

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Smith Butte OR-034-094, 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: 2009 Unit Number/Name: OR-034-094 — Smith Butte

**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 OR-03-05-09 Smith Butte; partially of OR-03-05-33 Three Finger Rock South. (unpublished BLM documents in 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)
- () 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)

BLM OR-03-05-09 Smith Butte; partially of OR-03-05-33 Three Finger Rock South

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
- () 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.

Unit #/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
OR-03-05-09 Smith Butte	3,700	*	*	*	*
Partially of OR-03-05-33, Three Fingers Rock South	7,440**	N	*	*	*
TOTAL	11,140**				

* -- Criteria were not addressed during the inventory of these units.

** -- Current unit OR-034-094 is only partially of this unit and, respectively, of total acreage.

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FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: OR-034-094 — Smith Butte

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 the associated Map 1 of this inventory unit for its location. The 6,708 acre unit approaches nearly twice as large as the BLM late 1970's inventory (OR-03-05-09, Smith Butte), due to a change in route status of a then determined road becoming a motorized primitive trail. The once determined road has not received maintenance since the late 1970's, and presently is with no identified administrative need to require future mechanical maintenance actions of the route. OR-034-094 is bounded by the Succor Creek Road and private lands on its east side, BLM 7301-0-00 (Leslie Gulch Road) on its south side, and two other unlabeled roads across public lands on its west and north sides. A designated BLM mineral materials site of approximately 80 public land acres near the southern boundary road – and its cherry stem road to the site -- are also features of the unit's boundary. The roads receive mechanical maintenance as needed to ensure their ability to provide for relatively regular and seasonally continuous use.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: The unit is dominated by low rolling hills between small drainages that flow generally north or northeast within the unit. The higher Saddle Butte and Smith Butte features possess steeper upper slopes than most of their surrounding terrain. Elevations range from 3,660 to 4,597 feet (Smith Butte in the unit's northeast sector). The shallow segments of Moss Gulch are located in the unit's southeast sector. The vegetation is predominately non-native grasses and sagebrush with scattered areas of native grass species.

Refer to this unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for human imprints. They include 3.1 miles of rangeland fence, 7.9 miles of 7 motorized primitive trails (MPT), one developed spring, 3 earthen reservoirs, a 1 mile buried water pipeline with 2 troughs, and a fenced corral site (corral site not depicted on the maps). Faint visual evidence of two abandoned vehicle routes (totaling 1.7 miles) exists very near the south boundary road of the unit. Approximately 75% of the inventory unit has had a documented history of vegetative treatment, from 1969 through 2002. To the average visitor of the unit, there remains no

apparent unnatural visually contrasting evidence of a 1969 chemical treatment of sagebrush which affected most of the unit, or of either a 1969 or 1986 disk drill seeding of non-native grasses. There is no remaining visual evidence of furrowing or other visually contrasting evidence associated with a 2002 disc-drilled seeding of shrub species, and the average visitor also would not be able to visually distinguish results of a 2002 aerial seeding of shrub species which affected most of the inventory unit. Individually and collectively, due to the types, nominal number and generally wide distribution of the human imprints, the unit appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans being substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: There is insufficient vegetative growth or density to provide for outstanding opportunities for solitude within the unit. Elevations range from 3,660 to 4,597 feet. The unit is about 3 -3.5 miles long by 3 miles wide. Within its fairly uniform dimensions, there are certain locations where a visitor may experience some sense of being isolated, but the topographic lay within the unit of substantially gently rolling terrain coupled with its most common fairly shallow drainage features do not provide adequate relief – with or without the effect of the unit’s vegetation – to provide for outstanding opportunities of solitude.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: The predominate dispersed recreation activity opportunities are hunting of common upland and big game species (chukar, deer and antelope) and hiking associated with these activities. There are no unusual, unique or outstanding features to attract recreational pursuits within the unit. Thus, individually or collectively, the primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities are not outstanding.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: BLM has documented five sites of barren milkvetch, and two sites of Owyhee clover within the Moss Gulch watershed of the unit. Both species are BLM special status plant species.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-034 -094—Smith Butte

Summary Results of Analysis:



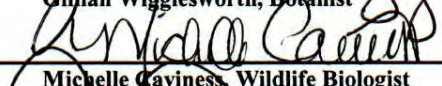

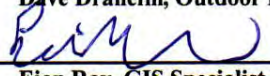
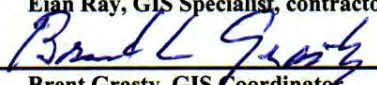
- 1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? Yes No
- 2. Does the area appear to be natural? Yes No
- 3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion -- check one:

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

Prepared by: 
Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner contractor

Team Members:

