

**WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE  
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON**  
(Source: Oregon State Office Internal Guidance as of July 2007)

Year: 2010      Inventory Unit Number/Name: **Chandler 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?**

No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes   X   (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.):

- a) **Inventory Source:** Wilderness Review; Intensive Inventory, Oregon & Washington, March, 1980, pages 169-172.
- b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** Wagontire Mountain, Subunit 2-43F.
- c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** BLM Intensive Wilderness Inventory; Oregon; March, 1980.
- d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Burns District, Oregon; Three Rivers Field Office

**2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:**

Unit#/Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
Wagontire Mtn. 2-43F	13,100	Y	N	N	N

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

Unit Number/Name: **Chandler Butte**

**(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?**

Current Unit Acres: **14,456**      Yes   X   No \_\_\_\_\_



**Citizen Information Received:** The BLM received GIS data from Oregon Natural Desert Assoc. (ONDA) for a 196,015-acre proposed Lonesome Lakes WSA in September, 2007. More information including a narrative report, maps, photographs and route logs was received in May, 2008. This information was considered as part of the wilderness characteristics inventory maintenance update process for BLM Chandler Butte Unit. Information in ONDA's report was considered and incorporated, as appropriate, in this document. ONDA's photos, taken in July, 2001, and their evaluation indicated there were no boundary roads within their proposed Lonesome Lakes WSA.

**BLM's Boundary Road Determination Process:** BLM conducted an analysis of routes in the Wagontire Mountain Unit, 2-43, which entailed field visits to verify the mechanical/tool construction of the routes and their current condition in May, 2008, and August, 2009. All the boundary roads are part of BLM's current transportation system as identified in BLM's Facility Asset Management System database.

**Boundary changes since 1980:** Boundaries within the original 1979 Wagontire Mountain, 2-43 Inventory Unit were divided by roads and non-BLM lands (private and state) into six subunits. Two of the six subunits (C and E) were eliminated from further review because they were less than 5,000 acres in size. The remaining four subunits (A, B, D and F), separated by various roads and private and State lands, met the minimum size criteria and were intensively inventoried in 1980.

Two of the boundary roads separating the original subunits B, C and D are now cherry-stem interior boundary roads. The North Butte Valley Road, BLM 7245-0-1DO, is a constructed route, but has not been maintained for many years. The intent of the BLM is to maintain the route in the future from the junction of Wagontire Lookout Road, BLM 7249-1-00, westward about four miles to the East and West Wagontire Allotments' division fence. BLM does not intend to maintain the remaining section of road continuing southwest onto private land in North Butte Valley. Photographs were taken at specific point locations and GPS photo points, BB-1 through BB-7 were recorded.

The other cherry-stem road is the Sourdough Lake Road, BLM 7245-0-1CA. The route provides access between North Butte Valley Road and Black Canyon Road, BLM 7245-0-1CO. It is primarily used by permittees for livestock management during the spring- through-fall grazing season and by hunters in the fall. The Sourdough Lake area is usually accessed from the west via the Black Canyon Road because about three miles of the Sourdough Lake Road off the North Valley Butte Road is extremely rocky and has not been recently maintained. BLM does not intend to maintain this road section in the future.

**Current Unit Boundaries: (See BLM Unit Character Map):**

ONDA's photo points and the photos for each location were reviewed. ONDA's narrative indicated the routes within their Lonesome Lakes proposed WSA (196,015 acres in size) are unmaintained ways and not maintained by mechanical means.



Based on current field checks and the knowledge of the area, BLM identified the Wilderness Inventory Maintenance (WIM) unit boundaries listed below. The roads have been mechanically constructed and improved or maintained at some time in the past. The roads are currently in useable condition for Bureau personnel, grazing permittees and other publics using pickup trucks and SUV's, including 4-wheel drive vehicles, to access the Wilderness Inventory Unit. These roads will be maintained in the future as needed.

Vehicle use occurs on a relatively regular basis. The grazing permittee utilizes the routes to manage livestock operations, including releasing and gathering cattle, distributing salt and mineral blocks and checking and maintaining range developments. BLM personnel use the routes for monitoring wildlife, botanical and range values and condition, constructing, maintaining and checking human developments and installations, wildfire suppression, and recreation use. Most public use is associated with hunting, camping and recreation use in late summer and fall.

