

SKY VALLEY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE DRINKER REPAIRS WITH QUAIL FOREVER

By Scott Gibson, Distinguished Life Member, Board Member

There is a small game guzzler located just outside the southern boundary of Joshua Tree National Park, north of Indio and east of Desert Hot Springs. The guzzler had suffered some damage and needed repair. This guzzler is important for sheep, as Joshua Tree National Park will not allow maintenance on the six (6) existing guzzlers within the park. On March 18th, 2023, our group of volunteers from Quail Forever and the Society met at the Sky Valley Ecological Reserve. We all got to work immediately removing the steel rain collection and digging out the tank. We brought pumps, hose, and tanks to save the existing water in the 750-gallon fiberglass drinker. After we re-set the drinker tank and replaced the steel rain collector, we re-filled the drinker with the saved water and added fresh water we trucked in. We verified the remote drinker box was functioning. Then we celebrated completion of the guzzler with hamburgers sponsored by the California Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation.



Tank and metal removed by SGQF/SCBS volunteers



SGQF/SCBS Member Monte Hammer with tanks of water



Bob Jewell helping with the burger on the "discada"



Thank you to the volunteers from San Gabriel Chapter of Quail Forever and from SCBS for completing this project