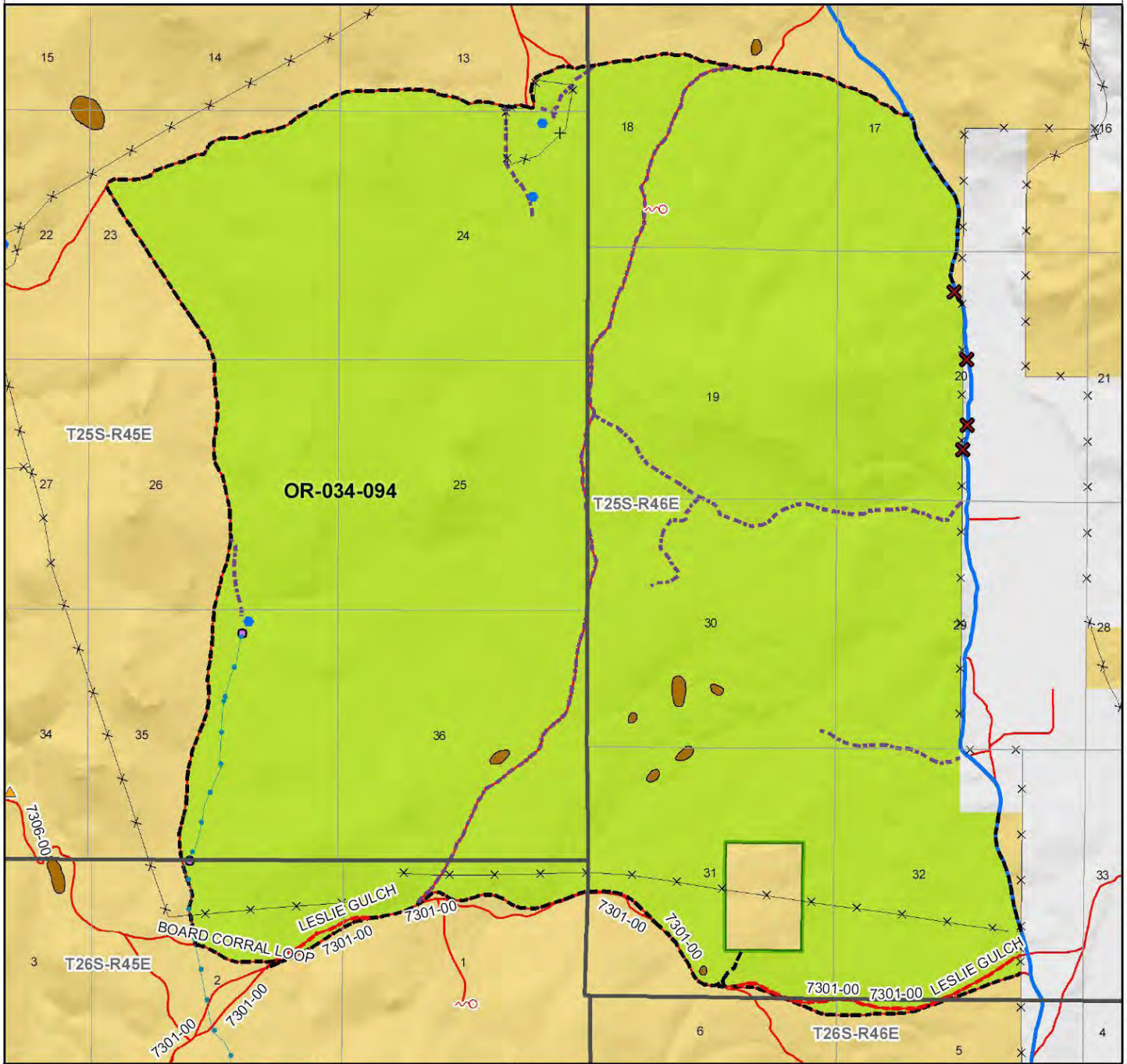
<u></u>	<u>2/14/10</u>
Mitch Thomas, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u></u>	<u>2/5/10</u>
Gillian Wigglesworth, Botanist	Date
<u></u>	<u>2/25/10</u>
Michelle Caviness, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u></u>	<u>2/10/10</u>
Dave Draheim, Outdoor Recreation Planner	Date
<u></u>	<u>02/09/10</u>
Ejan Ray, GIS Specialist, contractor	Date
<u></u>	<u>2/9/10</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

Approved by:

 7/1/10
Pat Ryan, Malheur Resource Area Field Manager Date

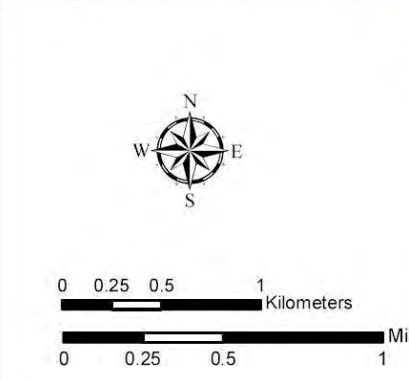
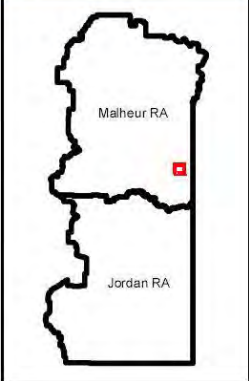
This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.

Wilderness Characteristics - Overview Smith Butte - OR-034-094 - Map 1 of 2



Legend

Developed Spring	Route Types - BLM Determination
Wildlife Guzzler	Boundary Road
Earthen Reservoir	Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT)
Pipeline	Discontinued Use
Trough	Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit
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	
Road/Utility Right-of-Way	
Major Water Body	



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

VALE DISTRICT
October 26, 2009

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