

# MOTORBOAT ACCESS PROGRAM

## GRANT APPLICATION

Federal Aid Coordinator  
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
1594 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114  
(801) 538-4813

## PROJECT TITLE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

### **Deer Creek Charleston Boat Ramp and Parking Lot Improvements**

**Location:** Deer Creek State Park is located in Wasatch County, Utah. Approximate GPS coordinates of 40 28' 26.12"N 111 28' 22.38"W

**Project Contact:** Utah State Parks and Recreation, 1594 W. North Temple, Ste. 116, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

**Contact Person:** David Harris, Boating Program Coordinator, 801-538-7341

**Land Ownership:** The project area is located within the boundaries of Deer Creek State Park on land owned by the Bureau of Reclamation and managed by Utah State Parks and Recreation. No private property is involved as the park is surrounded by federal and state lands. Public access will continue. The Bureau of Reclamation is aware of and in support of this project.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will include preparing and paving an area for 30 parking stalls, paving of the entrance road, construction of a concrete boat ramp, and installation of a small water line. This area currently has an old "paved" road in poor condition, a natural surface launch ramp and parking, and an ADA accessible vault toilet. Over the years boating use has increased at Deer Creek State Park and on many summer weekends boaters are turned away due to lack of available parking. Deer Creek State Park offers many recreational opportunities including boat launching, a wide variety of water sports, camping, fishing, wildlife viewing, and through two developed launching areas, provides boater access to the nearly 3,000 acre reservoir. Visitation is increasing dramatically as more of the nearby Wasatch Front population recreate near home. The fishery has also really improved over the past few years bringing more anglers fishing for Trout, Walleye, and Small Mouth Bass. The parking lots often fill by mid-morning on weekends, and we need more parking so we do not have to turn so many potential boaters away.

All existing launch areas receive significant use, and adjacent parking lots become full on many weekend days. The Island launching area is congested and there is no room for expansion at that location due to the area being confined to a narrow strip between HWY 189 and the lake. And the area adjacent to the main ramp also has no further room for expansion of parking. To allow additional access to the lake, it is being proposed to increase the parking lot at the Charleston use area.

A new restroom was built at this location last year, so there are good supporting facilities associated with this parking lot and ramp.

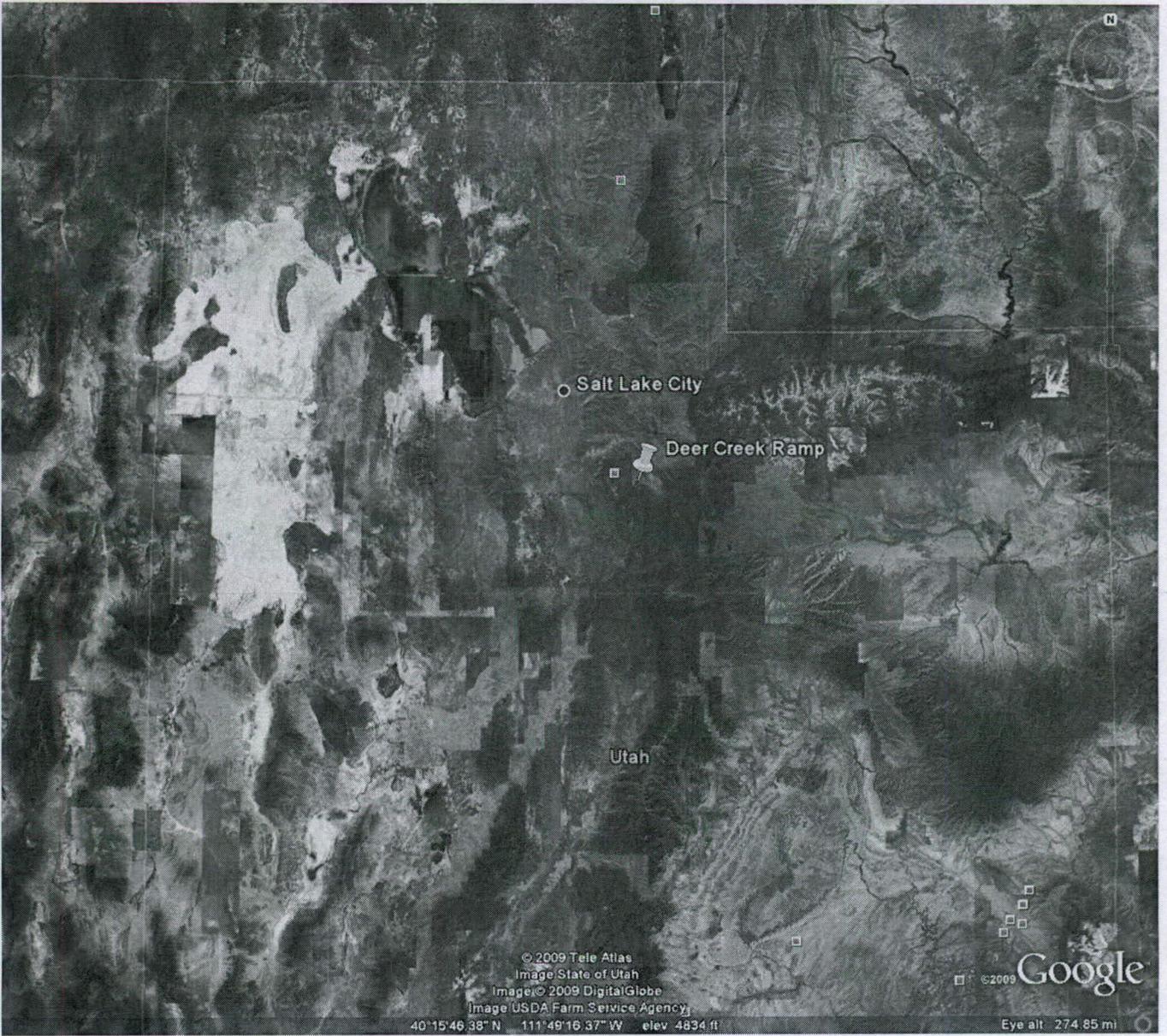
## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Deer Creek State Park lies in the southwest corner of beautiful Heber Valley and consistently provides some of Utah's finest year-round fishing. Beautiful Deer Creek reservoir is extremely popular for boating, wind surfing, sunbathing, swimming, and sailboating.

