

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents  
**Honeycombs Contiguous OR-034-116, 10 total pages**

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**Prepared by:**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bureau of Land Management**  
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**100 Oregon Street**  
**Vale, Oregon 97918**



## **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: 2009 Unit Number/Name: OR-034-116 — Honeycombs Contiguous

**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.):

**NOTE:** Relative to the present OR-034-116 wilderness characteristics inventory unit, only its east parcel was within the below documented inventory units of the late 1970's. Late in the 1970's inventory process – that is, at the time of WSA designation in November, 1980 – this east parcel was excluded from what was designated the Honeycombs WSA. OR-034-116's west parcel was never recognized as being administered by the BLM during the late 1970's BLM inventory.

**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 Unit partially of 3-77 Honeycombs of OR-03-05-31 (unpublished BLM document 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 -- partially of 3-77 Honeycombs of OR-03-05-31

**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)**

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.

<b>Unit#/Name</b>	<b>Size (historic acres)</b>	<b>Natural Condition? Y/N</b>	<b>Outstanding Solitude? Y/N</b>	<b>Outstanding Primitive &amp; Unconfined Recreation? Y/N</b>	<b>Supplemental Values? Y/N</b>
Partially of 3-77A Honeycombs of OR-03-05-31	43,700*				
<b>TOTAL</b>	43,700				

\* -- Only a portion of this acreage constitutes the present OR-034-116 unit; and of the present OR-034-116 unit, only its east parcel (440 acres) was included in this late 1970's unit. Also see "NOTE" under "1.", above.

## **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.

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## **FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

**Unit Number/Name:** OR-034-116 — Honeycombs Contiguous

**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 two separate parcels. The east parcel is 440 acres, and the west parcel is 86 acres, for a total of 526 acres of public lands. The east parcel was originally identified by BLM for the late 1970's wilderness characteristics (WC) inventory as part of the much larger 3-77 inventory unit. The east boundary of this present east parcel of OR-034-116 unit is BLM road 7306-0-00; the remainder of the parcel's boundary is the edge of a combined disc-drilled non-native bunchgrass seeding and a sage brush spray treatment. The BLM excluded this combined treatment area from being within the BLM late 1970's 3-77A inventory unit (and which in 1980 was designated by BLM as the Honeycombs WSA). Since then, the visual evidence of drill furrows and linear vegetative lines from the seeding has become visually obscure as viewed by the average visitor to the area. Thus, this east parcel is contiguous with the WSA.

The west parcel of OR-034-116 is a BLM parcel which apparently was identified as a federal parcel administered by the Bureau of Reclamation when BLM's late 1970's WC inventory was conducted. Present land ownership records indicate the parcel is administered by the BLM. This west parcel's boundary with the WSA is a section line, thus, the parcel is contiguous with the Honeycombs WSA. This parcel's remaining boundary feature is the conservation pool level of Owyhee Reservoir (administered by the Bureau of Reclamation).

Thus, both parcels of this OR-034-116 unit are now contiguous with the Honeycombs WSA. The boundary road of the east parcel is mechanically maintained as needed to provide for relatively regular and seasonally continuous use.

### **2. Is the unit in a natural condition?**

Yes   X                        No                                 N/A           

**Description:** Vegetation of both parcels is predominately native and/or nonnative grasses and sagebrush. The west parcel's spatial density of sagebrush is greater than within the east parcel, with sagebrush in the east parcel being more so scattered – reflective of gradual natural propagation over time since the disc drilled grass seeding. Elevations in the east parcel are between 4,180 and 4,450 feet over slight to moderate east-facing down slopes to the parcel's east boundary (BLM road 7306-0-00). Elevations

in the west parcel are from the conservation pool level of the Owyhee Reservoir (approximately 2,740 feet) to 3,250 feet. Topography of this parcel is predominately the steep to very steep slopes of Saddle Butte (the Butte, itself, is located within the WSA).

