

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Duck Pond OR-034-070, 10 total pages

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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, photo). 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-034-070 -- Duck Pond

**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 X 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 3-100 Duck Pond of OR-03-06-06; 3-105 Piute of OR-03-06-41; OR-03-06-08 Stockade Mtn.; and OR-03-06-40 Dug Out Spring (unpublished BLM documents in case files)
- () 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)
- () 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 3-100 Duck Pond of OR-03-06-06; 3-105 Piute of OR-03-06-41; OR-03-06-08 Stockade Mtn.; and OR-03-06-40 Dug Out

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

- (X) Final Decision – Initial Wilderness Inventory Map, August 1979, Oregon
- () Proposed Decision -- Intensive Wilderness Inventory of Selected Areas Map, October 1979, Oregon
- (X) Intensive Wilderness Inventory Map, March 1980, Oregon
- (X) 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)

Vale District/Malheur 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
3-100 Duck Pond of OR-03- 06-06	19,780	N	N	N	N
3-105 Piute of OR-03-06-41	9,400	Y	N	N	Y
OR-03-06-08 Stockade Mtn.	4,200*	**	**	**	**
OR-03-06-40 Dug Out Spring	620	**	**	**	**
TOTAL	34,000				

* -- While reported as this many acres, this figure is a miscalculation of this unit's public land area (it is about 3,700 acres in size).

** -- These criteria were not determined for these two units, since both units did not meet any size criteria.

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: OR-034-070 -- Duck Pond

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 1 for its location. The unit has 29,647 acres of public land. The unit consists of four BLM late 1970's inventory units which were, at the time, separated by what BLM determined to be roads. Two of these then determined roads have since changed status to a motorized primitive trail (MPT) because no known mechanical maintenance has been performed on them since the late 1970's and BLM does not intend to perform such maintenance to provide for relatively regular and continuous use. The fourth reported road (associated with unit OR-03-06-40) is no longer visually distinguishable.

The boundaries of OR-034-070 consist of adjacent non-BLM lands and dispersed segments of County 513 along its eastern side, and non-BLM lands and 5 road segments traversing public lands along the unit's west, southwest and north sides. Boundary roads are mechanically maintained as needed to provide for relatively regular and continuous seasonal use. Five private inholdings -- a total of 280 acres with no tract greater than 80 acres -- are also boundary features of the unit. The difference in summed acreages of the late 1970's versus now is likely partially due to more accurate methods to derive acreage and some late 1970's disjunctive public land parcels of the general area which then were included are not contiguous lands to the current OR-034-070 unit.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No X N/A

Description: Elevations within the unit range from approximately 4,160 to 5,860 feet. The unit has an appearance somewhat of a "J" with wider northern and southern tips to it. It is about 16 miles long; its greater width is of the unit's northern sector which within its central core approaches about 3.5 miles and tapers north and south of this sector's core to about 2 - 2.25 miles. The central third of the unit is very narrow -- a jagged band of public lands commonly one to 2 miles wide and long. The unit's southern sector is about 3 miles by 3 miles. The majority of the unit's boundary is of abutting private or State parcels creating multiple jutting, ragged configured boundary properties of the unit.

The northern extent of the north sector of the unit has the north-south crest of the Stockade Mountains dissecting the center of it. This prominent ridge then traverses the western boundary of the southern one-third of this northern sector of the unit. Gently

rolling slopes with shallow ravines and small canyons connect the high ridge line to the east and west boundaries. Vegetation is predominately sagebrush with native grasses and with both scattered individual and dense stands of juniper trees.

The southern sector of the unit consists of one large hill and five drainages running toward Turnbull Lake. One of the drainages contains rim rock. None are deep. The east half of this southern sector of the unit contains open, grassy hillsides of bunchgrass. Juniper and grasses grow in deeper ravines in the west half. A tall hill in the center is covered with juniper.

Over half of the 1,767 acre Stockade Mountain Area of Critical Environmental Concern / Research Natural Area (ACEC/RNA) is within the unit. The relevant and important resource values include wildlife habitat and old growth western juniper/big sagebrush/bunchgrass communities with interspersed low sagebrush communities identified by the Oregon Natural Heritage Program.

