

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Long Ridge OR-036-033, 11 total pages

Page 1: Index Cover Sheet

[Page 2: Form 1 – Documentation of BLM Wilderness Inventory: Findings on Record](#)

[Page 5: Form 2 – Documentation of Current Wilderness Inventory Conditions](#)

[Page 9: Form 2 – Summary of Findings and Conclusion](#)

[Page 10: Wilderness Characteristics Overview–Long Ridge OR-036-033 Map 1 of 2](#)

[Page 11: Wilderness Characteristics-Land Treatments-Long Ridge OR-036-033 Map 2 of 2](#)

**Prepared by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Vale District Office
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
 - 2) 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-036-033 -- Long Ridge

**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 – **Oregon:** 3-204 Long Ridge of OR-03-12-03 (unpublished BLM documents in case files); **Nevada:** NV-020-800A and NV-020-800A B2
- (X) April 1979 – *Wilderness -- Proposed Initial Inventory – Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not have Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington*

Wilderness Decision Documents *

(* --**NOTE:** Vale District does not have information for Nevada portion of the unit.)

- (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).
- () 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)
- () 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)

Oregon: BLM 3-204 Long Ridge of OR-03-12-03

Nevada: NV-020-800A and NV-020-800A B2

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

(* -- **NOTE:** Vale District does not have information for Nevada portion of the unit.)

- 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 Office

Jordan Field Office

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
Oregon: 3-204 Long Ridge of OR-03-12-03	8,400	N	N	N	**
Nevada ***: sum of NV-020-800A & NV-020-800A B2	81,436***	***	***	***	***
TOTAL	90,268				

** -- This criteria was not addressed during the inventory of this unit.

*** -- Vale District has no specific information from Winnemucca District. Acreage is an estimate derived by Vale District based on information associated with the current Vale District unit OR-036-033 Long Ridge.

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

APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION

Evaluation of Current Conditions:

- 3) Document and review
 - 4) 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.*

FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: OR-036-033 -- Long Ridge

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 is composed of contiguous public lands located in both Vale District and the Winnemucca District of Nevada. Total size of the unit is 90,268 acres (8,832 acres in Oregon and 81,436 acres in Nevada). In the Vale District, the unit is of the same boundaries as during BLM's late 1970's inventory; they consist of abutting private land parcels, and the right-of-ways of County roads 581 and 572. In the Winnemucca District, the unit is of the same boundaries as during BLM's late 1970's inventory; boundaries consist of private land parcels associated with McDermitt and Washburn Creeks, roads traversing public lands, and three private inholdings totaling 1,000 acres. The boundary roads receive mechanical maintenance as needed to keep them passable on a relatively regular and seasonally continuous basis.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes No X* N/A

(* -- NOTE: Within Vale District portion of the unit.)

Description: The unit as a whole consists of portions of a complex of watersheds -- McDermitt Creek within both Vale and Winnemucca Districts: Frances, Little Riser, Riser, Sage, Little Wildcat, Jordan Meadow, Little Washburn, and Washburn Creeks within Nevada. Within the unit in Nevada, the streams flow to either Washburn Creek or McDermitt Creek; Long Ridge is a major watershed ridge system extending through much of the north-south orientation of the unit, and Washburn Basin and Jordan Meadow Basin are notable geophysical locations. The majority of the terrain in both Oregon and Nevada is of a slight to moderate gradient with more so rolling hills associated with it; and in both states certain creek drainages possess segments of steep to very steep slopes. In Oregon, elevations range from approximately 4,600 to 5,568 feet; in Idaho between approximately 4,530 to 6,500 feet. The Lahontan Cutthroat Trout occurs in the unit and represent the last remaining genetically pure strain of native trout remaining in the Pacific Northwest. Vegetation throughout the unit is predominately a mix of native and non-

native grasses and sagebrush. In Oregon the unit is approximately 15 miles long and no greater than 1.25 miles wide.

Refer to this unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for of human imprints. In Oregon, the unit has 17.3 miles of 13 motorized primitive trails (MPTs), 8.4 miles of rangeland fence, two buried pipelines with 3 associated water troughs, one earthen reservoir, and a structure and visual evidence of recent disc row plowing (in section 17, T.41S, R.40 E, approximately 3.5 acres). Remnant visual evidence remains of a 1.25 mile abandoned route segment. There remains no visual contrast to the average visitor of disc-drilled seedings and chemical treatments between 1968 and 1986 within the unit's Oregon portion.