N. boundary: Private Land and BLM Road 7245-0-100, Hay Lake-Deep Valley Road.

ONDA Photo Points: None

BLM route analysis Photo Points:None

E. boundary: Private Land and BLM Road 7249-0-1AO, W. Wagontire-W. Sheep Mountain Road

ONDA Photo Points: BT-15-20, BT-21, BT-24;

BLM route analysis Photo Points: L-7, L-12; L-13, L-14

S. boundary: BLM Road 7245-0-1BA, Chandler Butte-Burrows Lake Road

ONDA Photo Points: BT-24

BLM route analysis Photo Points: L-7; L-11; L-23; BB-8 through 11; BB-12, photos 38, 39; BB-19, 20; BB-21, photos 70, 72

W. boundary: Private land and BLM Roads 7245-1-1BB, Tired Horse Butte Road; 7245-0-1BA Chandler Butte-Burrows Lake Road

ONDA Photos: BQ-43-47, BQ 40-42, BQ37-39

BLM route analysis Photo Points: L-1, 2, 5, BB-8-19

**Note: Other ONDA photo pts. did not appear to be of boundary roads for this BLM unit.**

The following BLM photo references show examples of current road conditions in the Chandler Butte Unit. There are also other BLM photos on file for this unit.

L-2-S shows the west boundary road going south with berms on each side of the road. Big sagebrush has reestablished and is evident on top of the berms, a common occurrence for a road constructed years ago, but not recently maintained. The road has easily been maintained by the regular passage of vehicles.

L-5-W shows the junction of the junction of the Sand Hollow Road-Lower Lost Creek Road and Tired Horse Butte Road. It also shows the fence bisecting the unit.



•BB-8-21-W; Chandler Butte Road, show a road that was most likely constructed in the mid to late 1940's when the reservoirs were constructed in this area. A metal peg in the dam of Drift Fence Reservoir indicates the reservoir was constructed in 1948. Rabbitbrush and grasses are growing in and along the road surface which extends through an area of dominant big sagebrush vegetation.

**(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?**

Yes   X   No        N/A       

**1980 Unit Description:** Chandler Butte Unit is composed of the original Wagontire Mountain subunit 2-43F. The subunit contained 3 reservoirs, one well, 3 miles of fence and 650 acres of crested wheatgrass seedings.

**Current Condition Description:** There have been no boundary changes in this unit, only a correction of the acres using GIS technology.

Road number 7245-0-1BO that traverses the middle of the unit will not be considered for maintenance in the future but will continue to be utilized to check the seeding, fences, reservoirs and to access range condition monitoring sites. The permittee will continue to use this route to check livestock, water levels in reservoirs, and place salt and mineral blocks at various locations. Hunters will continue using the roads during the fall hunting seasons, if they have vehicles to traverse the roads, even the sections BLM does not intend to maintain in the future.

The fence that crosses the middle of the unit from east to west is easily noticeable on the western side of the unit. The newer well and trough in the NW section is less noticeable due to it being located behind a small hill. The large brush beating is quite noticeable from several places inside the unit. The original Sand Hollow Well can be seen from a long distance. One of the reservoirs and one waterhole are noticeable to the casual observer since they were constructed along roads. However, they do not detract from naturalness due to the size of the unit. This unit appears to be in a natural condition.

The unit currently has the following developments (See Unit Character Map):

- Fences: 9 miles
- Reservoirs: 2
- Seedings: 110 acres
- Boundary roads: 16.2 miles
- Non-boundary roads: 8.9 miles
- Pipelines: .7 miles
- Wells: 2
- Troughs: 3
- Waterholes: 1
- Brushbeat: 979 acres



**(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X N/A \_\_\_\_\_

**1980 Unit Description:** The subunit contains a few small areas where the topography and vegetation provide some screening; however, these areas are generally quite small and widely scattered. In general, the subunit consists of relatively open terrain where broad vistas are common and little opportunity for seclusion exists. The subunit does not offer outstanding opportunities for a visitor to obtain solitude.

**Current Condition Description:** The topography in the northern half of the unit is composed of generally small hills that transition into large, open sagebrush flats. Chandler Butte is in the center of the unit with scattered juniper along the western and southern flanks and a denser stand on the northern slope.

