

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Alcorta Rim OR-036-030, 24 total pages

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Prepared by:
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H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON

APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION

Evaluation of Current Conditions:

- 1) Document and review the existing BLM wilderness inventory findings on file, if available, regarding the presence or absence of individual wilderness characteristics, using Form 1, below.
- 2) Consider relevant information regarding current conditions available in the office to identify and describe any changes to the existing information (use interdisciplinary (ID) team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc.), and document your findings on Form 2, below.

When Citizen Information has been submitted regarding wilderness characteristics, document the submitted materials including: date of Submission; Name of District(s) and Field Office(s) Affected; Type of material Submitted (e.g. narrative, map, photographs). Evaluate any submitted citizen information regarding the validity of proposed boundaries of the unit(s), the existence of roads and other boundary features, the size of the unit(s), and the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics based on relevant information available in the office (prior BLM inventories, ID team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc.)

Conduct field reviews as necessary to verify information and to ascertain current conditions. Reach conclusions on current conditions including boundaries, size of areas and presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. Fully explain the basis for each conclusion on form 2, including any critical differences between BLM and citizen information.

Document your findings regarding current conditions for each inventoried area. Describe how the present conditions are similar to, or have changed from, the conditions documented in the original wilderness inventory. Document your findings on Form 2 for each inventory area. Cite to or attach data considered, including photographs, maps, GIS layers, field trip notes, project files, *etc.*

Year: 2010 **Unit Number/Name:** OR-036-030 Alcorta Rim

**FORM 1 -- DOCUMENTATION OF BLM WILDERNESS INVENTORY
FINDINGS ON RECORD**

1. Is there existing BLM wilderness inventory information on all or part of this area?

Yes No *(If yes, and if more than one unit is within the area, list the names of those units.):*

A.) Inventory Source(s) -- (X) Denotes all applicable BLM Inventory files, printed maps, or published BLM Decision documents with information pertaining to this unit.

Wilderness Inventories

- (X) 1978 – 1980 BLM Wilderness Inventory Units 3-160 of OR-03-12-16 High Peak; 3-161 of OR-03-12-20 Antenna Hill; 3-164 of OR-03-12-28 Alcorta Rim; 3-165 of OR-03-12-32 Patatoe Water; 3-173A of OR-03-13-03 Upper West Little Owyhee; OR-03-12-21 Seeding; OR-03-12-22 Ten Mile Creek; OR-03-12-23 Albisu Spring; OR-12-43 Frenchman; OR-03-12-46 Lazy “T”; OR-03-13-04 Sunflower Flat; OR-03-13-18 Little Creek (unpublished BLM documents stored in Vale District case files).
- (X) April 1979 – *Wilderness -- Proposed Initial Inventory – Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not have Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington*

Wilderness Decision Documents

- (X) August 1979 – *Wilderness Review – Initial Inventory, Final Decision on Public Lands Obviously Lacking Wilderness Characteristics and Announcement of Public Lands to be Intensively Inventoried for Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington* (green document)
- (X) October 1979 – *Wilderness Review – Intensive Inventory - Oregon, Proposed Decision on the Intensive Wilderness Inventory of Selected Areas* (grey document).
- (X) March 1980 – *Wilderness Review – Intensive Inventory; Final Decisions on 30 Selected Units in Southeast Oregon and Proposed Decisions on Other Intensively Inventoried Units in Oregon and Washington* (orange document)
- (X) November 1980 - *Wilderness Inventory – Oregon and Washington, Final Intensive Inventory Decisions* (brown document)
- () November 1981 *Stateline Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decision, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah* (tan document).

B.) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s)

BLM Wilderness Inventory Units 3-160 of OR-03-12-16 High Peak; 3-161 of OR-03-12-20 Antenna Hill; 3-164 of OR-03-12-28 Alcorta Rim; 3-165 of OR-03-12-32 Patatoe Water; 3-173A of OR-03-13-03 Upper West Little Owyhee; OR-03-12-21 Seeding; OR-03-12-22 Ten Mile Creek; OR-03-12-23 Albisu Spring; OR-03-12-43 Frenchman; OR-03-12-46 Lazy “T”; OR-03-13-04 Sunflower Flat; OR-03-13-18 Little Creek.

C.) Map Name(s)/Number(s)

- Final Decision – Initial Wilderness Inventory Map, August 1979, Oregon
- Proposed Decision -- Intensive Wilderness Inventory of Selected Areas Map, October 1979, Oregon
- Intensive Wilderness Inventory Map, March 1980, Oregon
- Intensive Wilderness Inventory --Final Decisions Map, November 1980, Oregon.
- November, 1981 *Stateline Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decision, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah* (tan document).

D.) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s)**District Office**

Vale District

Field Office

Jordan Resource Area

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record

(Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory unit is associated with the area, list each unit and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

Inventory Source: See above.

