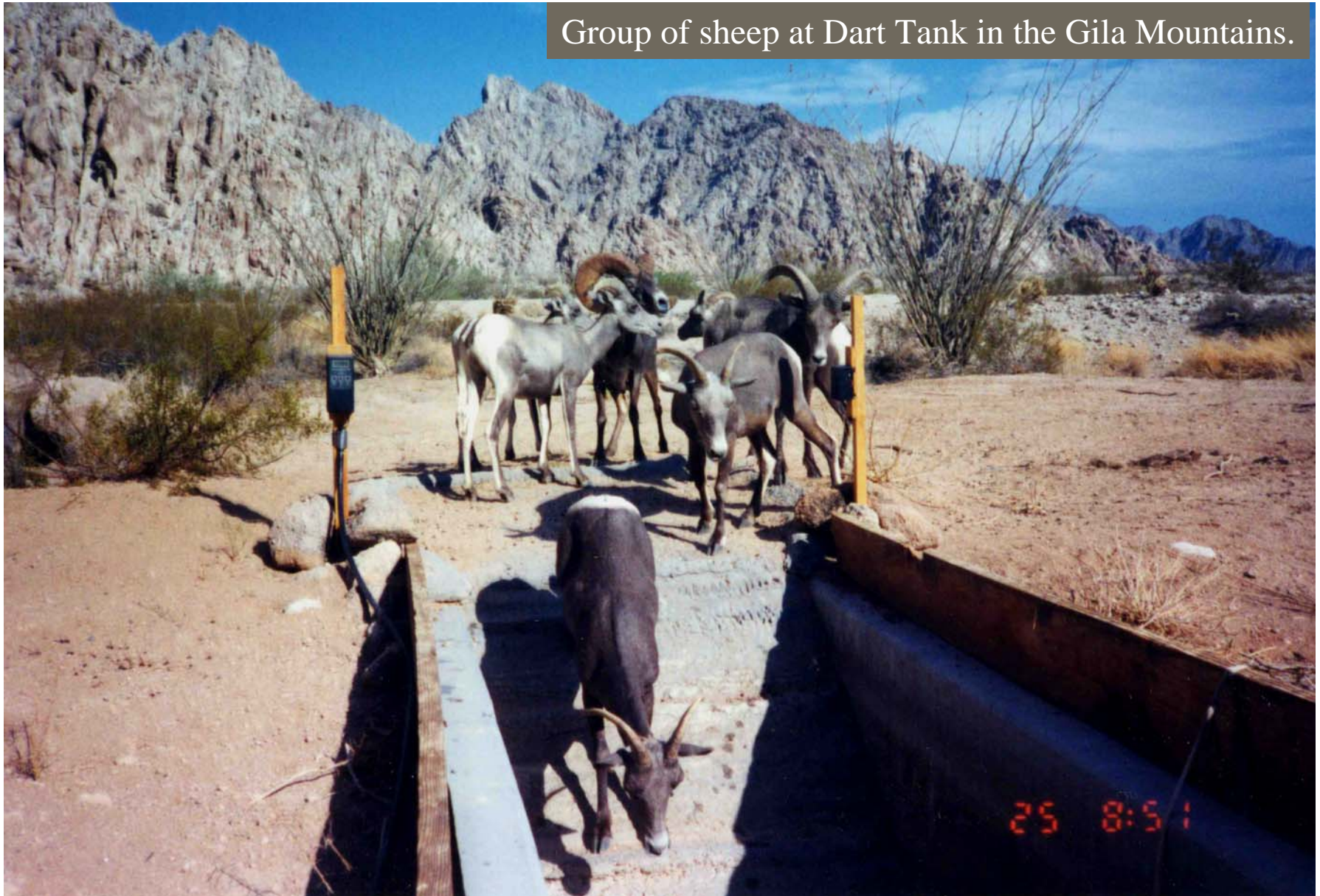
Ram entering the drinker at Dart Tank.