The topographic break between the high-plateau country with scattered stands of juniper and the more open, sagebrush-covered hills, buttes and flats is a line generally running northwest to southeast from Chandler Butte to Bald Butte and continuing southeastward to the South Creek drainage.

The BLM Wagontire Mountain fire lookout is situated so personnel can see vast areas with high-powered viewing instruments. All the surrounding area is regularly scanned during the fire season. No locations go unchecked and the only areas which remain unseen are small sections of the deeper canyons. Any activities which involve vehicles, camps/camping activities, hunting, firefighting, and moving of cattle are likely observed.

Therefore, the eastern portion of this WIM unit has small areas providing solitude because of topographic and vegetative screening. Much of the northern portion of the unit with its vast, open areas does not provide outstanding solitude due to the lack of vegetative and topographic screening. Therefore, the unit does not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude.

ONDA indicated in their report that the area provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. This is because ONDA considered all the BLM subunits as contiguous, within their large, proposed Lonesome Lakes WSA.

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

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X N/A \_\_\_\_\_

**1980 Unit Description:** The subunit offered opportunities for hiking, hunting, horseback riding, and wildlife viewing, but none were outstanding.

**Current Condition Description:** The opportunities noted in the 1980 description are still present in the WIM unit. None are outstanding. Big game (deer, antelope, and elk)



numbers have diminished in the last fifteen to twenty years in this particular area of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Wagontire hunting unit, so wildlife viewing and hunting opportunities are less than when the original wilderness inventory was completed.

**(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?**

Yes  No  N/A

**1980 Unit Description:** A way in the subunit was a travel route in the early settlement days and has a historical value.

**Current Condition Description:** No inventories for species of concern have been conducted in the unit at this time. There may be habitat for, and the presence of, the pygmy rabbit, sage-grouse and burrowing owl in the northern half of the unit's lower-elevation, open, sagebrush-covered areas. There are no known sage-grouse leks in this unit. The unit may also be habitat for the Pallid bat, Townsend's big-eared bat, Ferruginous hawk and Northern sagebrush lizard. All species noted are Federal Species of Concern.

ONDA's report indicated their proposed Lonesome Lakes WSA provides prime habitat for the greater sage-grouse, a species of concern, and may also be home to the pygmy rabbit, sage-grouse and burrowing owl. However, their proposed WSA is a much larger area.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: **Chandler Butte, 2-43**