Unit# / Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
3-160 High Peak OR-03-12-16	14,040	N	N	N	N
3-161 Antenna Hill OR-03-12-20	5,720	*	*	*	*
3-164A 3-164B Alcorta Rim OR-03-12-28	13,320 2,240	Y *	N *	N *	N *
3-165 Potato Water OR-03-12-32	5,340	*	N	N	*
3-173 A** Upper West Little (also referenced as Jack's Creek) OR-03-13-03	21,140	N	*	*	*
Seeding OR-03-12-21	320	*	*	*	*
Ten Mile Creek OR-03-12-22	960	*	*	*	*
Albisu Spring OR-03-12-23	980	*	*	*	*
Frenchman OR-03-12-43	2,180	*	*	*	*
Lazy "T" OR-03-12-46	420	*	*	*	*
Sunflower Flat OR-03-13-04	4,760	*	*	*	*
Little Creek OR-03-13-18	200	*	*	*	*
TOTAL	71,620				

*-- The original inventories reported that no valves were known to exist or unit did not meet size requirement because boundaries were roads but have since been determined to be motorized primitive trails or were recommended as not qualifying for further inventory.

** -- The remainder of 3-173A became The Upper West Little Owyhee WSA.

H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON

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FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: Alcorta Rim OR-036-030

Note: In February, 2004, the Vale District received from Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) its evaluation of wilderness characteristics for what ONDA names its 77,011 acre “Ten Mile Creek Proposed WSA”. For reference a hard copy of ONDA’s proposal is retained in this unit’s file. OR-036-030 represents a larger unit (81,840 acres) than ONDA’s proposal (see Map 1 of BLM’s unit OR-036-030). Information provided by ONDA’s proposal was considered and incorporated as appropriate for this BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory maintenance. ONDA’s proposal includes basically nine 1970’s-1980’s BLM inventory units (OR-03-160, OR-03-161, OR-03-164, OR-03-165, OR-03-173A, OR-03-12-22, OR-03-12-23, partial of OR- 03-13-04, and OR-03-13-18) which, respectively, are currently associated with the following BLM unit OR-036-030.

For BLM unit OR-036-030, the difference between BLM and ONDA regarding inventory unit boundary features are that, unlike ONDA’s proposal, BLM concludes that BLM road 6534-0-BO is the south boundary. ONDA’s south boundary from west to east is as follows; exclusion of water tower from proposed unit by arbitrary boundary (cross country) just to its north, connecting to ONDA way wo41 (BLM motorized primitive trail), and connecting to another non-qualifying boundary feature (rangeland) to the Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation. BLM also concludes that BLM road 036-RT4 (unnamed wo40 ONDA way) is a section of road (not motorized primitive trail [or which what ONDA terms a “way”]) is now a portion of cherry-stem BLM Road 6354-0-100. Refer to the Road Analysis form, the BLM Photo Points Map/Log, and the photos associated with this BLM inventory unit for additional documentation. Information in this inventory unit’s file identifies any differences of motorized vehicle routes between ONDA’s and BLM’s findings.

Description of Current Conditions: [Include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation features and summary of major human uses/activities.]

1. Is the unit of sufficient size?

Yes X No

Description: Refer to this inventory unit’s associated Map 1a for its location. Unit OR-036-030 is comprised of 81,840 acres, meeting the size criteria. The 81,840 acre unit was part of original inventory units OR-03-160, OR-03-161, OR-03-164, OR-03-165, OR-03-12-21, OR-03-12-22, OR-03-12-23, OR-03-12-43, OR-03-12-46, OR- 03-13-04, and OR-03-13-18 of the later 1970’s, and as part of inventory unit 3-173A of the early 1980’s in the Vale District. There is a discrepancy in acreages between the total acres listed in Form 1 (71,620 acres) and the acreage for this inventory unit (81,840 acres) listed in Form 2. Present inventory acreage is a function of improved technology and the difference between methods and maps used in the initial inventories. A 4,829 acre

difference occurs between BLM GIS calculations and the ONDA proposal calculation for their proposal because of the differences in unit boundaries.

The unit boundary consists of BLM Road 6534-0-BO on its south end, private property, three short BLM road segments, and County Roads 643 and Corral Creek (unnumbered) on its west end, private property, a utility right-of-way on its north end along BLM road 6357-0-00 that contains a cherry-stem road that starts from BLM road 6357-0-00 in section 02 of T39S, R43E, travels southeast and enters a 1480 acre private land parcel in section 18, R39s, R44E, and the east boundary is the west boundary of the Upper West Little Owyhee WSA. In the extreme southeast corner of the eastern boundary the existing WSA boundary deviates from the existing fence line and travels diagonally as short distance toward the southwest until it connects with the Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation. The boundary roads receive mechanical maintenance as needed to keep them passable on a regular and continuous (seasonal) basis. One private inholding totaling 40 acres is also a feature within the unit's boundary.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No X N/A

Description: This unit's topography varies from relatively flat terrain in the west area of unit to a steep ridgeline in the central portions, to rolling terrain in the east portion. East of the central ridgeline, abundant springs are located on public and private property that form the headwater areas of the Upper West Little Owyhee River and Big Antelope Creek that flow toward the east then northward. Drainages west of the central ridgeline flow westward into the Oregon Canyon Creek basin. Elevation within the unit ranges from 4,640 to 6,700 feet above mean sea-level. Vegetation within the unit mainly consists of big and low sagebrush and both native and nonnative grasses.

