

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Spring OR-035-016, 12 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-035-016 – Spring

**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?

(If yes, and if more than one unit is within the area, list the names of those units.):

Yes No X

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

- 1978 – BLM Wilderness Inventory
- 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

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 Baker 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
TOTAL					

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FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: OR-035-016 – Spring

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 6,759 acres of public land. Boundaries are highly irregular and consist of public lands abutting private land parcels, and roads (Baker County #994 Snake River road to the east, BLM roads # 6124-0-000 and 6121-0-00 to the west, and #6681-0-1C0 to the north to create the perimeter boundaries of the unit. The boundary roads are mechanically maintained as needed to provide for relatively regular and continuous use.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No _____

Description: The unit includes the western extent of the Snake River Canyon and its associated steep slopes, rim rocks and outcrops and numerous steep drainages that exist throughout the unit that slope to the east. Elevations of the unit range from 2,080 feet at the Snake River road, to 4,925 feet at the highest western point of the unit. Drainage depths range from 300 to 900 feet from ridge top to canyon bottom over a distance of 1/4 mile or less for the larger drainages in the northern section of the unit. However, most of the drainages range primarily from 200-500 feet from bottom to ridge. The northern third of the unit is dominated by higher elevation features and deeper, more pronounced drainages which drain into Morgan Creek. The southern reaches of the unit are covered in more numerous drainages branching from the central ridgeline that forms the western boundary. This southern portion of the unit consists of moderate to steep sloped topography which drains east toward the unit's Snake River boundary road. The dominant vegetation of the entire unit is native and non-native grasses and sagebrush.

Refer to this unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for human imprints. Activities indicating the works of man, which are still readily apparent, 1 earthen reservoir, 3 MPT's totaling 3.3 miles, 31 spring developments, and 8.0 miles of rangeland fence. Aerial seeding of grasses has occurred in the past in the northern portion of the unit for emergency stabilization after fire events, however there is no apparent visual contrast associated with the aerial seeding. Visual contrast across the unit remains neutral to the average visitor. Continued motorized use of the 3.3 miles of MPT's has reduced or restricted the total

reclamation of the works of man by natural processes. The MPT of the unit exist on the ridge top, side hill, and the drainage bottom within the northern portion of the unit.

The presence of ridgelines in the unit provides some visual screening, and (individually and collectively) the wide distribution of and distances between the types and extent of the human developments, the unit as a whole appears 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: With the highly irregular “jagged” shape of the unit in addition to the steepness of terrain, it is not possible for a visitor to experience a sense of outstanding solitude. The modest to rugged terrain offers some topographic seclusion but does not provide for or support outstanding solitude. The characteristically low profile, density and distribution of vegetation throughout the unit is not adequate to provide screening to support an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Additionally, the “jagged” shape and size of the unit, significantly limits the distance available to visually and audibly avoid human created activities. The unit overall is approximately 9.2 miles long, and 2.39 miles wide at its widest diagonal point in the northern portion of the unit. On average, the unit is approximately 1.45 miles wide, tapering at both the northwest and south ends. Uses outside the unit but directly associated with its eastern and northern boundaries come from the concentrated and highly visited recreational activities of the Brownlee Reservoir. These activities which include general high use vehicle traffic, motorized watercraft, and vehicle based camping including generators, the developed Spring Recreation Site campground, as well as a component of the Snake River/Mormon Basin Backcountry Byway, directly affects the solitude of the unit where the sights and sounds of man existing outside the area cannot easily be avoided. In summary, the unit does not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: This unit provides general hunting opportunities for common game species (primarily chukar, quail, deer, and some elk) which is the primary form of recreational pursuits within the unit. The area’s topographic features provide for good day hiking, photography, equestrian and backpacking activities, but the area is not recognized as being a destination for any of these activities. The area does have some scenic views and some topographic changes in scenery however these characteristics are not determined to be outstanding for recreational opportunities and pursuits within the unit and are not considered unique to the area. In summary, the primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities are not of such quality, uniqueness or rarity to consider them outstanding – individually or in combination.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No N/A

Description: The central and northern portions of the unit have known populations of the Snake River Golden Weed which is a BLM special status plant species.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-035-016 -- Spring

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? Yes X No NA
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values? X Yes No NA

Conclusion -- check one:

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

X The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by: Kevin McCoy 10-3-11
Kevin McCoy, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Team Members:

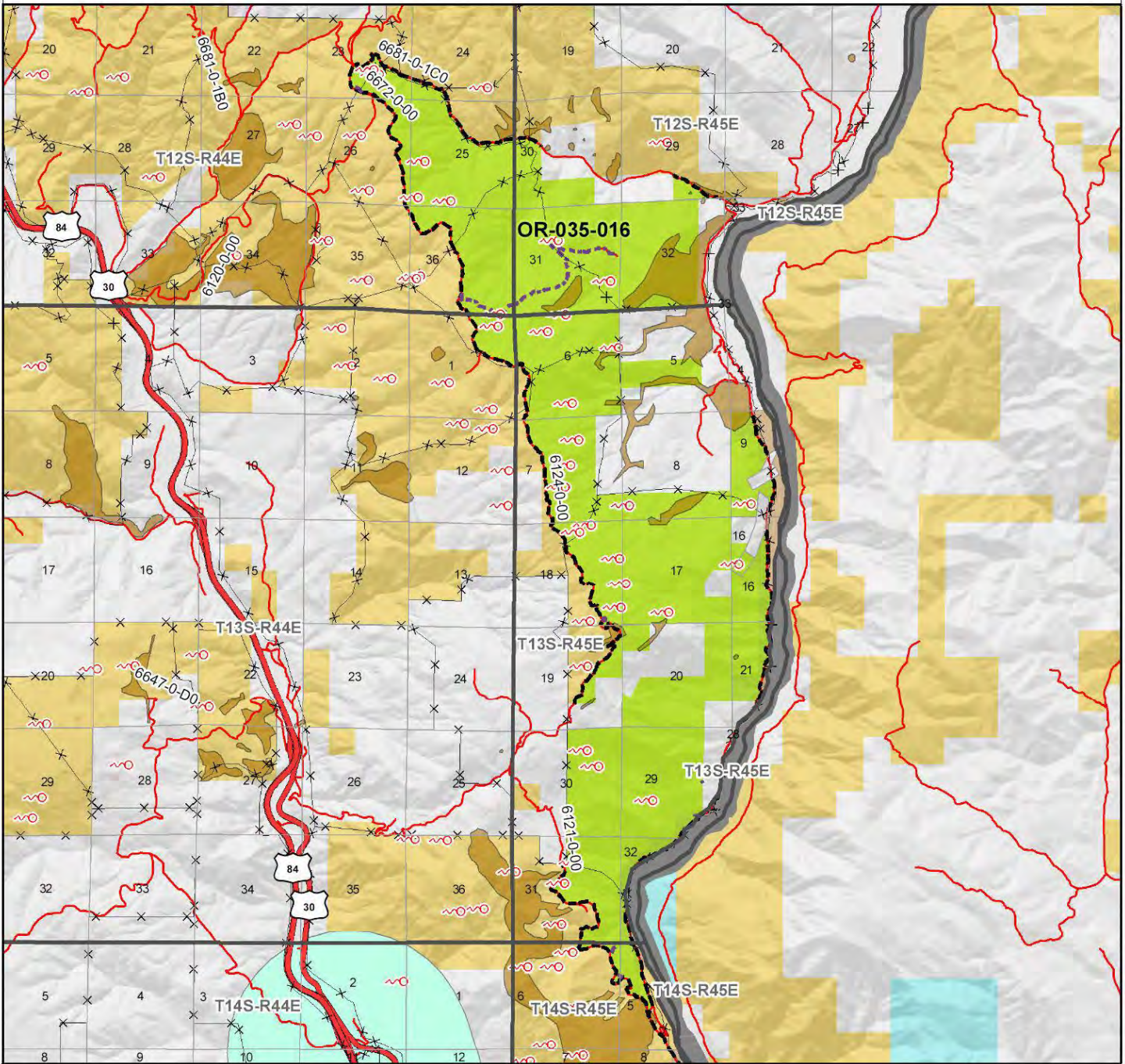
<u>Gary Guymon</u>	<u>10/3/11</u>
Gary Guymon, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Marc Pierce</u>	<u>10/03/11</u>
Marc Pierce, Forester, Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist	Date
<u>Katy Coddington</u>	<u>10/5/2011</u>
Katy Coddington, Archaeologist	Date
<u>John Quintela</u>	<u>10/3/11</u>
John Quintela, Fisheries Biologist	Date
<u>Melissa Yzquierdo</u>	<u>10/3/11</u>
Melissa Yzquierdo, Wildlife Biologist/Botanist	Date
<u>Eian Ray</u>	<u>10-6-11</u>
Eian Ray, GIS	Date

Approved by: Ted Davis 10-11-11
Ted Davis, Baker Field Office 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.