In Nevada, the unit has 122.4 miles of 74 MPTs, 55.2 miles of rangeland fence, 4 separate systems of a total 5.1 miles of buried pipelines and affiliated water troughs, 14 earthen reservoirs, 11 developed springs, a water well site, a corral site, a dated surface mining operation, and numerous old prospect mining site workings). To date of this inventory maintenance, Vale District has not received any other information about human imprints from the Winnemucca District (e.g, if any or locations and/or extent of vegetation treatments, active or inactive mineral extraction locations/operations, etc).

This wilderness characteristics inventory maintenance provides a finding of this wilderness characteristics criteria for only within the 8,832 acre portion of the unit located within Vale District, Oregon. The close proximity to each other of the area's numerous MPTs – and in consideration of their substantially even distribution along the unit's length along with the associated location of other developments within the area -- results in the 8,832 acre Oregon portion of OR-036-033 to not appear 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 _____

(* -- **NOTE:** Within Vale District portion of the unit.)

Description: The low profile of the unit's vegetation is insufficient to provide adequate screening to support an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

This wilderness characteristics inventory maintenance provides a finding of this wilderness characteristics criteria for only within the 8,832 acre portion of the unit located within Vale District, Oregon. The portion of the unit in Oregon is very long relative to its width (no greater than 1.25 miles wide and 15 miles long (although the 15 miles is dissected by a 3-mile length of private land that results in no greater than a 9 mile

length of contiguous public lands in the unit within Oregon). Within Oregon, the main canyon of McDermitt Creek runs along the length of the longest contiguous public land portion (being 9 miles) of the unit. Much of this canyon has steep to very steep slopes which supports opportunities for a visitor to experience a sense of being isolated.

However, relative to the configuration of the Oregon portion of the unit, the canyon – as with other public lands elsewhere in the unit within Oregon -- is not sufficiently deep, windy, narrow, or, otherwise, possess topographic properties to provide settings for outstanding opportunities to experience solitude.

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

Yes _____ No X* _____ N/A _____

(* -- NOTE: Within Vale District portion of the unit.)

Description: This wilderness characteristics inventory maintenance provides a finding of this wilderness characteristics criteria for only within the 8,832 acre portion of the unit located within Vale District, Oregon. The area provides hunting opportunities for common game species (primarily chukar, deer and antelope). Hiking, backing, horseback riding, photography and general sightseeing (including botanical and wildlife viewing) are also available, but the area is not recognized as being a destination area for these activities. The area within Oregon does not possess any special or unique features to specifically attract recreational visitors. For the above stated reasons, the unit's portion within Oregon does not have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X _____ No _____ N/A _____

Description: In both Oregon and Nevada, the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout, a listed Threatened species under the federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act, is in McDermitt Creek, and represent one of the last remaining genetically pure strains of native trout remaining in the Pacific Northwest. A part of the unit includes bighorn sheep habitat (the animal is a BLM special status animal species in Oregon).

Presently documented in the Oregon portion of the unit are two leks of sage grouse (a BLM special status bird species) and one site of *Artemisia arbuscula* spp. *Longicaulis* (a BLM special status plant species).

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-036-033 -- Long Ridge

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
(NOTE: * -- Within Vale District portion of the unit.)

Conclusion -- check one:

- The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness character.
- The area does not have wilderness character.
(* -- NOTE: Within Vale District portion of the unit.)

Prepared by: Robert Alward
Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner, contractor, Vale District

Team Members:

<u>Richard White</u>	4/29/10
Richard White, Range Management Specialist, Vale District	Date
<u>Garth Ross</u>	5/13/2010
Garth Ross, Wildlife Biologist, Vale District	Date
<u>Gillian Wigglesworth</u>	5/19/10
Gillian Wigglesworth, Botanist, Vale District	Date
<u>Eian Ray</u>	5-14-10
Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, contractor, Vale District	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	5/18/10
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator, Vale District	Date

