

LEDFORD CANAL FIELD NOTES

Map:

<http://mapper.acme.com/?ll=32.68923,-109.74123&z=15&t=5&marker0=32.68484%2C-109.76187%2Cunnamed&marker1=32.68393%2C-109.76055%2C5.3%20km%20WxSW%20of%20Artesia%20AZ&marker2=32.68257%2C-109.75865%2C5.1%20km%20WxSW%20of%20Artesia%20AZ&marker3=32.68248%2C-109.75376%2C4.7%20km%20WxSW%20of%20Artesia%20AZ&marker4=32.68262%2C-109.74530%2C4.0%20km%20WxSW%20of%20Artesia%20AZ&marker5=32.68507%2C-109.73955%2Cunnamed&marker6=32.68520%2C-109.73504%2C3.0%20km%20WxSW%20of%20Artesia%20AZ&marker7=32.68718%2C-109.73155%2C2.6%20km%20WxSW%20of%20Artesia%20AZ&marker8=32.68911%2C-109.72083%2C1.6%20km%20SW%20of%20Artesia%20AZ&marker9=32.69002%2C-109.72048%2C1.6%20km%20SW%20of%20Artesia%20AZ>

USGS Topo Name: Artesia, AZ 7.5'
Canal Length: Presently studied portion is 4.8 kilometers or 3 miles.
Canal Slope: 0.55 percent before mesa falloffs.
Nominal Size: 1 meter wide by 30 CM deep
Land Ownership: Mostly Arizona State Lands, possibly some private lands
Access: Quite difficult; foot or small 4WD.
Field Verified: Assumed 50 percent
Hanging Features: Minor hanging portion where canal leaves wash.
Study Confidence: Moderately high.

Locations of interest:

N 32 41.090' W 109 45.712' Presumed takein point at or near Smith's Dam
N 32 41.036' W 109 45.633' Mildly hanging portion leaving canyon bottom
N 32 40.954' W 109 45.519' Diversion to modern cattle tank.
N 32 40.949' W 109 45.226' Continuance of main canal route
N 32 40.957' W 109 44.718' Continuance of main canal route
N 32 41.104' W 109 44.373' Continuance of main canal route
N 32 41.112' W 109 44.102' Approaching southern mesa dropoff
N 32 41.231' W 109 43.893' More northern branch of canal
N 32 41.347' W 109 43.250' Typical parasitic vegetation mesa dropoff
N 32 41.401' W 109 43.229' Typical parasitic vegetation mesa dropoff

Significant Features: Southernmost of the proven canal systems
Numerous branches leading to modern cattle tanks.
Significant off mesa drops.
Parasitic vegetation quite viewable.
Off mesa uses yet to be defined.

Images: None at present

Present work that needs done on the Ledford Canal...

- Separate original routes from pioneer and modern rebuilds.
- Determine what water use was made off mesa.
- Restudy and videotape entire canal system
- Evaluate which branches are in fact prehistoric
- Survey the system further.
- Study possible field use areas to the South.
- Review canal route switching arrangements.