**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

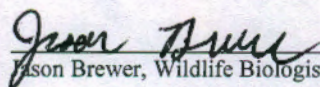
**Conclusion (Check One):**

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



Prepared by: Bill Andersen

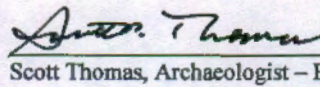
**Coordinating Personnel:**

  
Jason Brewer, Wildlife Biologist – Burns District

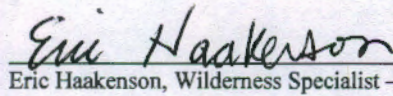
5/3/2010  
Date

  
Rob Sharp, Range Specialist-Burns District

4/27/2010  
Date

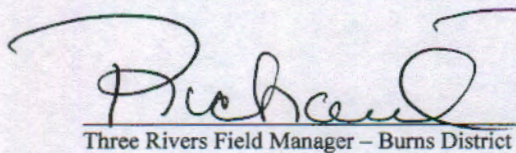
  
Scott Thomas, Archaeologist – Burns District

4/27/2010  
Date

  
Eric Haakenson, Wilderness Specialist – Burns District

4/27/2010  
Date

**Approved by:**

  
Three Rivers Field Manager – Burns District

5/4/10  
Date



# Chandler Butte Unit Character Map

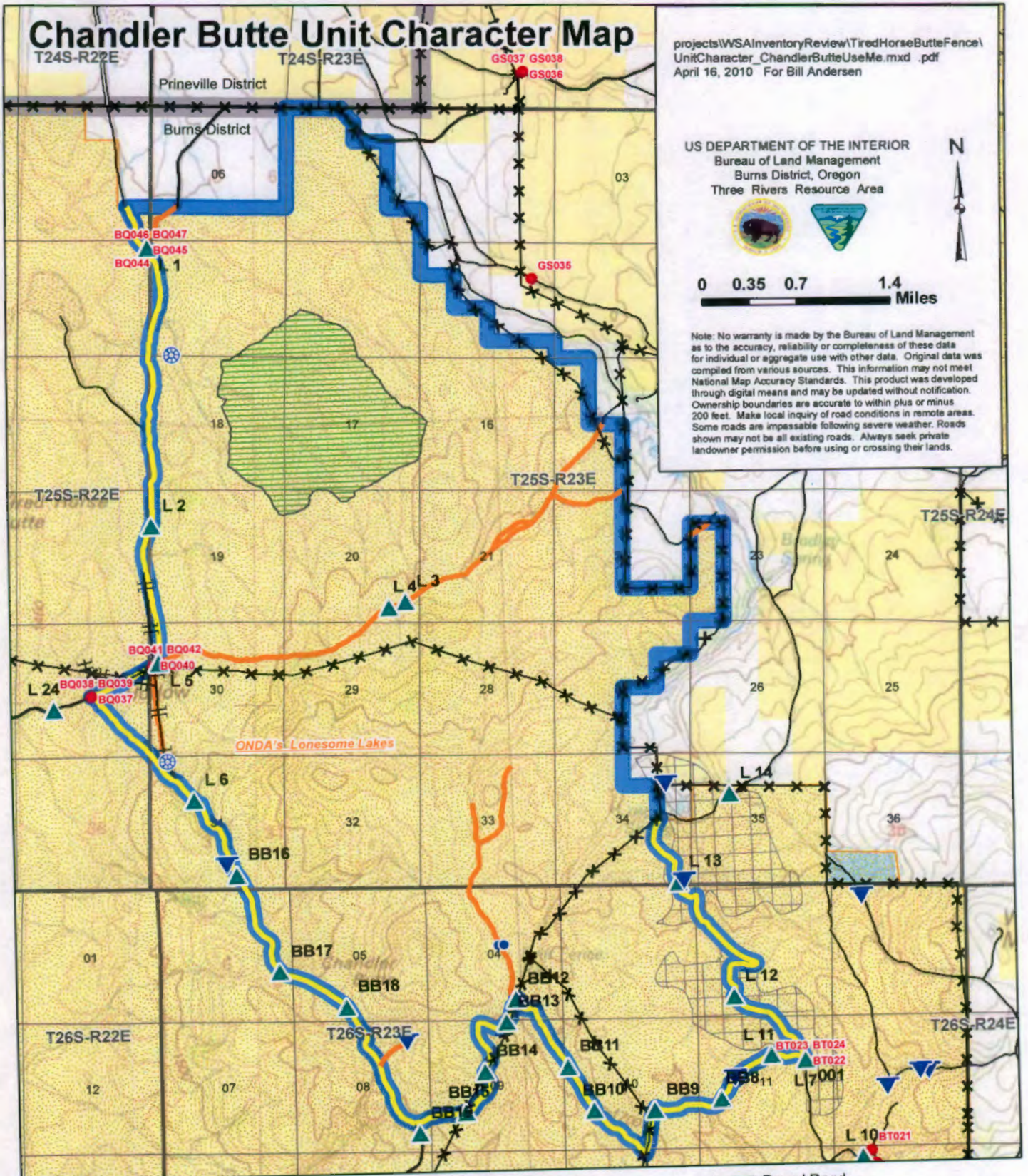
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UnitCharacter\_ChandlerButteUseMe.mxd .pdf  
April 16, 2010 For Bill Andersen

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Bureau of Land Management  
Burns District, Oregon  
Three Rivers Resource Area



0 0.35 0.7 1.4  
Miles

Note: 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 was 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. Ownership boundaries are accurate to within plus or minus 200 feet. Make local inquiry of road conditions in remote areas. Some roads are impassible following severe weather. Roads shown may not be all existing roads. Always seek private landowner permission before using or crossing their lands.



- Chandler Butte 14,456 Acres
- BLM Photo Points
- ONDA Photo Points
- Primitive Routes 8.9 Miles
- Chandler Butte Boundary Roads 16.2 Miles
- ONDA Proposed WSA Units
- Reservoir 2
- Waterhole 1
- Well 2
- Fence 9 Miles
- Pipeline 0.7 Miles
- Brushbeat 979 Acres
- Paved Road
- Non-Paved Improved Road
- Primitive Road Surface
- Land Administration**
- State
- Private
- BLM