Refer to the associated Map 1 of this inventory unit for human imprints. The unit, as a whole, has 16.4 miles of rangeland fence, 26.9 miles of 20 MPTs, and 27 earthen reservoirs. There remains nominal remnant visual evidence of one abandoned vehicle route, and there remains no visual contrast of a 1969 chemical vegetative treatment which affected about a quarter of the unit's northern sector along its eastern edge (not displayed on Map 1 or otherwise for this wilderness characteristics inventory maintenance).

The northern sector is the late 1970's 3-100 Duck Pond inventory units, which presently still does not appear to be in a natural condition to the average visitor. The southern boundary of this northern sector is the vehicle route traversing public land through sections 2, 3 and 4 of T. 26S., R.38E. (that is, the same as the south boundary of the 3-100 unit). The extent, locations and short spatial separation of various types of developments (about 11 miles of rangeland fences, 26 reservoirs and about 26 miles of 11 MPTs) – relative to the configuration of this approximate 19,500 acre area -- results in this northern sector appearing to be affected primarily by imprints of humans which collectively are substantially noticeable to the average visitor.

The public lands of the remainder of the unit (about 11,200 acres with one earthen reservoir, about 4.5 miles of rangeland fence and a wide distribution of about 6 miles of 5 MPTs), appears – as it did in the late 1970's – to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: Only that portion of the unit which is in a natural condition is subject to review of this element of wilderness characteristics; thus, the northern sector described above is excluded. The remaining central and southern sectors of the unit are predominately very narrow in width relative to the overall configuration of the unit. This fact, along with the area's vegetation being insufficiently dense or high and its

topographic properties inadequate to provide screening, results in the area not providing for outstanding opportunities for solitude.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: Only that portion of the unit which is in a natural condition is subject to review of this element of wilderness characteristics; thus, the northern sector described above is excluded. There are opportunities for hiking, backpacking, hunting, horseback riding, photography and general sightseeing. Sightseeing of the area's natural features is limited by the area's substantially narrow configuration, and the area does not have any unique or special features which would draw recreationists. Individually or in combinations, the activities do not provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: A sage grouse lek, a BLM special status animal species, has been recorded within the unit. Refer above under natural conditions for described natural values of the Stockade Mountain ACEC/RNA.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-034-070 -- Duck Pond

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 No
- 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: Robert L Alward
 Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner, contractor

Team Members:

<u>Steve Christensen</u> Steve Christensen, Rangeland Management Specialist	<u>3-9-2011</u> Date
<u>Daniel Thomas</u> Dan Thomas, Range Technician	<u> </u> Date
<u>Gillian Wigglesworth</u> Gillian Wigglesworth, Botanist	<u>3/9/11</u> Date
<u>Michelle Caviness</u> Michelle Caviness, Wildlife Biologist	<u>3/10/11</u> Date
<u>Eian Ray</u> Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, contractor	<u>3-9-11</u> Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u> Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	<u>3/9/11</u> Date