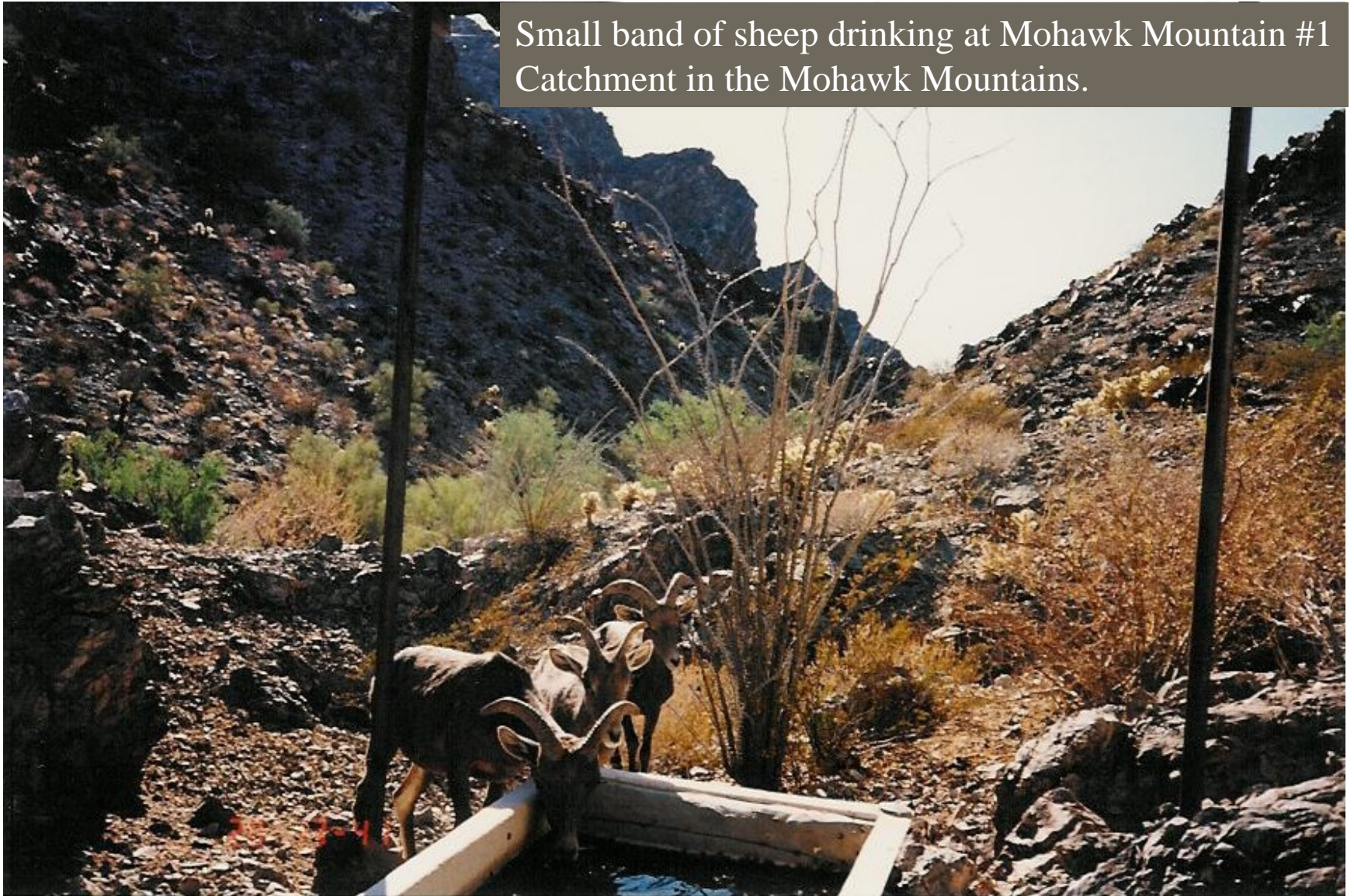
And exiting a few moments later also with a full belly of water.



Group of sheep at Dart Tank in the Gila Mountains.



