

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents  
**Sperry Creek Contiguous OR-034-119, 9 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, 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-034-119 — Sperry Creek 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  No  (If yes, and if more than one unit is within the area, list the names of those units.):

**NOTE:** See note following table, below.

**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 --- See note following table, below.

( ) April 1979 – *Wilderness -- Proposed Initial Inventory – Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not have Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington*

**Wilderness Decision Documents**

( ) 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)**

N.A. ( See note following the table, below.)

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

**NOTE: See note following table, below.**

- ( ) 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/ Malheur 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
(N.A.)*					
<b>TOTAL</b>					

\* -- The area for the 2010 WC inventory maintenance is historically identified only as what was part of “3-35” (per the August 1979 WC inventory decision map) and depicted on that map as “Previously Inventoried BLM Unit Found Not to Have Wilderness Characteristics”. The final “3-35” is what today is known as OR-3-35, Sperry Creek WSA, which is smaller in area than the original “3-35” inventory unit. No records can be located within Vale District to either track the original acreage of “3-35”, or statement(s) of rationale for the eventual decreased size of the unit (but which then eventually became the WSA). Any record of determination of the WC criteria for the original “3-35” cannot be located.

## **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-034-119 — Sperry Creek Contiguous**

**NOTE:** In February, 2004, the Vale District received from Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) its evaluation of wilderness characteristics for what ONDA names its 257,522 acre “Hunter Peak proposed WSA”. For reference, a hard copy of ONDA’s proposal is retained in this unit’s file. Information provided by ONDA’s proposal was considered and incorporated as appropriate for this BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory maintenance.

ONDA recommends its proposed area to be a “stand-alone WSA”, although stating that its proposed WSA is separated from the adjacent existing BLM Sperry Creek WSA (OR-3-35) by vehicular “ways” (CWb and CWc), or what BLM terms for this inventory maintenance a motorized primitive trail (MPT).

Relative to boundaries, the only difference from ONDA’s proposal is that BLM concludes that OR-034-119 is separated from the proposed WSA by a road -- 7331-00 (versus what ONDA identifies as its CWb and CWc ways. However, BLM has determined that OR-034-119 is contiguous with BLM’s existing Sperry Creek WSA (OR-3-35).

**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 147 acres of public land. The unit is contiguous to the present BLM Sperry Creek WSA (OR-3-35). When Sperry Creek WSA was designated in 1980, BLM included a legal descriptive within section 3 which is the northern-most boundary of this OR-034-119 unit. A legal descriptive is not a qualifying boundary feature; thus, OR-034-119 -- being contiguous with Sperry Creek WSA -- meets size criteria.

The unit’s remaining other boundary features are BLM road 7331-00 (see “NOTE”, above) on its west side and private land on its east and south sides. The boundary road, as a segment of a primary connective route between private land parcels, is mechanically maintained as needed to provide for relatively regular and continuous use.

**2. Is the unit in a natural condition?**Yes  No  N/A 

**Description:** The unit includes a short segment of Deadhorse Creek and affiliated low to moderately sloped terrain. Elevations range from 3,600 to 3,800 feet. Vegetation is sagebrush and native grasses in the uplands and some larger woody species are along Deadhorse Creek.

There are no human developments within the unit, itself (see Map 1). This small unit nominally supplements the existing natural condition of the contiguous Sperry Creek WSA.

**3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?**Yes  No  N/A 

**Description:** The unit, of itself, does not possess outstanding opportunities for solitude. However, being contiguous to Sperry Creek WSA, it slightly enhances the already recognized outstanding opportunities for solitude identified with the WSA.

**4. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?**Yes  No  N/A 

**Description:** The unit, of itself, provides opportunities for hunting, hiking, and sightseeing but are not considered outstanding. However, it supplements some of the collective outstanding opportunities associated with the contiguous Sperry Creek WSA, such as hiking and sightseeing.

**5. Does the unit have supplemental values?**Yes  No  N/A 

**Description:** Sage grouse – a BLM special status animal species – occupies the Sperry Creek WSA, thus – although not specifically documented -- likely utilizes the public lands of this inventory unit. The unit is within a recognized potential bighorn sheep habitat area; the species – a BLM special status animal species – does not presently occupy the area due to ongoing domestic sheep use of the habitat.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-034-119 — Sperry Creek 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>Steve Christensen</u>	<u>12-6-2010</u>
Steve Christensen, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Dan Thomas</u>	<u>12/6/10</u>
Dan Thomas, Range Technician	Date
<u>Gillian Wigglesworth</u>	<u>12/6/10</u>
Gillian Wigglesworth, Botanist	Date
<u>Michelle Caviness</u>	<u>12/10/10</u>
Michelle Caviness, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u>Eian Ray</u>	<u>12-6-10</u>
Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, contractor	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	<u>12/5/10</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

