

PINEDALE ANTICLINE PROJECT OFFICE (PAPO)

1625 West Pine
PO Box 768
Pinedale, Wyoming 82941
Attention: Jim Lucas, PAPO Project Coordinator (307) 367-5361

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

(use additional sheets if necessary)

1. GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: Mesa Fertilization Data Collection

General Location (distance and direction from nearest city/town, attach map at a scale not less than 1/2" = 1 mile): Mesa Mule Deer Winter Range on Pinedale Anticline (See map attached)

Legal Location of Project (attach map at a scale not less than 1" = 2,000'). (See map attached)

Township: T N

Range: R W

Section(s):

County:

Surface Ownership (check all that apply): Federal X State Private

**If project includes a mosaic of land ownerships (e.g., mix of federal, state and/or fee lands), provide a breakdown for each specific owner by acres and percent of total project area.

Contact Information for Affected Parties or Agencies:

2. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name/Organization: Dan Stroud/WGFD & PAPO

Mailing Address: PO Box 850

City: Pinedale

State: WY

Zip Code : 82941

Daytime Phone # 307-367-5387

Fax #

Email Address: Dan.Stroud@wyo.gov

Point of Contact (if different from above)

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

General Project Type (check all that apply):

Land Use/Livestock _____

Land Use/Recreation _____

Cultural _____

Wildlife _____

Air _____

Other X .

Describe Project Proposal (e.g., mechanical treatment, water improvement, etc.) Data collection to assess treatment responses on vegetation from fertilization

Total Project Acres (if applicable) 1468 acres

Acres Indirectly Affected (if applicable, explain)

4. OBJECTIVES OF PROJECT, AND BENEFITS TO PAPO OFF-SITE MITIGATION STRATEGIC GOALS.

In 2010, nitrogen fertilizer of 40 lb/ac and 80 lb/ac was applied on 2 separate areas adjacent to an untreated area (i.e., control or reference) and in 2011, a separate application of 1000 acres was applied at 40 lb/ac, along the northwest edge of what is locally known as “The Mesa”. The initial goals of these projects were to 1) enhance winter habitat for mule deer, and 2) better understand vegetation response (e.g., sagebrush leader growth, herbaceous species composition and production) following fertilization, vegetation data collection, and comparison among the three unique areas. Pre-treatment and 1-yr post-treatment monitoring was conducted in 2010 and 2011, but because of lack of sample size (i.e., 1 transect/area), comparative parametric or nonparametric statistical analyses could not be employed. Ultimately, results of these treatments based on simple comparisons of data from each area could be speculative, misleading, and likely would not withstand peer-review under today’s standards for publishing in a scientific journal (e.g., Journal of Range Management).

The objectives of this project are, using a scientifically-valid experimental design, to sample the vegetation (including sagebrush, perennial grasses and forbs, and annual grasses), using established methods and techniques to compare responses of vegetation in sagebrush communities not fertilized and in adjacent sagebrush communities that have been fertilized with 40 and 80 pounds (468 acres total) of nitrogen in 2010, and 40 pounds of nitrogen in 2011 (1000 acres).

5. DIRECT/INDIRECT EFFECTS ON OTHER RESOURCES. (if applicable)

Assessment will provide valuable information related to future mitigation projects using N fertilizer and potential effects on vegetation that relates to wildlife and livestock resources.

6. POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE EXPANSION OF PROJECT. Explain

Future applications of Nitrogen fertilizer are planned pending results of previous treatments. If results are beneficial, especially to wintering mule deer with neutral or positive effects to other resources added treatments will be performed.

7. LIST ALL PROJECT PARTNERS/COOPERATORS, THEIR ROLES AND/OR CONTRIBUTIONS

This project was proposed by Wyoming Game and Fish and the Pinedale Anticline Project Office, in direct response to declines in mule deer using the anticline, and as per the wildlife matrix as defined in the PAPA ROD.

8. PROJECT MONITORING AND REPORTING (Describe how monitoring and reporting will be done, and how it relates to the objectives)

Previous monitoring results were not capable of meeting scientific parameters, due to lack of sample sizes.

9. RESEARCH POTENTIAL

This project is, in itself a research project, and objectives listed above relate to that, with the use of a scientifically-valid experimental design that will illustrate significant differences (statistically).

10. PERMITS AND AUTHORIZATIONS REQUIRED PRIOR TO PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION (including but not necessarily limited to the following): None

PERMIT OR AUTHORIZATION	REQUIRED		SUBMITTED		APPROVED	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
		X				
Cultural Resource Inventory		X				
COE Section 404 Permit		X				
Cooperative Agreement(s)		X				
NEPA Analysis		X				
Pesticide Application Permit		X				
Private Landowner Agreement(s)		X				
Sensitive Species Clearance		X				
Surface/Ground Water Permits		X				
T/E Species Clearance		X				
Other (explain)						

11. TOTAL PROJECT COST (Attach detailed budget)

Project Planning and Design	\$ _____
Project Implementation	\$ <u>100,000</u>
Project Operation and Maintenance	\$ _____
Total Required	\$ <u>100,000</u>

12. MATCHING FUNDS ANTICIPATED IN CASH (list source and amount) NA

13. ANTICIPATED "IN KIND" MATCHING FUNDS (list source, valuation, and valuation method)

NA

14. PERCENTAGE OF FUNDING ON HAND OR COMMITTED

15. TOTAL PAPO FUNDING REQUESTED: \$ 100,000

16. EXPECTED/ANTICIPATED LIFE OF PROJECT (LOP)

Perpetual _____ > 50 Years _____ 25-50 Years _____ < 25 Years x _____

Explain Basis for Projected LOP:

17. PROJECT TIMELINE AND ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE. Explain Project involves data collection over a 2-year period, ending in 2013.

18. ATTACHMENTS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Project Design _____

Letters of Support _____

Management Plan _____ Long Term _____ Short Term _____ ¹

Monitoring Plan _____ Long Term _____ Short Term _____ ¹

Relevant Past Experience _____ Other _____ Explain:

¹ Long term is defined as greater than (>) 5 years; short term is less than (<) 5 years.

19. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PAPO CONSIDERATION

A Request for Proposals has been written and will provide for final costs of this project.

20. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: this project and requested funding is subject to approval by the PAPO Pinedale Anticline Mitigation Management Board.

Signed

Printed Name

Title

Date

2010 and 2011 Fertilization Project Areas