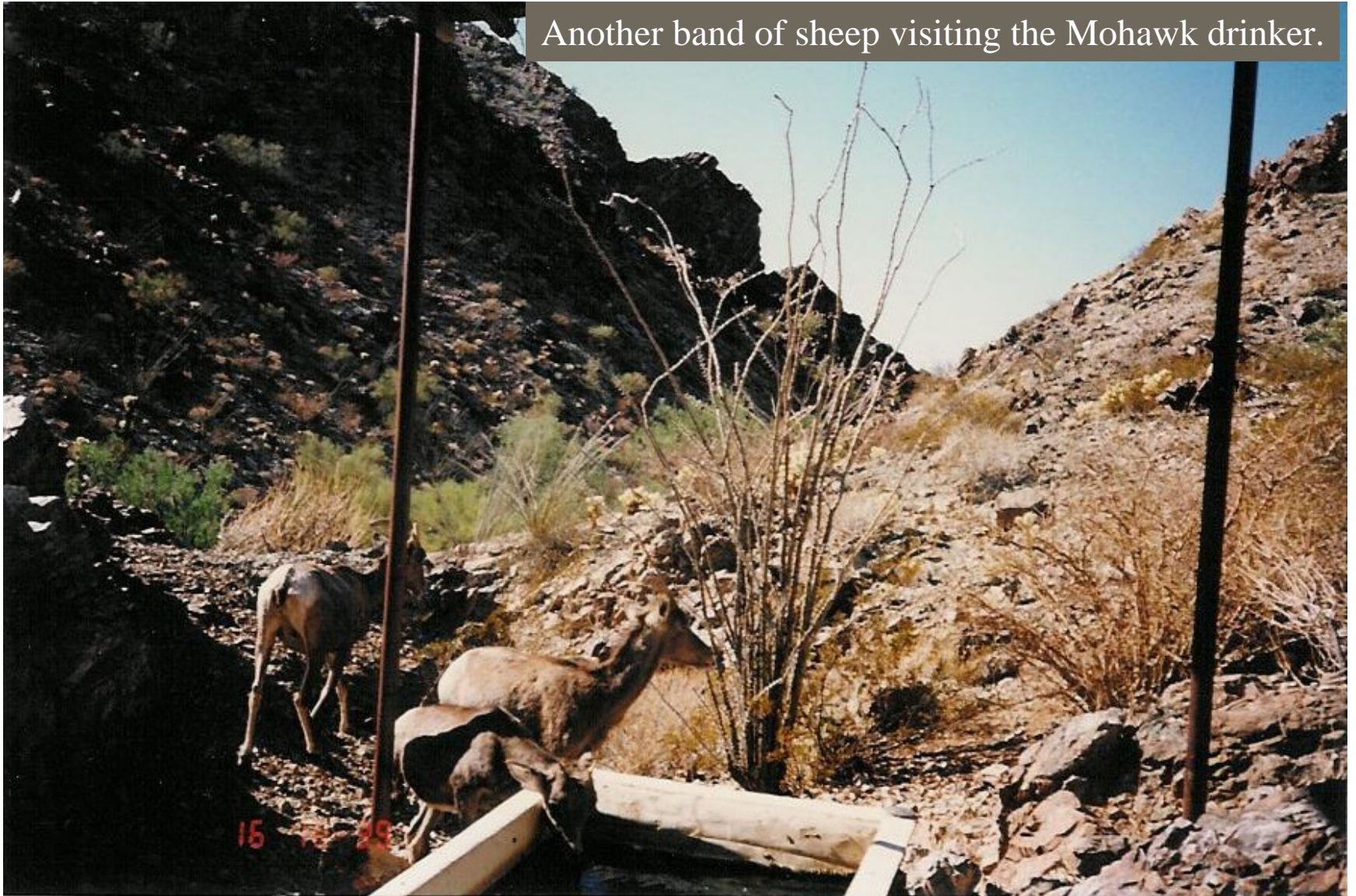
Small band of sheep drinking at Mohawk Mountain #1 Catchment in the Mohawk Mountains.