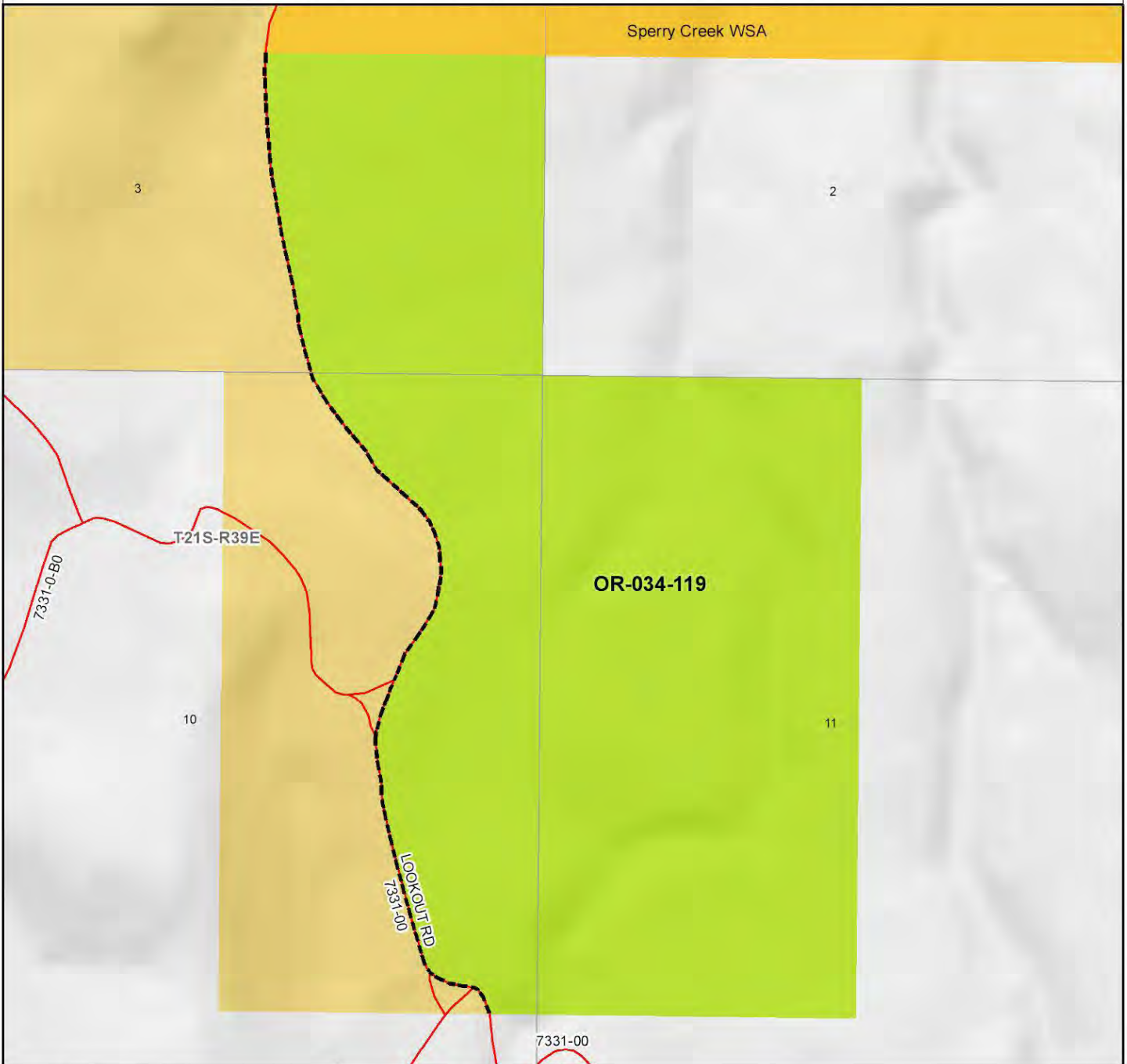
Approved by: Pat Ryan 12/13/10  
Pat Ryan, Malheur Resource Area Field Manager Date

*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.*

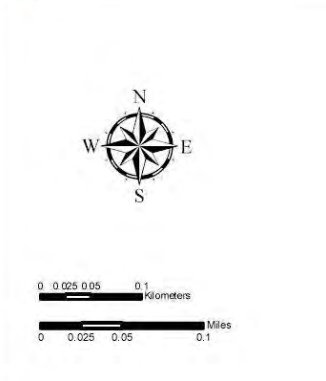
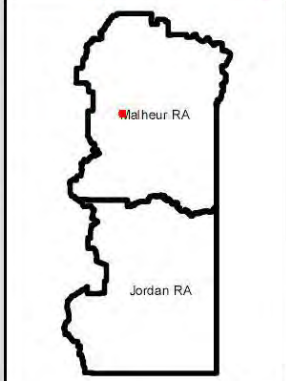


# Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

## Sperry Creek Contiguous - OR-034-119 - Map 1 of 1



- Legend**
- 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
- 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



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

**VALE DISTRICT**  
July 12, 2010

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