

Proposal to Create Silver Launch *Record-Setting Utah Hang Gliding Site*



Who We Are

- Steve Rathbun and Lisa Verzella are a husband-and-wife flying team, representing more than 300 hang glider and paraglider pilots around Utah.
- Steve has been flying hang gliders for 26 years and is a 5-time winner of the Utah Cup for longest cross-country flight of the year.
- Lisa has been flying hang gliders for 17 years and paragliders for 8. She was a member of the US Women's World Hang Gliding Team in 1998 and is a 4-time winner of the Cup.
- Lisa and Steve have amassed several site records (non-gender) throughout Utah and currently hold the 2nd and 3rd farthest flights in the history of Utah hang gliding.
- They are current members of both the Utah and National Hang Gliding and Paragliding Associations.



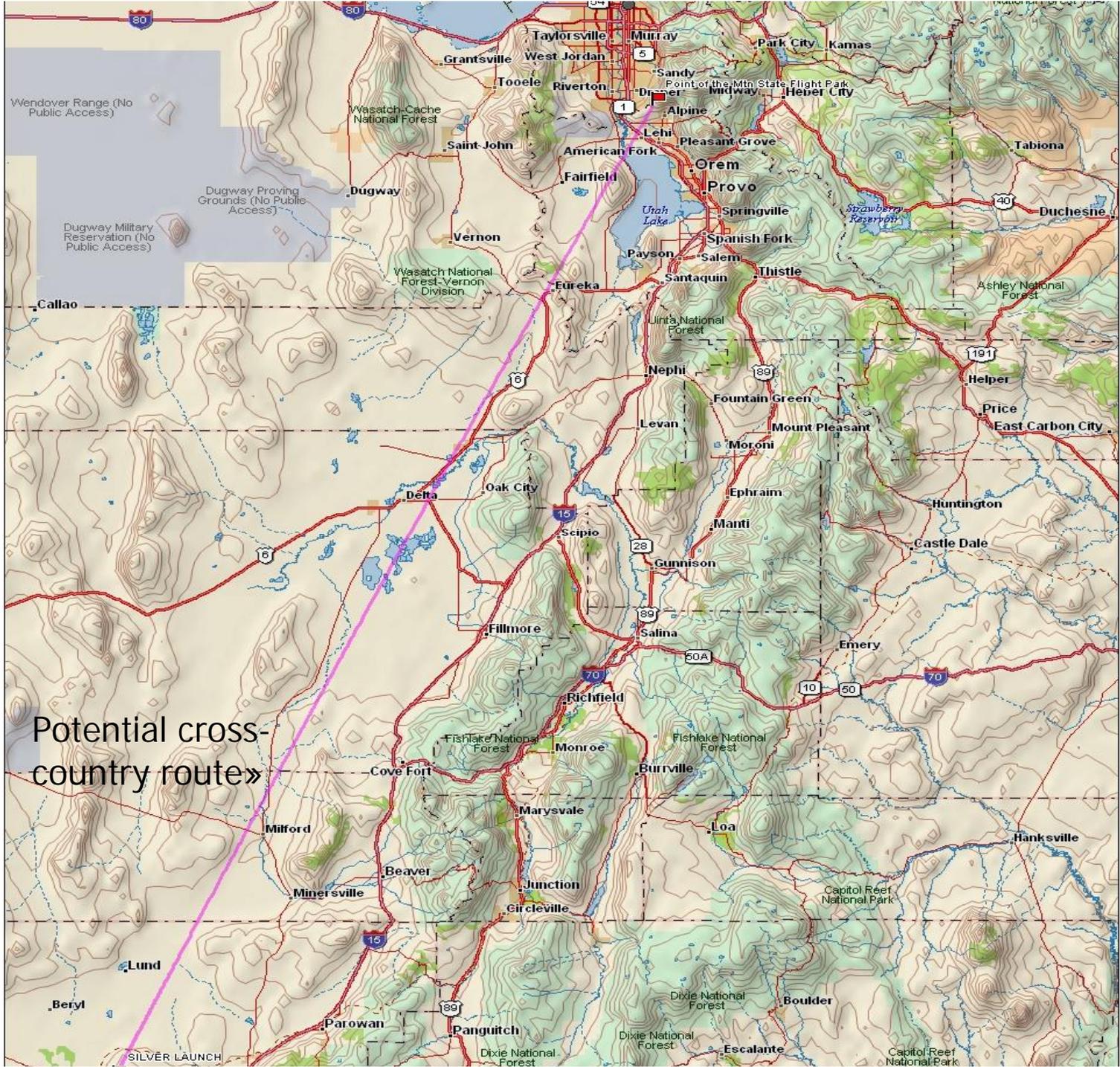
What We Propose

- The creation of a top-notch Utah flying site for more than 300 active Utah pilots
 - Silver launch chosen as optimal site after months of searching based on accessibility, margin of safety, wind orientation and cross-country potential
 - flyable by novice through advanced hang glider and paraglider pilots
 - excellent potential for state and national cross-country records
 - accessibility also allow public access to scenic views at top
- Requirements
 - access to launch from existing road
 - single-lane spur road approx. 350 ft. long, 15 ft. wide
 - parking/ turn-around/ glider setup area at top, approx. 75 ft. diameter
 - removal of vegetation on and in vicinity of launch
 - smoothing of slope for safest launch options