Refer to the unit's associated Map 1 for human imprints. There are no human developments within the west parcel and the parcel is contiguous with the natural landscape appearance of the adjoining Honeycombs WSA. In the east parcel there is one motorized primitive trail of 0.5 mile, and a 0.4 mile long buried water pipeline. There is presently no visual evidence remaining of a 1970 chemical treatment and 1970 disc drilled seeding within the east parcel. With no longer any apparent visual contrast of the features associated with the vegetation treatments in the east parcel, both parcels of the unit are affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans being substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor. This natural condition is further enhanced by the continuing natural condition of the contiguous WSA.

**3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?**

Yes   X              No                       N/A           

**Description:** Both parcels -- being of small acreage, themselves and collectively -- do not provide for outstanding opportunities for solitude. However, being contiguous with the WSA which does possess outstanding opportunities for solitude, the unit in combination with the WSA takes on a continuum of landscape area which, overall, provides for outstanding opportunities for solitude. Within each parcel, themselves, this is somewhat dampened by the unavoidable occasional outside sight and sounds of motorized boating on Owyhee Reservoir (west parcel), and by outside motorized vehicle travel of the road on the east parcel's east boundary road 7306-0-00.

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

Yes   X              No                       N/A           

**Description:** Being contiguous with the WSA, certain outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation associated with the WSA are also available within the two parcels of this inventory unit in combination with the WSA. Examples include the hunting of bighorn sheep, a prized trophy hunting species, a continuum of outstanding hiking opportunities, and -- with the west parcel -- visually striking steep topography.

**5. Does the unit have supplemental values?**

Yes   X              No                       N/A           

**Description:** Both parcels of the unit are within a much greater bighorn sheep habitat area, which is a BLM special status animal species. Two documented sites of Owyhee cover, a BLM special status plant species, are along the west and southwest boundaries of the east parcel.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: OR-034-116 — Honeycombs Contiguous

**Summary Results of Analysis:**

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

**Conclusion -- check one:**

X  The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness character.

The area does not have wilderness character.

**Prepared by:** Robert Alward  
Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner contractor

**Team Members:**

<u>Mitch Thomas</u>	<u>2/4/10</u>
Mitch Thomas, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Gillian Wigglesworth</u>	<u>2/5/10</u>
Gillian Wigglesworth, Botanist	Date
<u>Shaney Rockefeller</u>	<u>3/10/10</u>
Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist	Date
<u>Michelle Caviness</u>	<u>2/25/10</u>
Michelle Caviness, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u>Eian Ray</u>	<u>02/09/10</u>
Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, contractor	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	<u>2/9/10</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

