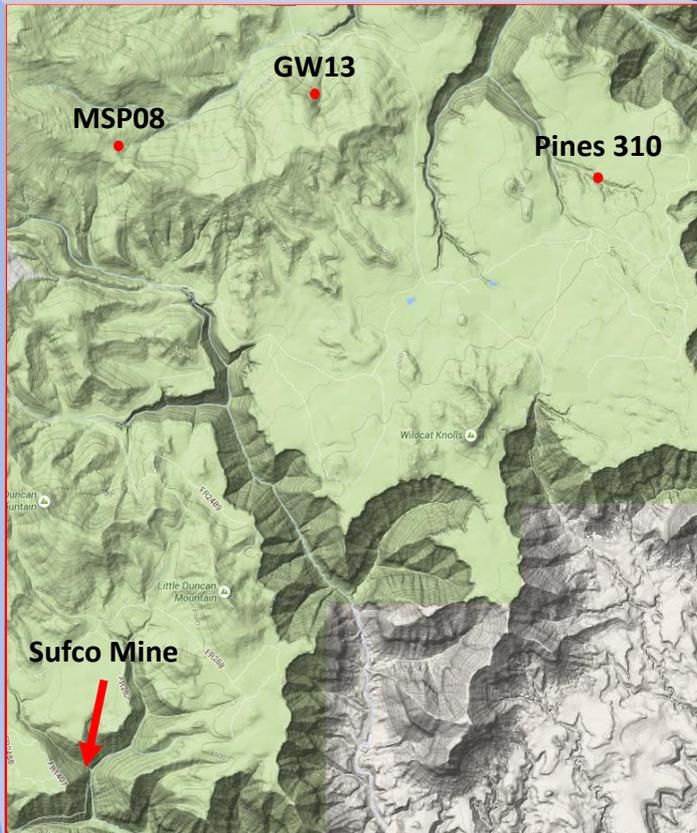


UTAH BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING  
EARTH DAY AWARD NOMINATION  
Canyon Fuel Company, LLC - SUFCO MINE

Habitat Improvement Projects Within The Muddy Drainage  
Sevier County, Utah

## Project Overview

- Sufco was to complete one habitat improvement project by 2017 as an obligation to the Forest Service
- We fulfilled and surpassed our obligation by completing three projects rather than the single project requirement
- The projects at two of the sites were submitted in conjunction with this nomination:
  - MSP08
  - Pines 310
- Projects included:
  - Vegetation enhancement
  - Spring development improvements
  - Fencing of sensitive areas



# MSP08

- MSP08 is a low yielding spring with no defined discharge point (0.01 gpm in June prior to project)
- Installed French drain system to capture flow in seep area (increased flow 9 fold to 0.094 gpm)
- Installed durable troughs



- Replaced dilapidated fence surrounding spring area to protect spring and sensitive riparian vegetation
- Low impact to soils and vegetation by using helicopter to deliver materials and remove dilapidated troughs



Fence surrounding spring area



Drilling helicopter used to deliver fence materials/gravel and to remove dilapidated troughs from the site

## Benefits of project:

- Low impact to soils and vegetation during construction
- Durable collection system and troughs
- Increased water availability and storage capacity for wildlife and livestock
- Increased grazing distribution