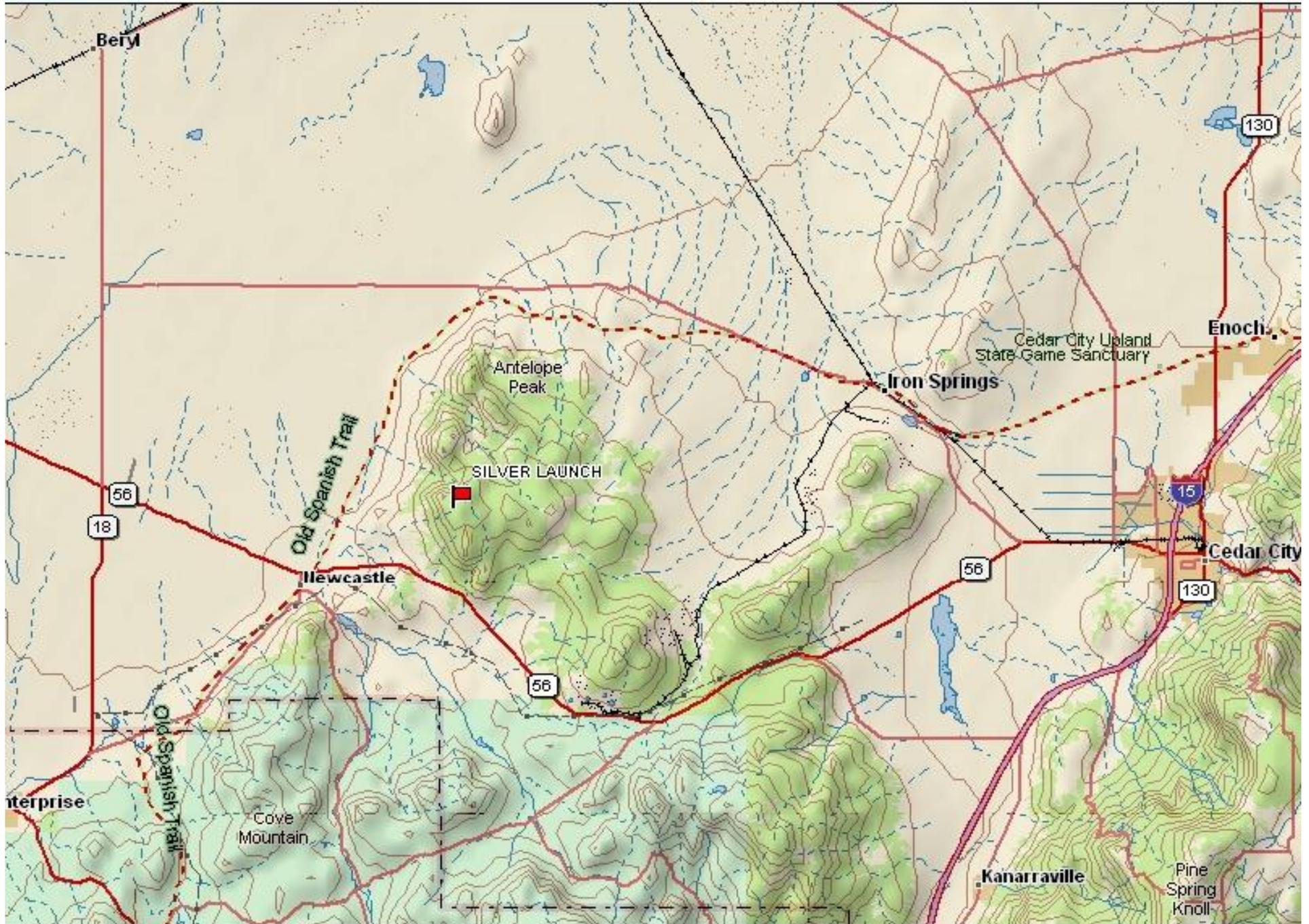
Silver Launch Location

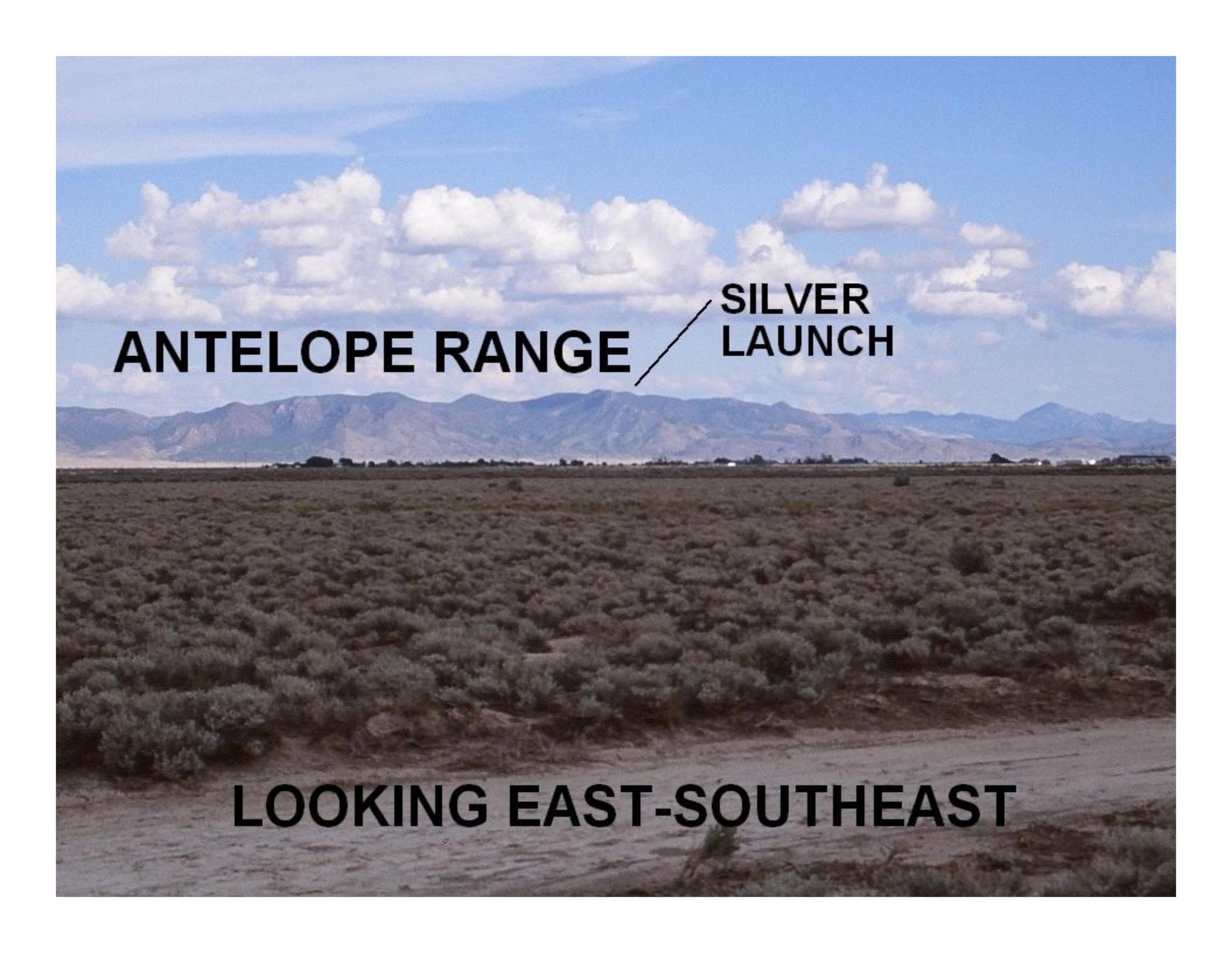


Looking N toward launch and the Antelope Range, 20 miles W of Cedar City. Next several slides show location from largest to smallest perspective.



Potential cross-country route»