See this unit's associated Maps 1a and 2 for human imprints. There are 71.8 miles of rangeland fence; 19 earthen reservoirs; 14 developed springs; and 3 pipeline systems with 8.4 miles of pipeline, 9 livestock water troughs, 2 water storage tanks, and 16 vegetative manipulation treatments (implemented 1965-2005). The unit contains 136.3 miles of motorized primitive trails (MPTs) with remnant visual evidence of 11.4 miles of abandoned vehicle routes, and two cherry-stem roads totaling 4.7 miles in length. Over a quarter of the unit contains a designated common use area for the collection of decorative flat rock. This common use area encompasses all public land in Sections 31-36 of township T38S-R43E and the entire township of T39S-R43E. One communication site and right-of way is located in portions of Sections 29, 31, and 32 of township T39S-R43E.

This unit is contiguous with the Upper West Little Owyhee WSA with no qualifying boundaries between the unit and the WSA.

Presently, to the average visitor, many of the various vegetation treatments completed between 1965 and 2005, in the western portion of the unit, appear –individually and

collectively – substantially noticeable with the exception of two vegetation projects in the south-central and north-central ends of unit that are indistinguishable with the natural landscape. The western and southern portions of the unit (west and south of MPT 036-RT29, and west of BLM road segment 6354-0-100 between two segments of MPT 036-RT29) do not meet the naturalness criteria based on the relatively high density of human imprints (substantially noticeable vegetative treatments, motorized primitive trails, pipeline systems, rangeland fence line, livestock water developments) combined with the lack visual screening (vegetative and/or topographic) which result in the works of man being substantially noticeable to the average visitor.

In the portion of the unit to the east of MPT 036-RT29 and road 6354-0-100, the human imprints are substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor while appearing primarily affected by the forces of nature because of the topographic screening provided by the steep central ridgeline in combination with a relatively low density of human imprints. Overall, the portion of the unit east of MPT 026-RT29 and road 6354-0-100 appears to be primarily affected by the forces of nature with the imprint of human activity substantially unnoticeable.

Note: See this unit’s associated Map 1b for areas not meeting natural condition criteria. As the portion of the unit to the west and south of MPT 036-RT29 and west of road 6354-0-100 does not meet the naturalness criteria, only the portion to the east of MPT 036-RT29 and road 6354-0-100 will be inventoried for the remaining wilderness characteristics (outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation and/or solitude).

BLM documents the presence of the 10 MPTs within this BLM unit for which no ONDA documentation is provided or a given route depicted by ONDA as present but without supporting inventory information. ONDA’s proposal does not quantify or indicate location of other known man-made features within its proposed WSA while concluding that it appears primarily affected by the forces of nature with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable. For comparative reference, refer to this BLM unit’s associated Maps 1 and 2 and to ONDA’s proposal map, all located in this unit’s inventory file folder.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes No N/A

Description: The portion of unit OR-036-030 meeting the naturalness criteria is generally rectangular in shape that narrows in width at its southern boundary and splits into two separate lobes toward the northern boundary. The northeastern lobe is approximately 4 miles in width and the narrow northwestern lobe is approximately 0.25 mile in width along its 2 mile length. The unit widens to about 7.5 miles in the central portion then narrows to about 3 miles in width in the southern area that finally tapers to about one mile in width at its southern most point. The unit contains an overall length of approximately 12 miles.

A steep ridgeline east of MPT 036-RT29 and road 6354-0-100 provides ample topographic screening and locations for solitude. Although the east half of unit lacks vegetative and topographic screening the unit's extensive size (53,543 acres) and configuration does allow the visitor to find seclusion from other visitors except for the small northwestern lobe that is bordered by private property and the unit's utility corridor northern boundary.

Furthermore, because BLM unit OR-036-030 is contiguous with the Upper West Little Owyhee WSA opportunities for solitude within the unit are enhanced as it takes on the outstanding opportunities for solitude documented for the WSA. In addition, road 6374-0-00 has been reclassified as a primitive motorized trail that had been a boundary between original inventory unit 3-173A and 3-164. The opportunities for solitude are also enhanced for the WSA by the addition the steep ridgeline and upper watershed drainages of Tenmile, South Jackson, and Corral creeks near the west boundary of the unit and the additional acreage contribution of the unit to the WSA. The combined size of WSA and this unit (the portion of this unit meeting the naturalness criteria) would be approximately 116,043 acres.

Overall, unit OR-036-030 (portion of unit which meets the naturalness criteria) provides outstanding opportunities for solitude.

4. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes No N/A

Description: There are opportunities for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, photography, general sightseeing, and hunting. The relatively large size of this unit in combination with the WSA would enhance the overall opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation in this unit and the WSA. This unit, by itself, does possess outstanding opportunities for hunting of big horn sheep. Recreational use in the contiguous WSA is primarily associated with the main canyons of the Upper West Little Owyhee River, Antelope Creek, and Massie Canyon. These areas provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation pursuits including day hiking, backpacking, photography, sightseeing, wildlife viewing and hunting. The unit now is contiguous with the WSA and is therefore considered to possess a continuation of those outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation wilderness characteristics identified for the Upper West Little Owyhee WSA. BLM concludes that unit OR-036-030 (portion of unit which meets the naturalness criteria) does provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Note: ONDA states that due to its substantially larger size, the "Ten Mile Creek proposed WSA" possesses outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. "Wildflowers, willows, mountains, ridges, Ten Mile Creek (primarily private property) and surrounding area, views of Trout Creek Mountains (outside of unit), and the general gorgeous terrain of the area provide outstanding opportunities for hiking, camping,

photography, sightseeing, and the simple act of watching the sunrise”. In addition, “the numerous springs in the area provide outstanding opportunities for birdwatching. Species noted include mallard, green-wing teal, gadwall, Wilson’s phalarge, long-tailed grackles, killdeer, and long tailed curlew.”

BLM does acknowledge unit OR-036-030 is contiguous with Upper West Little Owyhee WSA and does offer outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. These opportunities are a continuation of the WSAs opportunities with an additional outstanding opportunity to hunt big horn sheep. BLM also acknowledges that the unit provides outstanding opportunities for birding in areas identified by the Intermountain West Joint Venture, within the West Little Owyhee Bird Habitat Conservation Area that contain sagebrush ecosystems, include mountain mahogany shrubs, and exhibit relatively high ecological integrity.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes No N/A

Description: With exceptions, the ecological integrity of rangeland in the majority of this unit has been largely unaffected by the combined impacts of wildfire and invasive, non-native plants such as cheatgrass. This means the area possesses wildlife habitat supplemental values for sagebrush-dependent species of BLM management importance including pygmy rabbit, sagebrush vole, greater sage-grouse, Brewer’s sparrow, black-throated sparrow, sage sparrow, loggerhead shrike, and sage thrasher. Observed rangeland conditions within this unit can be expected to contribute towards the existence of healthy sagebrush-dependent wildlife populations over a large area and in the long term because: (1) native plant functional and structural groups are well represented within the unit, and (2) wildlife forage, cover, and structure is available for use by species of management importance.

In contrast to conditions described above, rangeland at similar elevations and in similar ecological sites within Malheur County, Oregon has been highly disturbed due to the combined effects of improper historical grazing use, loss of biological crust integrity, invasive plant establishment, and catastrophic wildfire impacts over the last few decades. Cheatgrass presence is known to accelerate and aggravate wildfire spread because is a highly flammable fine fuel, and wildfire often reduces or completely eliminates critical shrub-based forage, cover, and habitat structure values for many species of wildlife. Literally millions of acres of Wyoming big sagebrush habitat types, similar to those within this unit, have been burned over the last few decades and recovery of these losses will take multiple decades if not centuries to occur.

Finally, the central and eastern portion of the land considered within this unit is also recognized as part of the Owyhee Uplands Physiographic Province, a region incorporating rangeland in Oregon, Idaho, and Nevada which supports some of the largest contiguous blocks of intact sagebrush remaining west of the Continental Divide.

A large amount of the unit is within a very large bighorn sheep habitat use area. Bighorn sheep are a BLM special status species in Oregon. BLM has documented 8 sage grouse leks within the unit. The bird is a BLM special status animal species.

Fuzzy sagebrush (*Artemisia papposa*), common little sunflower (*Helianthella uniflora*), and Cusick's primrose (*Primula cusickiana*) were identified and documented at eight sites within the unit. Fuzzy sagebrush occurs in rocky swales, dry meadows, and mud flats in the northern margin of the Snake River Plains of southern Idaho, into northern Nevada, and eastern Oregon. It is currently a BLM Bureau Sensitive species. Common little sunflower inhabits hillsides and open woods from southwestern Montana, central Idaho, and southeastern Oregon southward. This plant once considered a special status plant to BLM, Vale District, is not anymore. Cusick's primrose is a Bureau Sensitive species occurring on sagebrush hills and meadows where moist early in the season. This species occurs from eastern Oregon, southern Idaho, south to eastern Nevada and in north and west Utah.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-036-030 – Alcorta Rim

Summary Results of Analysis:

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? Yes No
2. Does the area appear to be natural? Yes (east of MPT 036-RT29)
 No (west of MPT 036-RT29)
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion -- check one:

- The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness character.
 The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by: Jack Wenderoth 3/3/10
 Jack Wenderoth, Planning Contractor

Team Members:

<u>Marcy Egger</u>	<u>3/22/10</u>
Marcy Egger, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Dave Draheim</u>	<u>3/29/2010</u>
Dave Draheim, Outdoor Recreation Planner	Date
<u>Garth Ross</u>	<u>3/23/2010</u>
Garth Ross, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u>Jon Sadowski</u>	<u>3-4-2010</u>
Jon Sadowski, Environmental Contractor	Date
<u>Eian Ray</u>	<u>03/03/10</u>
Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, Contractor	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	<u>3/19/10</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