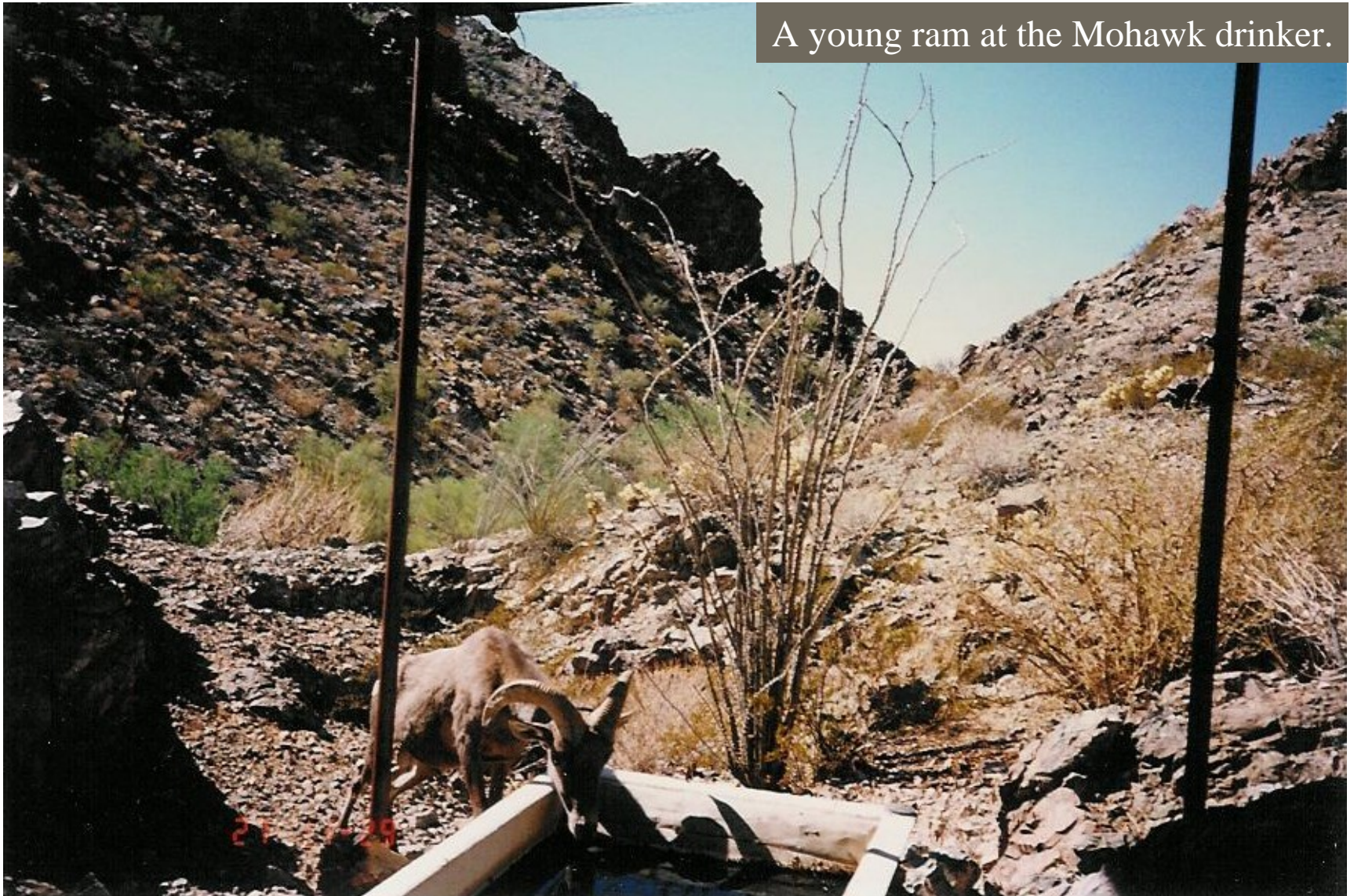
A ram at the same Mohawk waterhole.



Another band of sheep visiting the Mohawk drinker.