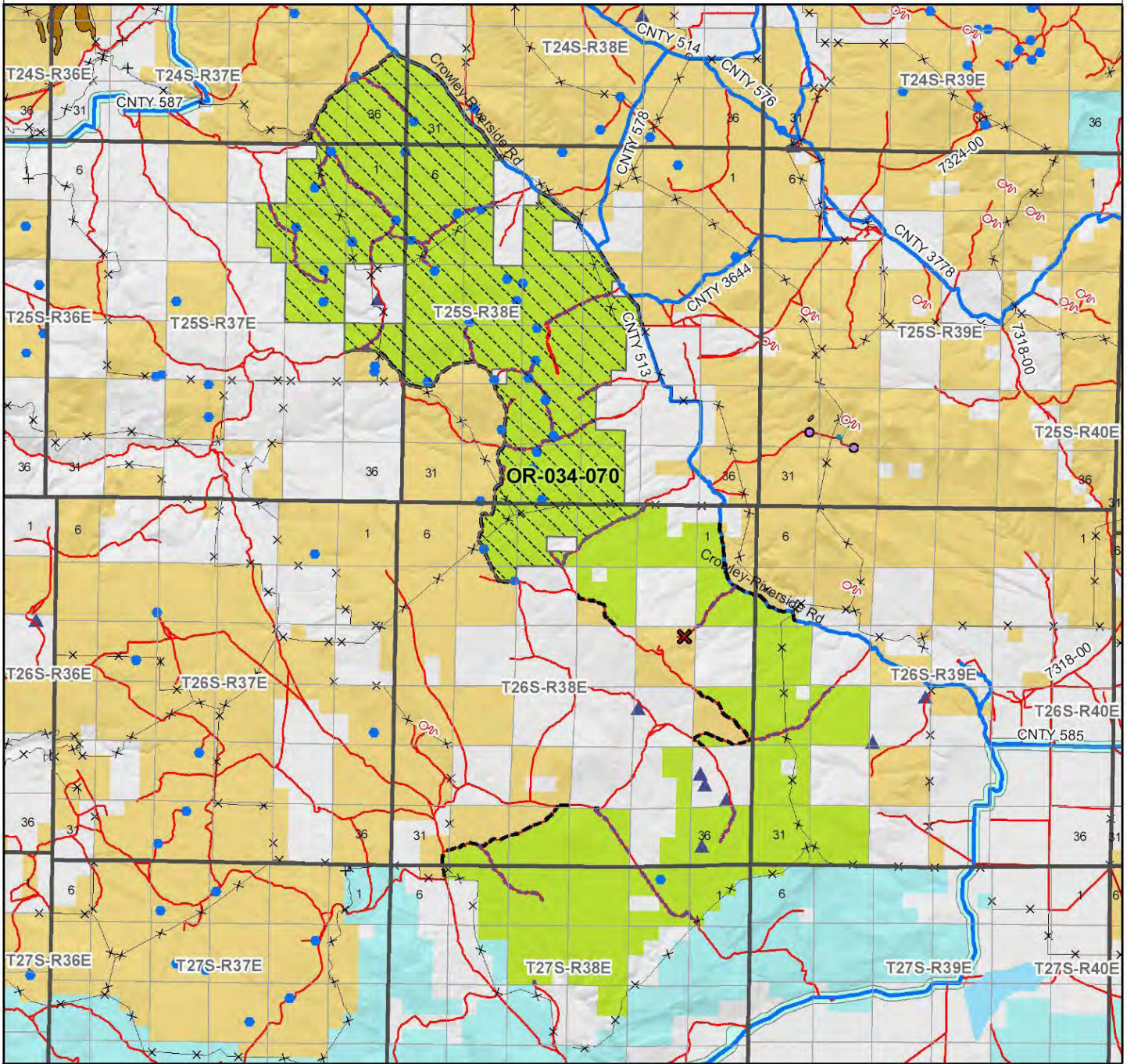
Approved by:

Pat Ryan 4/17/11
 Pat Ryan, Malheur 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.

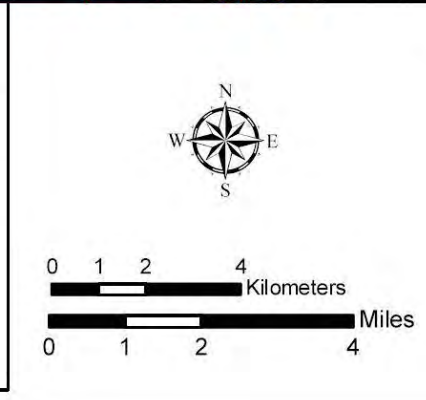
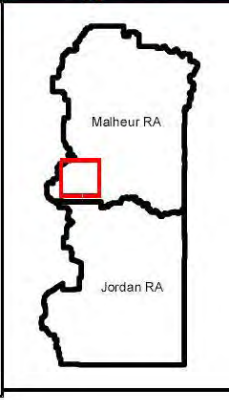
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Duck Pond - OR-034-070 - Map 1 of 1



Legend

Developed Spring	Boundary Road
Wildlife Guzzler	Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT)
Earthen Reservoir	Discontinued Use
Pipeline	Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit
Trough	County
Fence	Major Highway
Storage Tank	BLM Numbered & Other Routes
Surface Mining Disturbance	Land Ownership
Sage Grouse Lek	Bureau of Land Management
Special Status Plant	State
BLM Wild Char Inventory Unit	Private
Wilderness Study Area	Other Federal Land
Mineral Material Site	Unnatural Areas
Road/Utility Right-of-Way	
Major Water Body	



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

VALE DISTRICT
 September 21, 2010

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