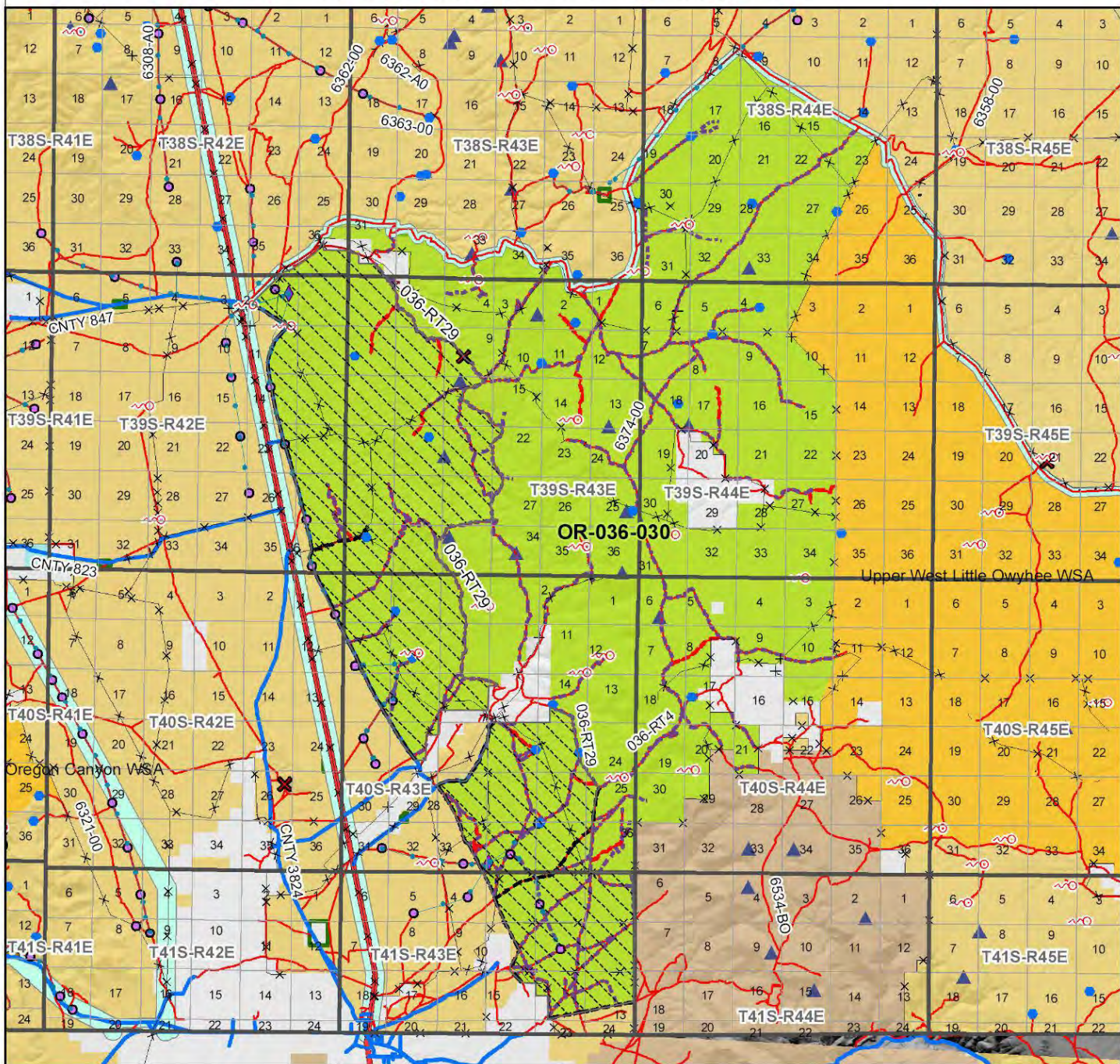
Approved by:

Carolyn R. Freeborn 4/6/10
 Carolyn Freeborn, Jordan Resource Area Field Manager Date

This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.

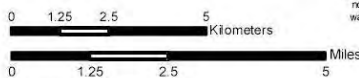
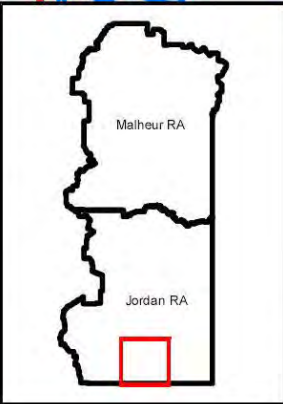
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Alcorta Rim - OR-036-030 - Map 1 of 2



Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed Spring Wildlife Guzzler Earthen Reservoir Pipeline Trough Fence Storage Tank Surface Mining Disturbance Sage Grouse Lek Special Status Plant BLM Wild Char Inventory Unit Wilderness Study Area Mineral Material Site Road/Utility Right-of-Way Major Water Body | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Route Types - BLM Determination Boundary Road Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT) Discontinued Use Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit County Major Highway BLM Numbered & Other Routes Land Ownership Bureau of Land Management State Private Other Federal Land Unnatural condition within WC unit |
|---|---|



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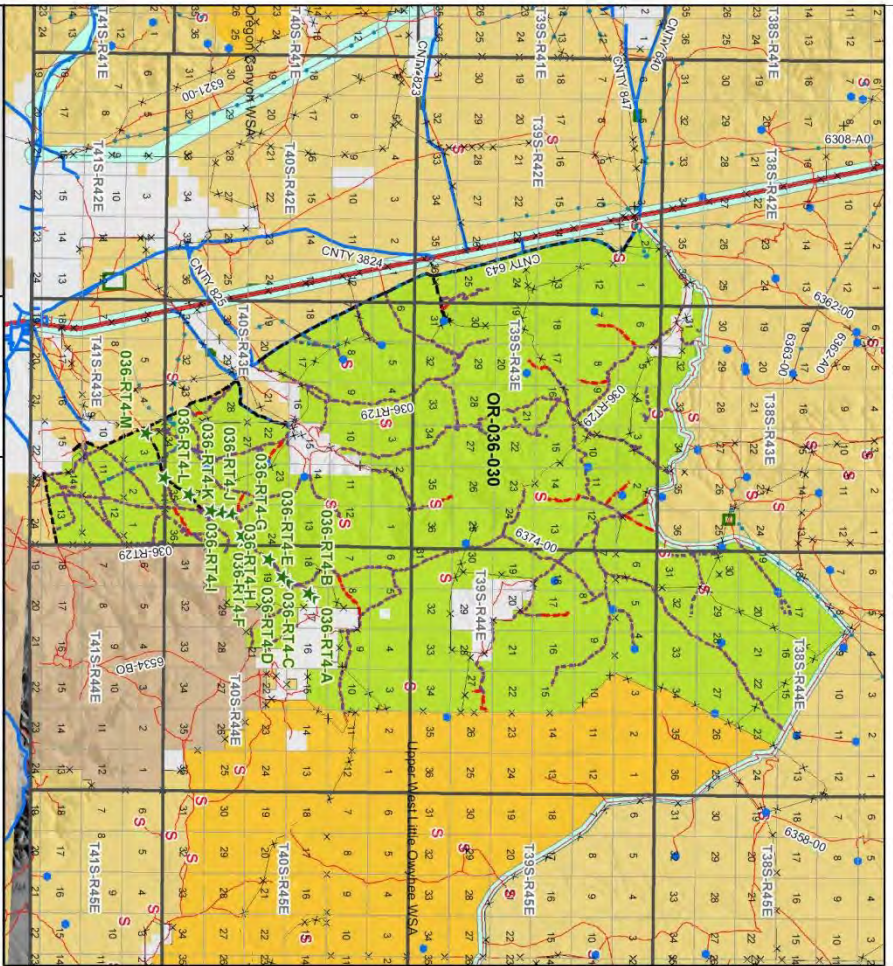


VALE DISTRICT
February 15, 2010

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--FINAL--

Wilderness Characteristics - BLM Photo Points
Alcorta Rim - OR-036-030



Legend

- Designated Point
- Boundary Road
- Estimated Boundary
- Project
- Private
- Public
- Wilderness Study Area
- Wilderness Study Area
- BLM Wild Data Inventory Photo Points
- BLM Wild Data Inventory Trail

Scale

0 100 200 300 400 500 Feet

0 1 2 Miles

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VALE DISTRICT
February 15, 2010

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---FINAL---

Wilderness Characteristics - BLM Photo Log
Alcorta Rim - OR-036-030

PHOTO LOCATION*	DIRECTION	PHOTO TYPE	PHOTO DATE	COMMENTS
036-RT4-A	E	Route	20080729	back, beginning of route 036-RT4 at pvt boundary
036-RT4-A	W	Route	20080729	front, beginning of route 036 RT4 at pvt boundary
036-RT4-B	W	Route	20080729	front
036-RT4-B	E	Route	20080729	back
036-RT4-C	SW	Route	20080729	front
036-RT4-C	NE	Route	20080729	back
036-RT4-D	NE	Route	20080729	back, cattle fence
036-RT4-D	SW	Route	20080729	front
036-RT4-E	SW	Route	20080729	front
036-RT4-E	NE	Route	20080729	back
036-RT4-F	SW	Route	20080729	front
036-RT4-F	NE	Route	20080729	back
036-RT4-G	N	Project	20080729	OR-036-030-G-N, cattle trough, 036-030.
036-RT4-H	N	Route	20080729	front
036-RT4-H	NE	Route	20080729	back
036-RT4-I	SW	Route	20080729	front, culvert
036-RT4-I	N	Route	20080729	back
036-RT4-J	S	Route	20080729	culvert, front
036-RT4-K	SW	Route	20080729	culvert, front
036-RT4-K	S	Project	20080729	OR-036-031-K-S, fence
036-RT4-L	NE	Route	20080729	back
036-RT4-L	W	Route	20080729	front, cattle guard
036-RT4-L	SW	Project	20080729	OR-036-031-L-S, fence
036-RT4-M	E	Route	20080729	front, cattle guard, end of route 036 RT4
036-RT4-M	SE	Route	20080729	OR-036-031-M-SE, fence
036-RT4-M	NE	Route	20080729	back, end of route 036 RT4