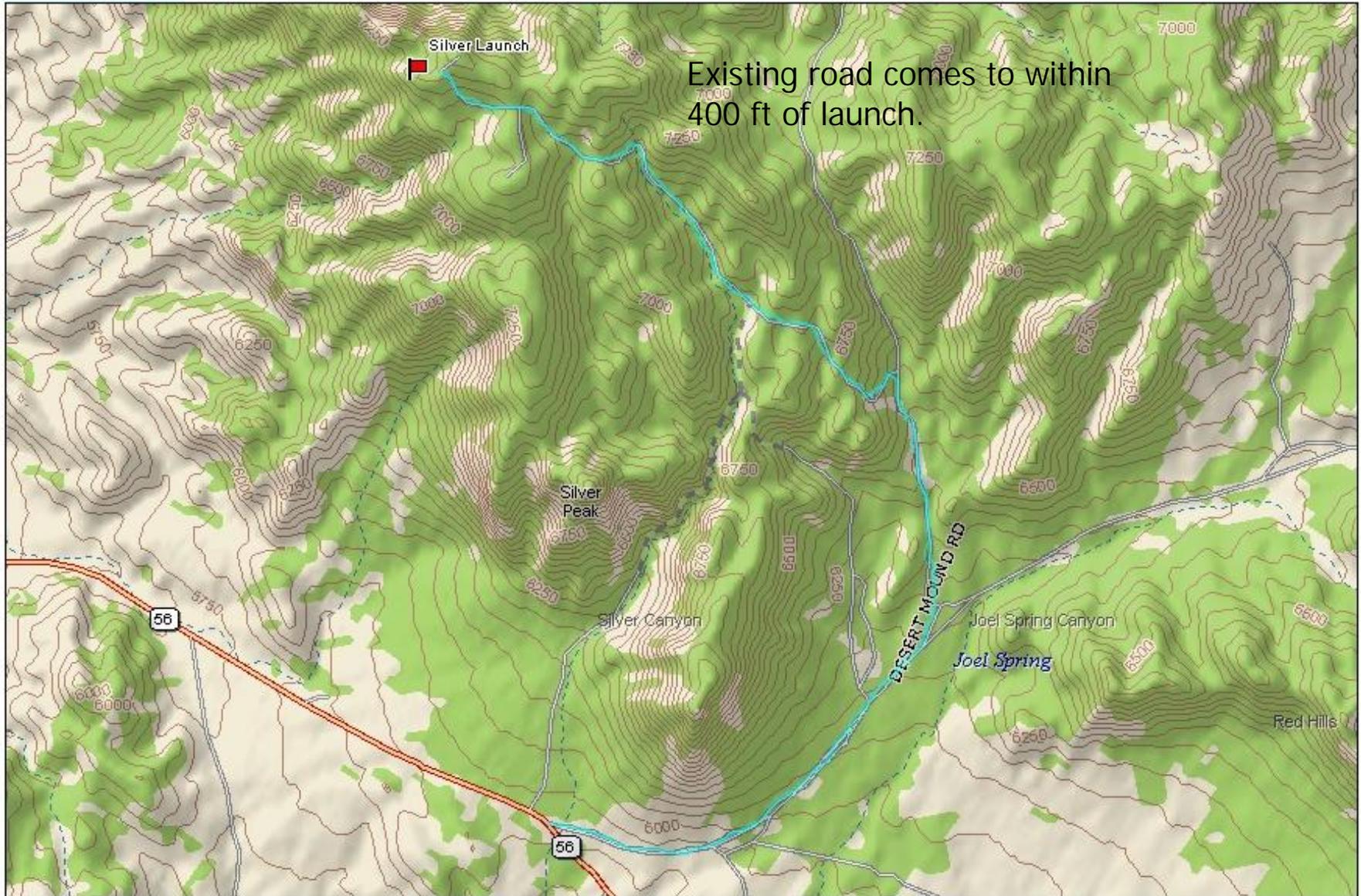




ANTELOPE RANGE

**SILVER
LAUNCH**

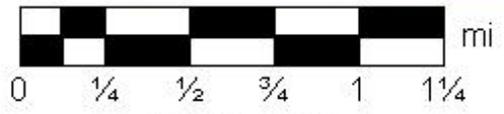