**Identification in needs assessment or management plan:** In support of Utah Division of State Parks and Recreation's Mission Statement, "Provide opportunities to improve the quality of life in Utah through parks, programs and employees serving the public", the Division's mission statement lists "providing adequate, safe and well maintained facilities". In addition, the Strategic Boating Plan identifies "To provide adequate facilities to meet the needs of boaters and enhance their experiences" as one of its main goals. The proposed project would achieve these goals by ensuring adequate and safe access to Deer Creek Reservoir.

**Estimated annual use of the project area:** Deer Creek State Park has approximately 75,000 boat launches per year with about 300,000 persons per year utilizing the park. The boat ramp parking lot is full many weekend days throughout the summer season with boaters being turned away due to lack of parking.

**Benefits and/or predicted increase in annual use from project completion:** The benefits of this project are many-fold, but mainly this project will increase boater access and satisfaction. Visitor use at Deer Creek State Park will continue to be consistent throughout the boating season, and during the peak of the season be full to capacity. With the new trend of boaters staying closer to home, visitation will undoubtedly not decrease in the future.



State Map

**BOATING PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST**  
**October, 2011**

PROJECT TITLE AND LOCATION: Deer Creek State Park, Charleston Day Use Area  
Boat Access and Launching Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This area currently has an old "paved" road in poor condition, a natural surface parking area and launching ramp, an ADA accessible vault toilet.

Full development of the area, which includes paving of entrance road, leveling and paving of existing and additional vehicle and trailer parking, constructing a concrete launch ramp, and bringing in a water line and installing faucets.

- o A - Paving entrance road 20,000 sq. ft. X \$3.00 = \$ 60,000
- o B - Leveling/paving parking 33,000 sq. ft. X \$3.50 = \$115,500
- o C - Concrete launch ramp 6,000 sq. ft. X \$19.00 = \$114,000
- o D - Install water line 1,000 ft and 6 water stands = \$ 10,500
- o TOTAL = \$300,000

USE AND BENEFITS: The area is extremely busy (overflowing) during the boating season, and is used all year. The proposed project would nearly triple the existing parking/use in the area (from 10 to 30). The area offers quick access to Deer Creek Reservoir from Wasatch Mountain State Park, Charleston, Midway, and Heber City.

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

Routine operation and maintenance will be done by Deer Creek State Park staff. Costs of operation with project will be very minimal (for additional custodial supplies). A water connection to Charleston City water system is available at the entrance road/SR 113 intersection, and park already pays a monthly connection fee.

**LAND OWNERSHIP**

The property is owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and managed by the Utah Division of Parks and Recreation.

**PROJECT COSTS**

Project cost is proposed to be funded with Motor Boat Access funding.