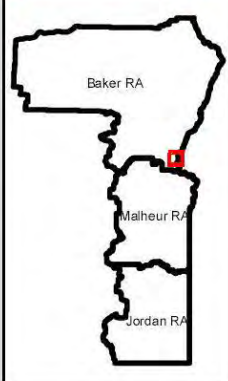
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Spring - OR-035-016 - 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 BLM Wild Char Inventory Unit Wilderness Study Area Mineral Material Site Road/Utility Right-of-Way Major Water Body | <p>Route Types - BLM Determination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary Road Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT) Discontinued Use <p>Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Major Highway BLM Numbered & Other Routes <p>Land Ownership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bureau of Land Management State Private Other Federal Land |
|---|--|



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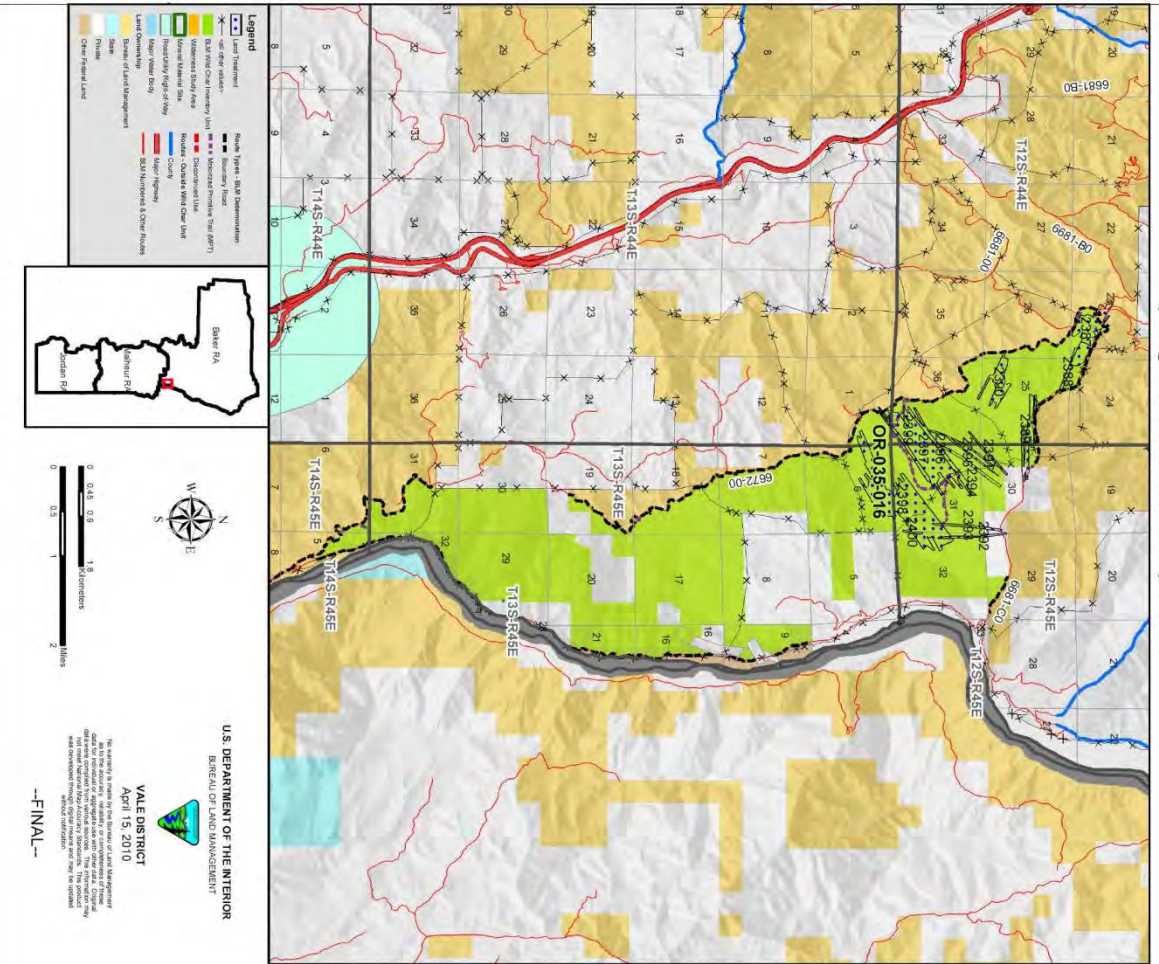


VALE DISTRICT
April 15, 2010

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--FINAL--

Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Spring - OR-035-016 - Map 2 of 2



Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Spring - OR-035-016 - Map 2 of 2

OBJECTID *	NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE
2387	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020227
2388	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020216
2389	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020216
2390	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020227
2391	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020227
2392	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020227
2393	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020227
2394	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020225
2395	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020227
2396	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020225
2397	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020225
2398	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020227
2399	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020225
2400	MORGAN MTN ESR	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020227

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.

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 VALE DISTRICT
 April 15, 2010
 -FINAL-