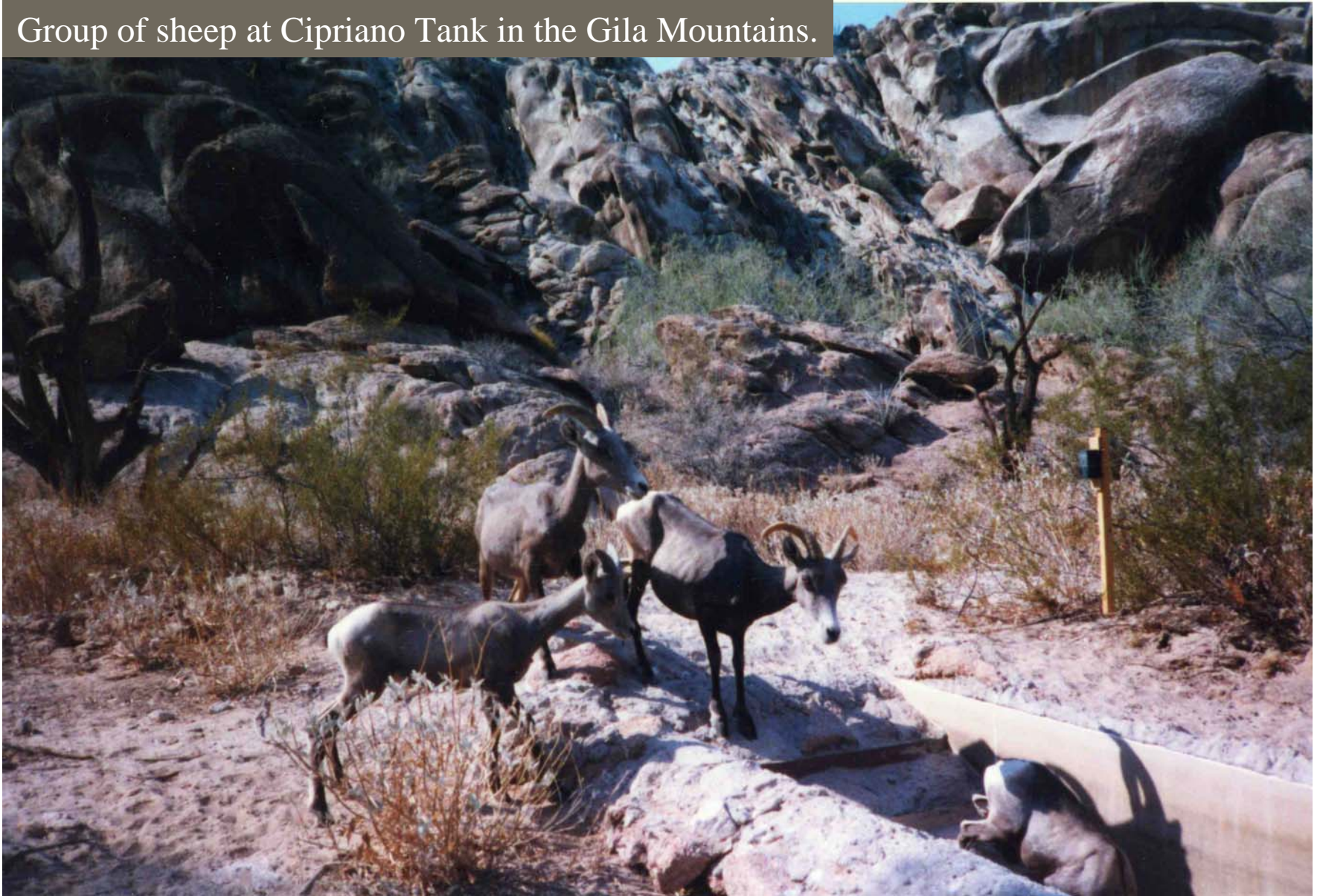
A young ram at the Mohawk drinker.



More sheep at the Mohawk drinker.