LOOKING EAST-SOUTHEAST

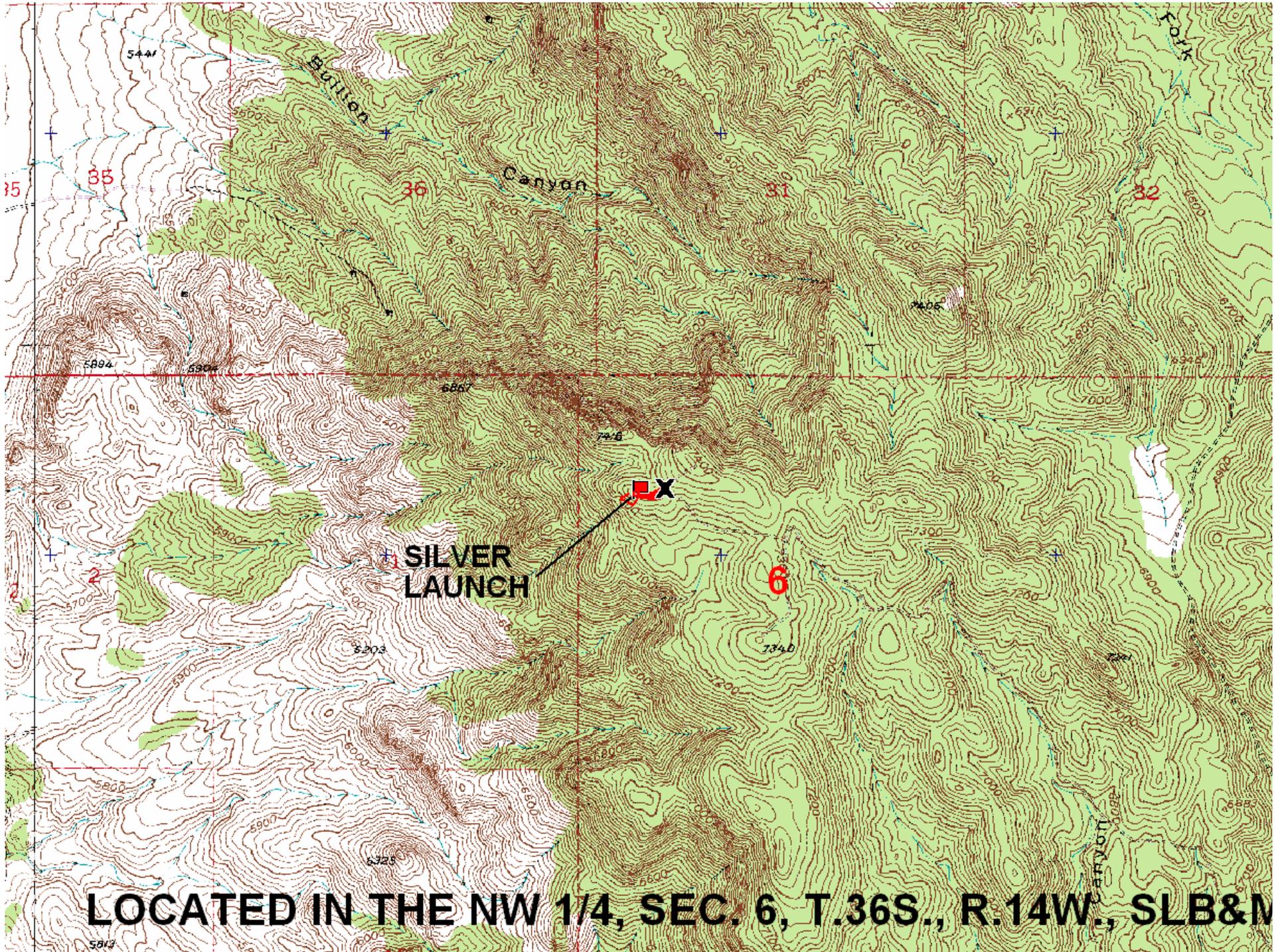


Existing road comes to within 400 ft of launch.

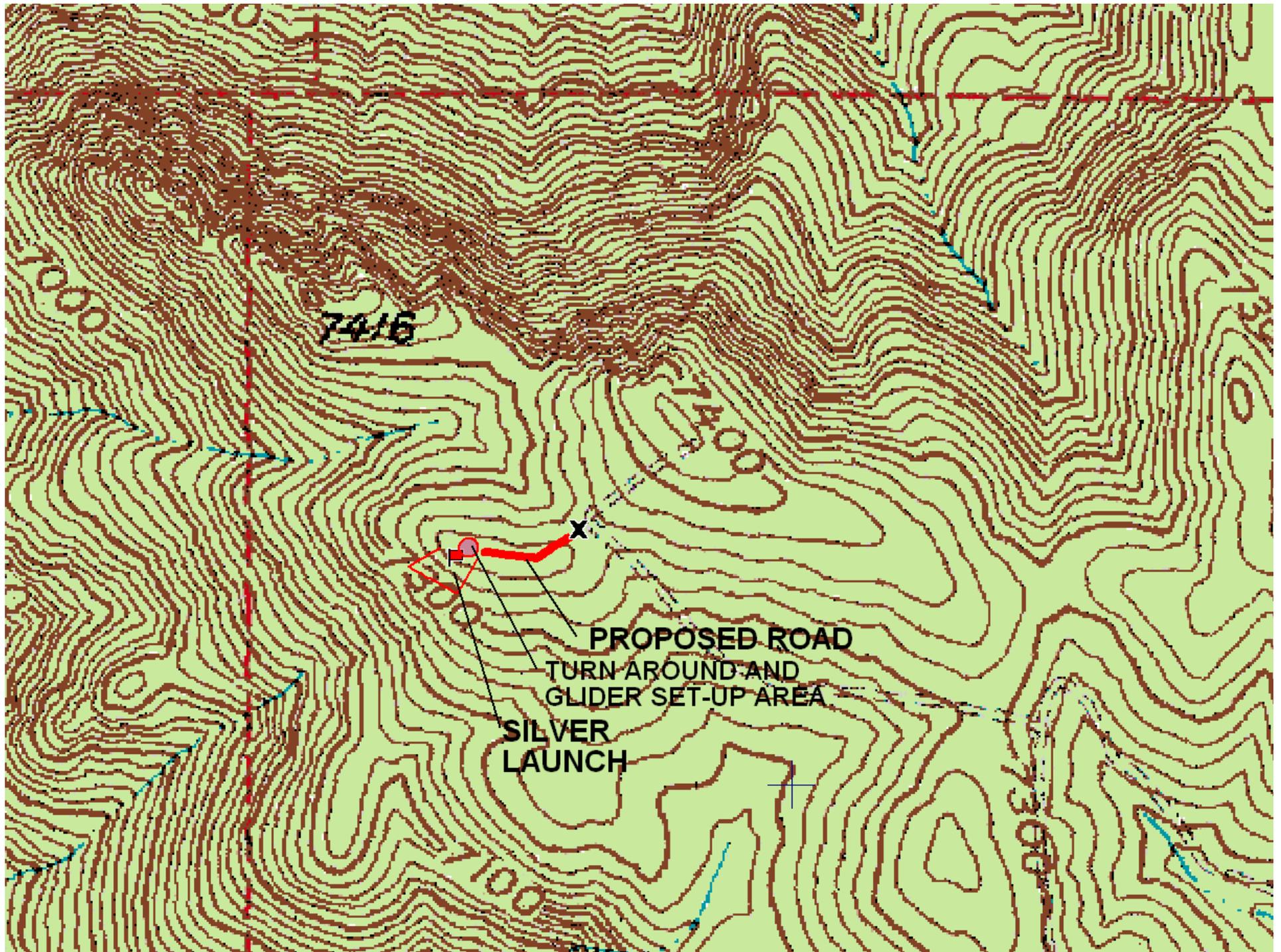
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LOCATED IN THE NW 1/4, SEC. 6, T.36S., R.14W., SLB&M