Note: The BLM Wild Char PhotoPoints displayed on the map are labeled with their Photo Locations. The BLM Photo Log table shown above lists the photos taken at their respective Photo Locations. Multiple photos may be taken at each Photo Location. Scenery and Project Photo Type pictures have their photo names provided in the Comments field.



036-RT4-A-E.jpg



036-RT4-B-W.jpg



036-RT4-D-NE.jpg

OR-036-030 Alcorta Rim Page 1



036-RT4-A-W.jpg



036-RT4-C-NE.jpg



036-RT4-D-SW.jpg



036-RT4-B-E.jpg



036-RT4-C-SW.jpg



036-RT4-E-NE.jpg



036-RT4-E-SW.jpg



036-RT4-H-NE.jpg



036-RT4-I-SW.jpg

OR-036-030 Alcorta Rim Page 2



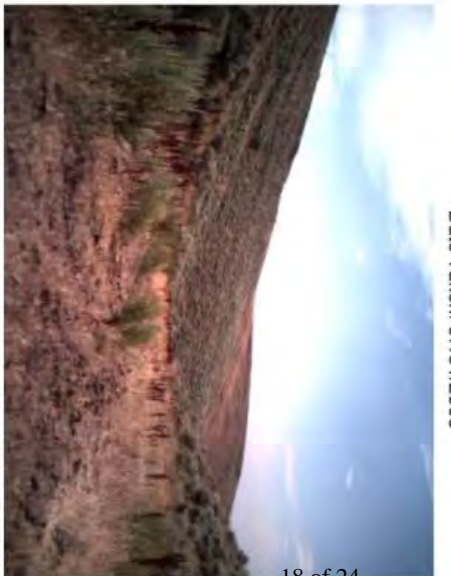
036-RT4-F-NE.jpg



036-RT4-H-S.jpg



036-RT4-J-S.jpg



036-RT4-F-SW.jpg



036-RT4-I-N.jpg



036-RT4-K-NE.jpg



036-RT4-K-SW.jpg



036-RT4-M-NE.jpg

OR-036-030 Alcorta Rim Page 3



036-RT4-L-E.jpg



036-RT4-M-SW.jpg



036-RT4-L-W.jpg



OR-036-030-G-N.JPG

**H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON**

APPENDIX C – ROAD* ANALYSIS

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road for wilderness inventory purposes.)

Wilderness Inventory Unit Name/Number (UNIT_ID): OR-036-030 -- Alcorta Rim

Route Name and/or Identifier *(Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known; include route number supplied by citizen information when available):*

BLM Road 6354-0-100 (Andy Fife Spring Road) and O36-RT4; ONDA designated BLM Road 6354-0-100 as routes (ways) wo38 and 39 and road wo41; designated O36-RT4 is ONDA's route (way) wo40.

I. LOCATION: See attached map. BLM unit OR-036-030 contains cherry-stem Road 6354-0-100 and Road 036-RT4.

List photo point references: BLM Road 6354-0-100, photos 036-RT4-H through J and L & M; BLM route 6354-0-100, photos 036-RT4-C through F; BLM road 036-RT4, photos 036-RT4-K & L; ONDA route (way) wo38, photos AE 102 - 103, BA 37 - 47, 49, 59, and 61; ONDA route (way) wo39, photos 55 and 88; ONDA route (way) wo40, photos 50 and 57; ONDA road wo41, no photos within unit 036-030.

II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE:

(Examples: Rangeland/Livestock Improvements (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment).)

Describe: BLM Road 6354-0-100, route 6354-0-100, and road 036-RT4 are utilized mainly by ranchers (as observed by current BLM staff) and by BLM staff for the administration of rangeland resources, livestock grazing, and the maintenance of livestock improvements (fences, springs, and reservoirs) in two allotments. The road and routes also serve as a livestock driveway and are used on a seasonal basis by hunters, recreation enthusiasts, and as access to private inholdings for livestock management.

III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route?

