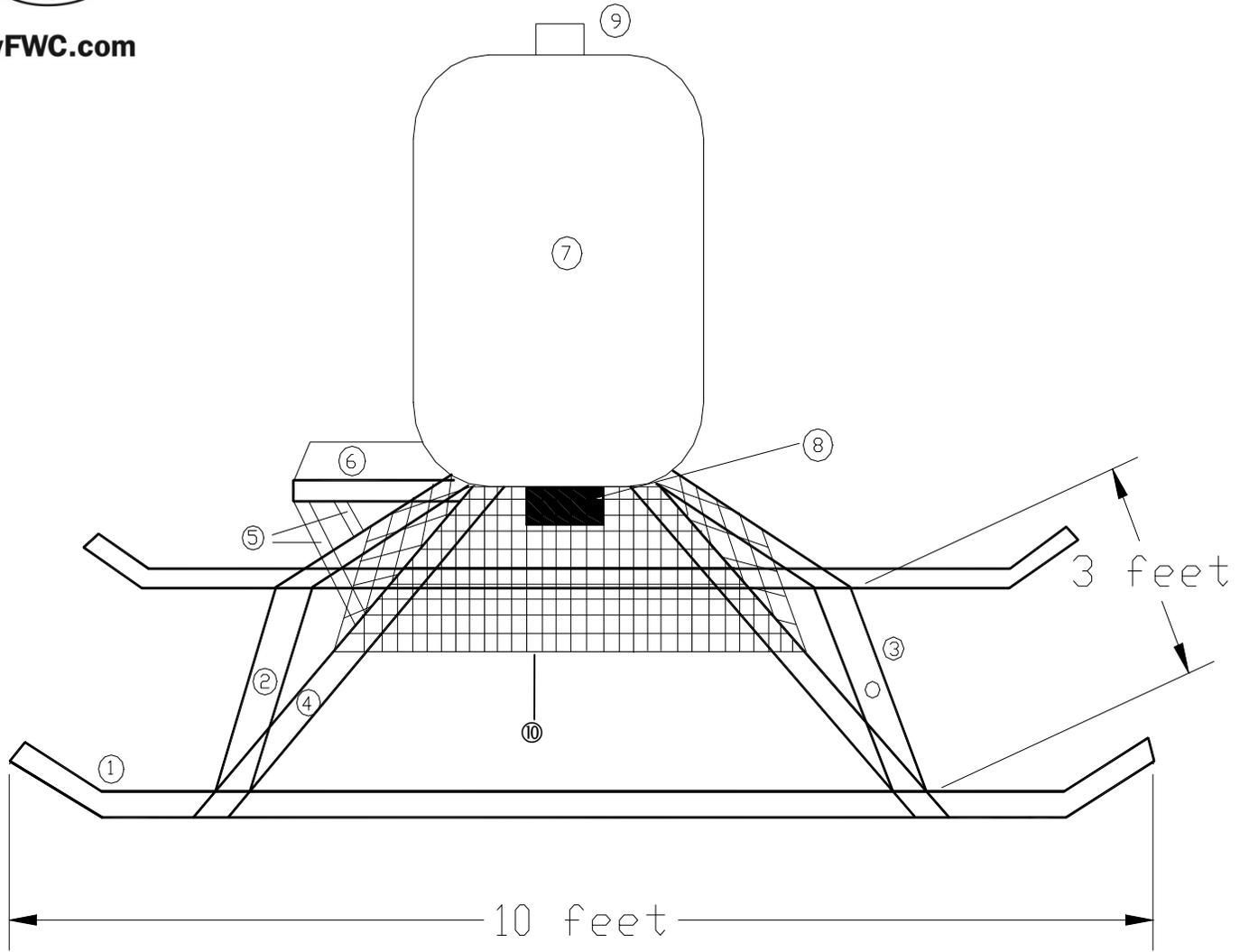




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# Skid Design

By Donald Pierce



## Materials:

2 galvanized steel skids, approximately 10 feet long (①)
1 Metal crossbar, approximately 3 feet long (②)
1 Metal crossbar, approximately 3 feet long with hole drilled in the center (③)
4 metal supporting rods, approximately 6 feet long (④)
2 metal supporting rods, approximately 2 or 3 feet long (⑤)
1 Flat, square metal platform for battery (⑥)
1 100 gallon empty propane tank, or other feed barrel (⑦)
1 Wildlife feeder timer (⑧)
1 PVC (or other crack proof material) cap for feed tank (⑨), if needed
1"X ½ " galvanized wire (⑩)

### Read through instructions *before* beginning assembly.

1. Take the two skids ① and lay them parallel to each other approximately 3 feet apart, or the length of the crossbars.
2. Perpendicularly weld one end of crossbar ② approximately two feet from the back end of one of the skids ①. Perpendicularly weld one end of crossbar ③, the crossbar with the hole in the middle of it, approximately two feet from the front end of the same skid ①. Take the other end of crossbar ② and make sure it is perpendicular to the second skid ① and weld to the second skid, about 2 feet from the back end. Make sure crossbar ③ is perpendicular, then weld the other end of crossbar ③ to the second skid, approximately two feet from the front end.

**Note:** The hole drilled in crossbar ③ will need to be big enough to accommodate the hook to be used to connect the feeder to a vehicle to move it.

3. Place a supporting rod ④ slanted vertically upward at approximately 45 degrees from the skid ① and leaning in towards the interior of the two skids.

Take one end of one of the supporting rods ④ and weld it to one of the skids ① approximately 2-3 feet from the back end of the skid. Repeat this process for the other three supporting rods. All four supporting rods ④ will need to be the same length and need to be pointed upwards at the same angle and pointed in towards the middle of the skids ① in the same way so the large feeder barrel ⑦ can be attached to and be supported by them.

4. Before continuing, make sure the feeder tank ⑦ has a bear-proof cap ⑨. A screw-on cap made from crack-proof material is preferable, such as PVC.
5. Attach feeder device ⑧ to bottom of tank ⑦ if it is not already attached.
6. Weld the tops of all four supporting rods ④ to bottom of feeder tank ⑦ so it is fully supported by and securely attached to all four of the rods.
7. Protect the feeder device ⑧ by welding galvanized wire ⑩ around all four sides of the feeding device and below it. Weld securely to all four supporting rods ④ and make sure the wire covers all the space between the rods. Try to use one piece of wire to cover the area, bending where applicable for attaching to avoid unneeded seams. In order to prevent bear claws from making contact with the feeding device, secure wiring ⑩ at least 6 inches away from the feeding device ⑧. It is important there are no gaps in the wiring on any of the sides or bottom. If voids are present bears may be able to get their claws in and rip away the wiring to get to the feeding device.
8. Take two smaller supporting bars of the same length ⑤ and weld to two adjacent supporting rods ④, so they are sticking upward and outward at approximately 45 degrees. Make sure they are tilted outward at the same angle.
9. Take the metal platform ⑥ and weld it to the tops of the smaller supporting bars ⑤. Weld the other end of the platform ⑥ to the upper portion of the longer supporting rods ④. Make sure this platform is secure enough to support your weight so can you stand on it to refill the feeder. Secure the battery or solar panel for the feeding device ⑧ to this platform if necessary.

**Note:** This design was originally made from scrap metal and the primary technique used to assemble it was welding. However, this design can be successfully executed using various dimensions and techniques (e.g. sand/concrete filled PVC).