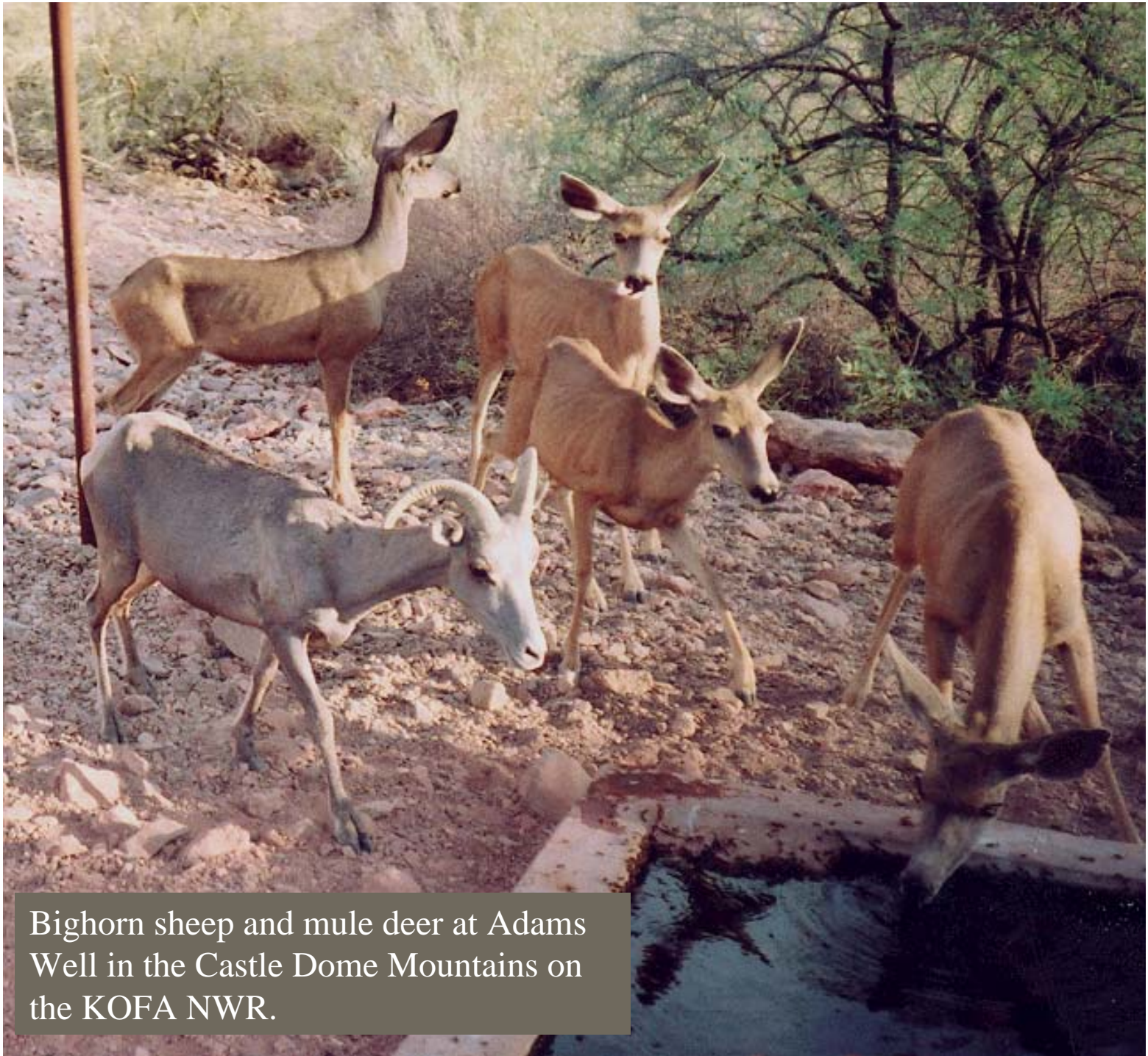


Group of sheep at Cipriano Tank in the Gila Mountains.



Small band of sheep at Cipriano Tank.





Bighorn sheep and mule deer at Adams Well in the Castle Dome Mountains on the KOFA NWR.



Mature ram at Adams Well drinker.

A ewe and her newborn lamb at Adams Well.



The majestic and noble desert bighorn sheep appreciates our efforts.



The ADBSS logo. Our motto is “Sine Aqua Mortis” which in Spanish means “without water we die”. Please visit our website at www.adbss.org for more information regarding our organization.



*Wildlife Water Developments
and
Desert Bighorn Sheep
in the
Southwestern United States*



A document prepared by the
Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
2004