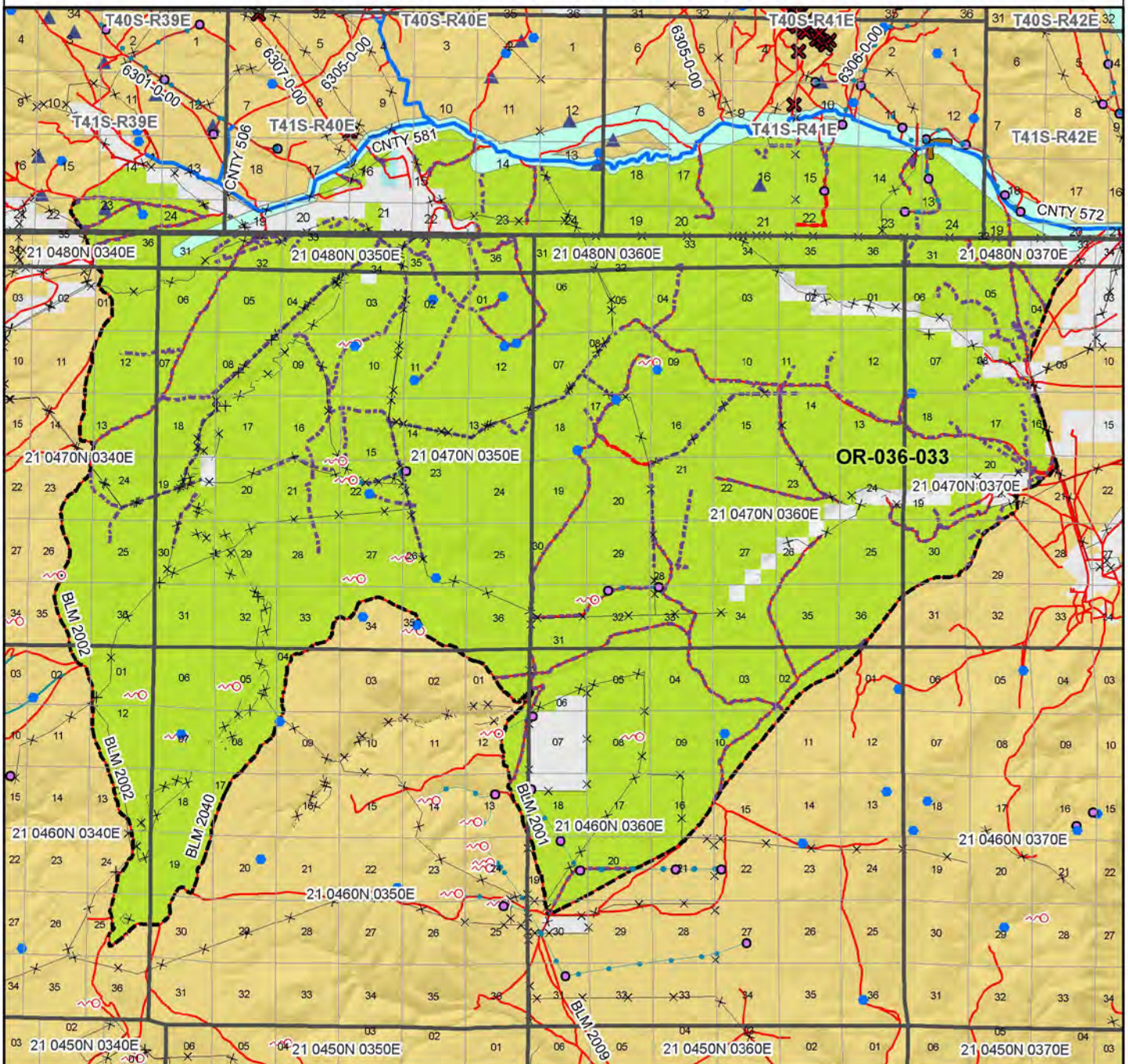
Approved by:

Carolyn Freeborn 7/19/2010
Carolyn Freeborn, Jordan Resource Area Field Manager, Vale District 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.

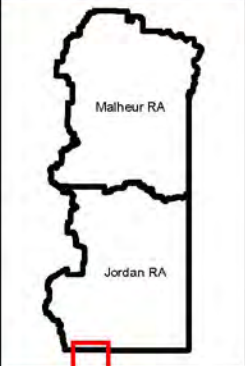
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Long Ridge - OR-036-033 - 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 Wilderness Study Area Mineral Material Site Road/Utility Right-of-Way Major Water Body BLM Wild Char Inventory Unit | <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 BLM Numbered & Other Routes Land Ownership Bureau of Land Management State Private Other Federal Land |
|---|--|



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



VALE DISTRICT
April 21, 2010

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.

--FINAL--