SILVER LAUNCH



HWY 56

Site Specifications

- Location: N 37° 42.134'
(WGS84) W 113° 28.269'
- Elevation: ~7400 ft MSL
- Main launch: faces 240°
- Launch range S to WNW
- Vegetation: juniper, pine
- Slope angle: ~20°
- Alternative launch: 340°
- Landing zone: 6:1 glide



Proposed Road to Launch





PROPOSED ROAD

A photograph of a wooded area with a dog. The dog is a medium-sized, light brown or tan breed, possibly a Weimaraner, standing in a clearing. The ground is covered with dry grass, pine needles, and some small shrubs. In the background, there are several large, gnarled trees with dense green foliage. A dark-colored vehicle is partially visible through the trees in the distance. Two thin black lines are drawn across the image, forming a narrow path that leads towards the vehicle. The text "PROPOSED ROAD" is overlaid in large, bold, black capital letters at the bottom center of the image.

**PROPOSED
ROAD**



**PROPOSED
ROAD**

A photograph of a dry, rocky landscape with scattered dead trees and green shrubs. The text "TURN AROUND AND GLIDER SET-UP AREA" is overlaid in the center.

**TURN AROUND AND
GLIDER SET-UP AREA**

Views from Launch Area



SILVER LAUNCH

LOOKING WEST

TOWN OF NEWCASTLE, UT





SILVER LAUNCH

LOOKING SOUTH

SILVER LAUNCH - LOOKING SOUTH



HWY 56



SILVER LAUNCH - LOOKING NORTH

PE RANGE - LOOKING NORTH FROM KNOB NORTH OF SILVER LA



Addendum to Purpose

- Several of our current Southern Utah flying sites are in jeopardy due to private ownership of launches and development in landing zones. Such sites include our 2 Cedar City mainstays, Lone Tree Mountain and Graff Peak. As a result, many pilots no longer visit these areas and travel out of state instead. Silver launch would bring pilots back to great Southern Utah flying.



Project Dates

- Optimal time for road work and vegetation clearing would be early spring ~ February/ March 2007.



Who Benefits



- Pilots have access to a reliable, dynamic site in the best flying area in the state of Utah.
- Visitors would need food and accommodations, patronizing businesses in the Newcastle and Cedar City areas among others.
- The public would have better access to a beautiful scenic overlook.
- The BLM would be lauded in such international publications as Hang Gliding and Paragliding Magazine and various state flying club periodicals including Utah's USHGPGA newsletter.