Yes _____ No X Unknown _____

IV. CONSTRUCTIONBLM Road 6354-0-100 Yes X No BLM route 6354-0-100 Yes X No BLM Road 036-RT 4 Yes X No Examples: Paved Bladed X Graveled X Roadside Berms -
 X Cut/Fill X Other

Describe: BLM Road 6354-0-100 has existed in the BLM road system since the late 1960s. In 2001 the lower elevation portion of BLM Road 6354-0-100, west of road section 036-RT4, was bladed and received a gravel base to rise the gradient for drainage with roadside berms and drainage turn-outs. The northeast portion of Road 6354-0-100 above 036-RT4 received intermittent touch-up blade work and a culvert placed in the road to divert water at the location of photo 036-RT4-J. Until the culvert was placed in this drainage, water ran down the remaining road almost to its intersection with US Highway 95. BLM road 036-RT4 was once a diagonal motorized primitive trail (MPT) connecting two road sections of BLM Road 6354-0-100. Over time this road became a major use area connecting with BLM Road 6354-0-100 and now is considered a main section of this road with the less used right-angle section it now dissects becoming a MPT. BLM 036-RT4 received bladed road maintenance in 2006 because of water running onto the road and causing deep ruts to occur. This action further facilitated this section of road as becoming a main portion of BLM Road 6354-0-100.

The higher elevation section of BLM Road 6354-0-100 that is located above, in, and along the Andy Fife drainage has not received maintenance in many years because of its rocky and steep gradient. This section of road was definitely constructed by heavy equipment many years ago as evident from hill side road cuts. A portion of this route travels through a wet bottom that contains riparian vegetation. Because of this vegetation there are no plans in the further to maintain this wetted section and disrupt any potential enhancement of the vegetation and stabilization of the drainage channel. The 6354-0-100 road and associated Andy Fife drainage serve as a livestock trail for approximately 2800 cattle leaving public lands and returning to private during late autumn. Because of these limiting factors this section of BLM Road 6354-0-100 will become a MPT and no longer classified as a road to receive maintenance.

Therefore BLM Road 6354-0-100 now exists only as a cherry-stem road into Unit 036-030. This road is located from where it enters the Andy Fife drainage and westward through lower elevations, including road section 036-RT4 as a new portion of the road, until it intersects with US Highway 95 near McDermitt Nevada.

V. IMPROVEMENTSYes X No By Hand Tools By Machine X

Examples: Culverts X Stream Crossings _____ Bridges _____
 Drainage X Barriers _____ Other X

Describe: See Construction Section above.

VI. MAINTENANCE:

A. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes X No _____

If yes: Hand Tools (Y/N) _____ Machine (Y/N) X

Explain: See Construction Section above.

B. If the route is in good condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM in the event this route became impassable?

Yes X No _____

Comments: Yes for Road section 6354-0-100 and 036-RT4. No for Route section 6354-0-100.
 See Construction Section above.

VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes X No _____

Describe evidence (vehicle tracks observed) and other rationale for whether use has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis:

BLM Road sections 6354-0-100 and 036-RT4 have received regular maintenance as needed as evident from road base build-up, bladed roadbeds, drainage turnouts, culverts, and tire disturbance indicating continual use. Although route section 6354-0-100 receives limited use each year most of the travel in this section is from the top of the ridgeline down slope to the bottom because of the steep gradient and Andy Fife stream bottom.

VIII. CONCLUSION:

To meet the definition of a road, items IV or V, and VI-A or B, and VII must be checked yes.

Road: Yes X No _____

Explanation: BLM has determined that BLM Road 6354-0-100 and 036-RT4 meet the definition of a road as stated in Sections IV, V, VI-A, VI-B, and VII above. BLM Road 6354-0-100 and 036-RT4 were constructed by mechanical equipment, contain improvements, have been maintained since being constructed, would be approved to be maintained by management as needed if the road base became impassable, and have had regular and continuous use.

Evaluator(s):  **Date:** 2/10/10
 David Draheim, Outdoor Recreation Planner

 **Date:** 3/3/10
 Jack Wenderoth, Planning Contractor

 **Date:** 3/22/10
 Marcella Egger, Range Management Specialist

* **road:** An access route which has been **improved and maintained** by **mechanical means** to insure **relatively regular and continuous use**. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

a. **“Improved and maintained”** – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.

b. **“Mechanical means”** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.

c. **“Relatively regular and continuous use”** – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.

Following is the definition from Glossary of OSO 7-3-2007 Draft H-6300-1:

road: The BLM will continue to base the definition of what constitutes a “road” from the FLPMA’s legislative history. The language below is from the House of Representatives Committee Report 94-1163, page 17, dated May 15, 1976, on what became the FLPMA. It is the only statement regarding the definition of a road in the law or legislative history.

“The word ‘roadless’ refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.”

The BLM previously adopted and will continue to use the following sub-definitions of certain words and phrases in the BLM road definition stated above:

- a. **“Improved and maintained”** – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.
- b. **“Mechanical means”** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.
- c. **“Relatively regular and continuous use”** – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.

A road that was established or has been maintained solely by the passage of vehicles would not be considered a road, even if it is used on a relatively regular and continuous basis. Vehicle roads constructed by mechanical means but that are no longer being maintained by mechanical methods are not roads. Sole use of hands and feet to move rocks or dirt without the use of tools or machinery does not meet the definition of “mechanical means.” Roads need not be “maintained” on a regular basis but rather “maintained” when road conditions warrant actions to keep it in a usable condition. A dead-end (cherry-stem) road can form the boundary of an inventory area and does not by itself disqualify an area from being considered “roadless”.