**Approved by:**

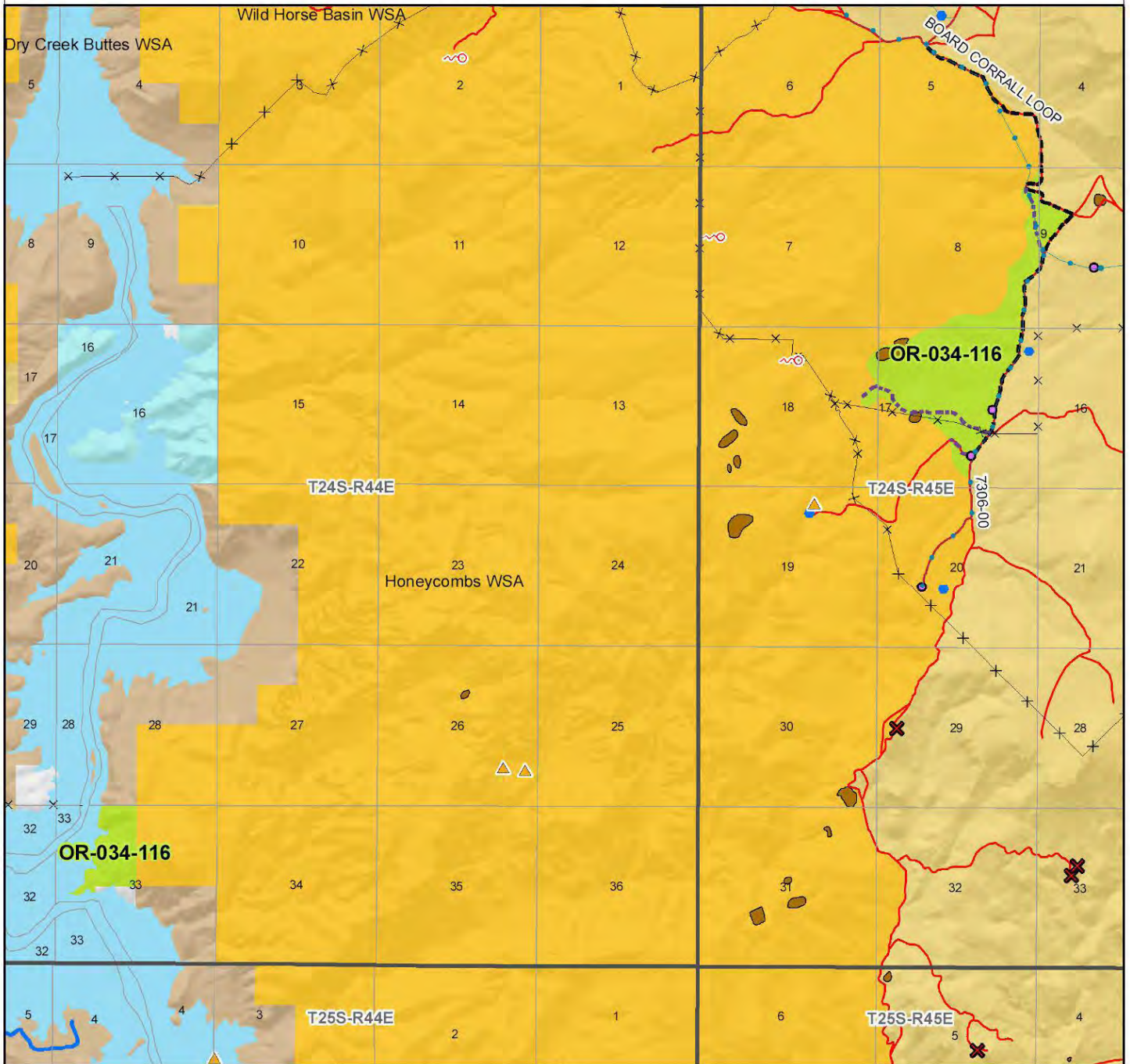
Pat Ryan 7/11/10  
Pat Ryan, Malheur Resource Area Field Manager Date

*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.*



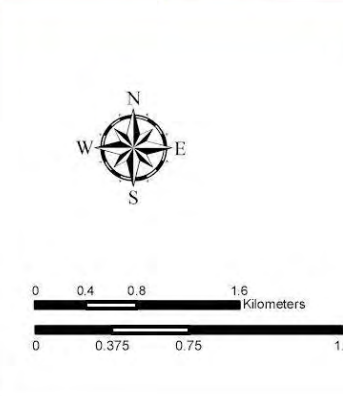
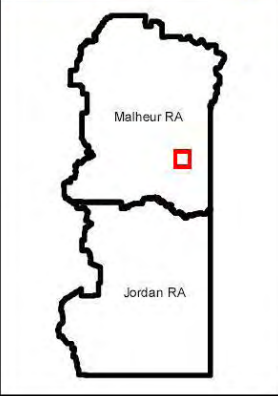
# Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