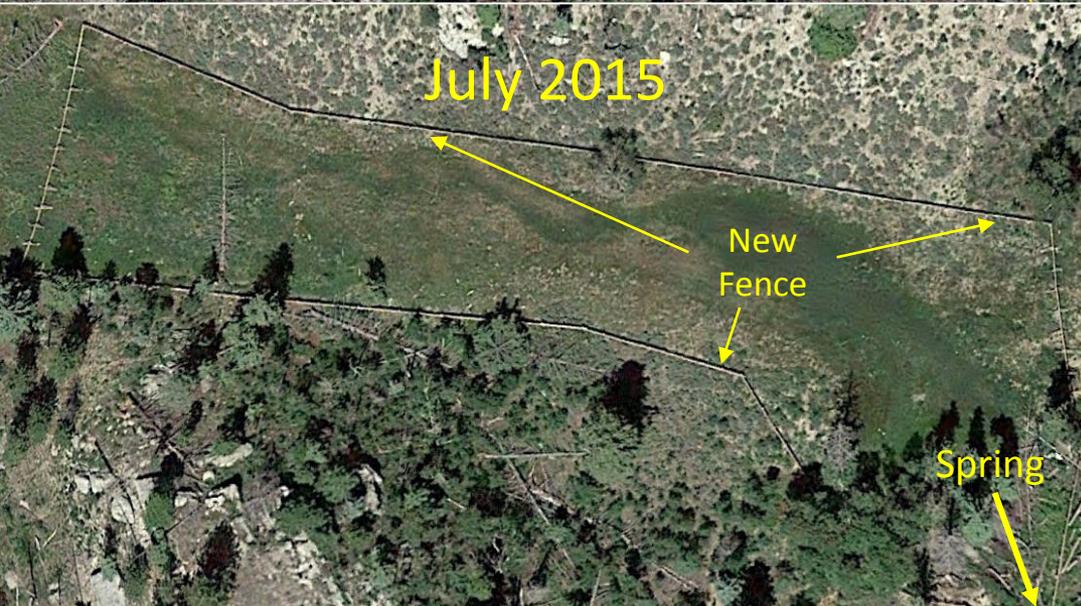


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# Pines 310



## Pines 310

- Riparian meadow area directly below spring gets heavily grazed by livestock
- Developed the spring and directed flow to meadow area, increasing water availability for vegetation and wildlife
- Fenced off over 1 acre to protect sensitive riparian vegetation



# Pines 310



## Project Summary

Spring development projects improved water availability for vegetation, wildlife, and livestock. Durable materials used in spring developments will prolong the life of the systems.

Spring developments allow for increased water storage and increased grazing distribution. Fence surrounding springs and sensitive riparian vegetation protects areas from impacts.

Canyon Fuel Company, LLC – Sufco Mine believes strongly in being responsible environmental stewards as exemplified by our work on these projects.



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Manti-La Sal National Forest

Ferron Ranger District  
115 West Canyon Road  
Ferron, UT 84523  
435-384-2372  
FAX: 435-384-3296

**File Code:** 2820  
**Date:** January 21, 2016

Vicki Miller  
Canyon Fuel Company, LLC  
Sufco Mine  
597 South SR24  
Salina, Utah 84654

Dear Mrs. Miller,

The Ferron/Price Ranger District of the Manti-La Sal National Forest would like to express our appreciation for the habitat improvement work performed by the Sufco Mine in 2014 and 2015. As stated on page 5 in Appendix 7-24 North Water Mitigation Plan, in addition to the mitigation requirement of developing spring MSP-89 Sufco was also required to coordinate with the Forest Service in order to determine appropriate mitigation activities to be performed at another site. These coordination efforts and mitigation project work was to be completed before the end of year 2017. Sufco fulfilled and surpassed their obligation to the Forest Service by completing three habitat improvement projects rather than the single project requirement stated in the mitigation plan. Further, it is commendable that Sufco finished the projects sooner than what was required of them.

The three projects took place within the Muddy drainage and included the following improvements: (1) fencing more than an acre of sensitive riparian vegetation as well as fencing directly around spring locations, (2) spring development improvements, and (3) the installation of durable watering troughs. At one location Sufco went the extra mile by using their resources to remove old dilapidated fencing and troughs that had cluttered an open meadow. We recognize and appreciate the considerable effort made by Sufco to improve conditions for wildlife and plant communities, as well as for livestock on our Forest.

We also appreciate the willingness of Sufco to assist the forest in accomplishing work projects and tasks such as enabling winter access for transporting wildlife, field data sharing, mine tours, formal presentations on mining activities, and helicopter assistance, just to name a few.

We look forward to working with you in the future as a partner to create healthier ecosystems in the area of your mining operation.

Sincerely,

Darren Olsen  
District Ranger  
Ferron/Price Ranger District, Manti-La Sal National Forest



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