Project Proposal

Proposal Title: **Danish Bench Lop and Scatter** **Proposal Number:** 1390

DWR Region: Southeastern Region **Lead Agency:** DWR **County:** Emery

Project Manager: Daniel eddington **PM Phone:** 4356133717 **Regional Priority:** Within Focus Area

Project Type: Terrestrial Habitat **Proposed Start Date:** 10/1/2009

Project Location: Approximately 4 miles northwest of Castle Dale, Emery County, Utah.

Project Description: Enhance big game winter range by remove 745 acres of enchroaching pinyon-juniper trees from a chaining done in the 1960s.

Description of Problem/Need: Winter ranges in Utah have declined because of a number of often-interrelated causes including pinyon-juniper expansion, invasive weeds, residential and hydrocarbon development, drought, and poor grazing practices. Pinyon/Juniper woodlands, which typically offer little winter forage to big game animals, have increased.
Mule deer and elk will benefit substantially from improvements to their winter range. When the current drought ends, winter range improvements such as this will play an important role in supporting the recovery of mule deer populations. By mitigating the effects of coalbed methane development with habitat improvements, we may reduce conflicts with agriculture at lower elevations.

Objectives: Enhance big game winter range by remove enchroaching pinyon-juniper trees from a chaining conducted in the 1960's. There is an existing understory component of grasses and shrub species. The intent is that this project will help promote growth and better establishment of the existing understory plants.

Relevance to Strategic Plans: Sagebrush steppe and deer are a tier III speceis.
Funds contributed by XTO for wildlife mitigation will be used on this project.

Potential Risks: Very little. Possible loss of sagebrush meadow if treatment is not completed.

Proposed Methods: Chainsaws will be used to lop-and-scatter the pinyon-juniper trees that have grown since the area was chained in the 1960's. This will promote the establishment and growth of existing understory grasses and shrubs.

Shapefile Name: HPD 2010\GIS Shape Files - Proposals\SER\1390.shp **Seed Source:**

UPCD Reg Team Coord Date: 12/2/2008

Proposed NEPA Action:

Proposed Arch Action:

☑ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☐ **Wildlife Monitoring**

Monitoring Information: Range Trend study Danish Bench (16C-36) was established in 1994 and will be monitored in summer 2009.

Grazing Management: The grazing permittee has been contacted and notified of this project. He expressed his full support over the phone. He will not have to rest his grazing practices because there will be no seed involved with this project.

SPECIES BENEFITING

Elk Mule Deer Chukar

LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner		Acres
SITLA		745
	Total	745

Monday, March 16, 2009 11:54:17 AM

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PROPOSED FUNDING

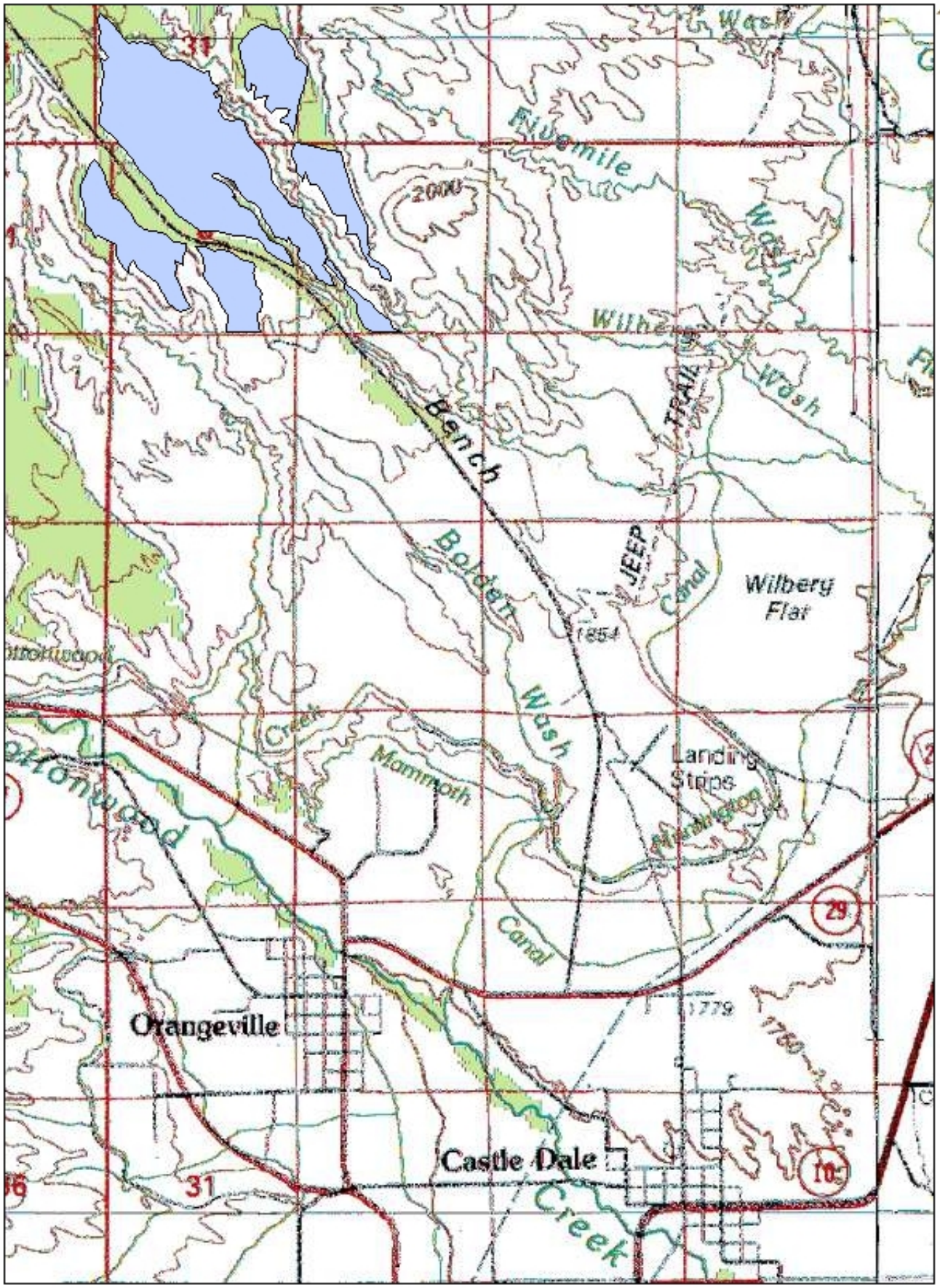
Source		Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
XTO		$6,030.00		$0.00
Unfunded Balance		$31,720.00		$0.00
	Totals	***$37,750.00***		***$0.00***

PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description		DWR Account	Partner Contrib.
Contractual Services	745 acres @ $50/acre		$37,250.00	$0.00
Other	Flagging, motorpool		$500.00	$0.00
		Totals	***$37,750.00***	***$0.00***

Project Map:

Danish Bench Location Map



0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

Map Created by: Kyle Beagley
Oil and Gas Biologist
12/1/2008