## Honeycomb Contiguous - OR-034-116 - Map 1 of 2



**Legend**

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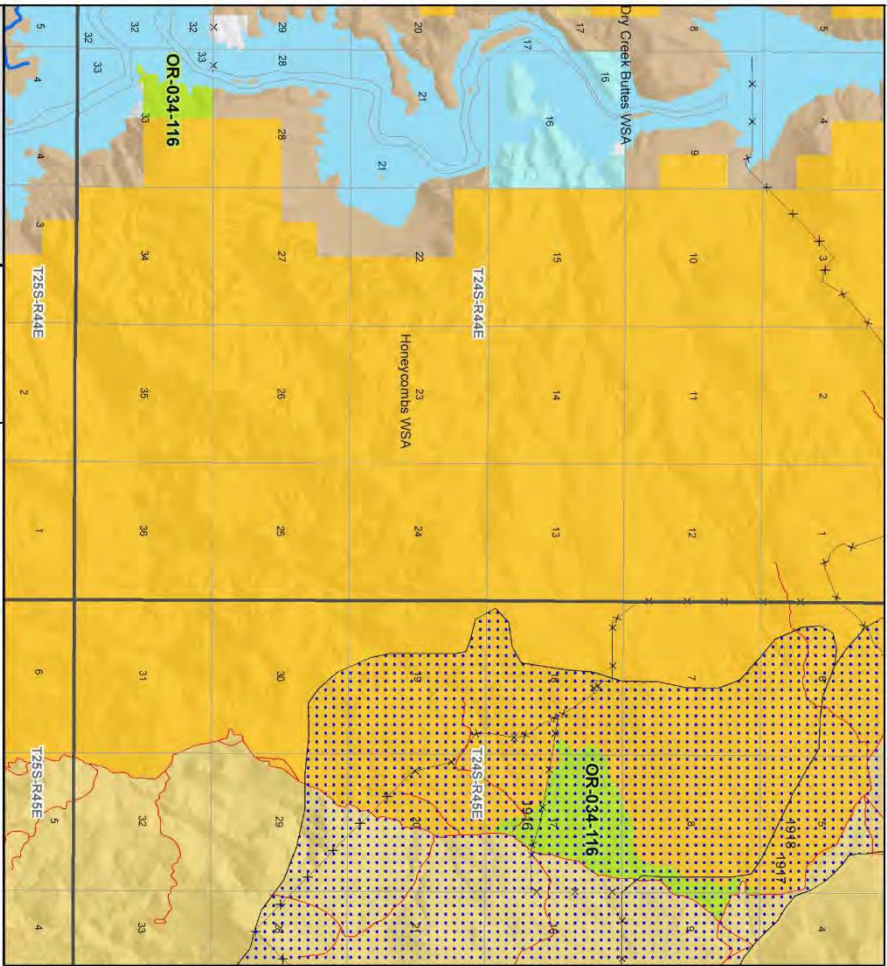
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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

**VALE DISTRICT**  
December 15, 2009

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**--FINAL--**

**Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments**  
**Honeycomb Contiguous - OR-034-116 - Map 2 of 2**



**Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments**  
**Honeycomb Contiguous - OR-034-116 - Map 2 of 2**

OBJECTID*	NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE
1916	M/CINTYRE BRUSH CONTROL	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1970
1917	SHEEPHEADS SEEDING	Plow/Disc	Not Applicable	1970
1918	SHEEPHEADS SEEDING	Drill Seeding	Unknown	1970

Note: The Land Treatments represented by navy blue dots on the map to the left are labeled with the treatments' ObjectIDs listed in the first field of the Land Treatments table shown above. Multiple types of treatments may have been applied to the same area. For example, one treatment area may have been plowed and drill seeded - a record is shown in the table for each type of treatment.

**Legend**

- Land Treatment
- Boundary
- County
- Water
- Plow
- Chemical
- Drill

**Scale**

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles  
 0 0.3 0.6 1.2 Kilometers

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**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**VALE DISTRICT**  
 December 15, 2009

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