

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

Year: 2008 Inventory Unit Number/Name: Claw Creek Unit

**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 X Yes _____ (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.):

a) Inventory Source: **None. Not an historical BLM inventory unit**

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): **None**

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): **None**

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): **Burns District – Three Rivers Resource Area**

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Inventory Source: **None. Not a historical inventory unit.**

Unit#/Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N

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

Unit Number/Name: Claw Creek Unit

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Current Unit Acres: 5,439 Yes X No

Description of the Current Conditions:

Citizen Information Received:

No citizen information was received for this unit.

ID-team Meetings: An ID-team consisting of BLM staff from the Burns District met on June 18, 2008 to evaluate this unit. The ID team was provided with current maps, photos and information. The team consisted of wilderness, recreation, range, wildlife and forestry staff.

Boundary changes since 1980: Not applicable

Current Unit Boundaries:

See Unit Character Map for BLM Photo Point (Pt.) Locations

N. boundary: FS Road 469 (off FS Road 405) southeast on BLM lands to Ochoco National Forest boundary; BLM route analysis; no BLM Photo Points

E. boundary: Private land and Mitch Canyon Road;
BLM Mitch Canyon route analysis Photo Points: CC1; CC5

S. boundary: FS Road 4130 (Egypt Cr. Road); no BLM route analysis; no BLM Photo Points

W. boundary: Short .15 mile road section on SW corner of unit, private land, and Packsaddle Spring Road (7233-0-1BB); BLM Packsaddle Spring route analysis; no BLM Photo Points

Interior Boundary Roads: Upper Claw Creek Road off E. boundary (NE corner); BLM route analysis Photo Points: CC1 (junction, private land), CC2 (on boundary, viewing W.) and Middle Claw Creek Road off E. boundary (NE corner); BLM route analysis Photo Points: CC1 (junction, private land), CC3, and CC4 (on private land, viewing E. and W.)

The ID-team concurred that the boundary roads above have been mechanically improved or maintained at some point and would be maintained as needed in the future. The roads are in a useable condition and use does occur on a relatively regular basis associated with recreational use by the public, private land access and permittee and BLM use associated with rangeland and forest management. Most of this use occurs in the summer and fall.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No N/A

1980 Unit Description: not applicable

Current Condition Description (See Unit Character Map):

This unit is located approximately 24 mile NW of the community of Burns. Most of this small unit is flat, open foothill country with scattered patches of juniper, dropping in elevation from the forest to the lower sections of Egypt Creek and Wickiup Creek (5000' elevation to 4750'). In addition to juniper, other vegetation consists primarily of sagebrush, rabbit brush and grasses. Willows grow along the streambanks of Claw Creek and the area on the northern boundary is pine timbered.

The primary human uses in the unit and surrounding lands are livestock grazing related, some dispersed recreation use (hunting) and timber management. The unit's boundaries are almost entirely fenced except for the SE corner at Mitch Canyon. There are no water source developments as cattle water from Claw Creek.

The routes extending across the northern boundary from the forest, the ones extending into the unit from private land on the east boundary and the Mitch Canyon Road have been constructed for timber harvesting. The private landowner continues to maintain the routes across his land and BLM allotment to provide access for livestock management. There are no vegetative treatments in the unit at this time.

Below is a summary of developments:

Fences: 4.3 miles

Interior routes: 16 miles

The ID-team found that these developments were along the outer edges of the unit or dispersed enough that the imprint of humans is substantially unnoticeable and the unit is in a natural condition.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

1980 Unit Description: not applicable

Current Condition Description: Due to the limited topographic and vegetative screening, views are far-reaching and sights and sounds of vehicles on the Egypt Creek Road (FS 4130) are possible. One small area between the northern fork of Claw Creek and the unit's northern boundary at the forest would provide solitude due to being timbered, but it is not outstanding.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

1980 Unit Description: not applicable

Current Condition Description: The ID-team found that the recreation opportunities of hunting, hiking, backpacking and horseback riding are not unique and do not present characteristics either individually or collectively that would result in their being outstanding. Big game hunting for deer, antelope and elk is the predominant recreation activity. OHV use is common during hunting seasons because of low standard routes in the unit and some snowmobile use occurs in winter.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

1980 Unit Description: not applicable

Current Condition Description:

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Claw Creek Unit

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? ___ Yes X 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: David E. Vickstrom, Wilderness Specialist

Team Members:

Laura Dowlan 8-7-08
Date
Laura Dowlan, Outdoor Recreation Planner (Wilderness Specialist) – Burns District

Jon Reponen 8/8/08
Date
Jon Reponen, Forestry Specialist – Burns District

Nick Miller 8/8/08
Date
Nick Miller, Wildlife Biologist – Burns District

Lindsay Davies 8/6/08
Date
Lindsay Davies, Fisheries Biologist – Burns District

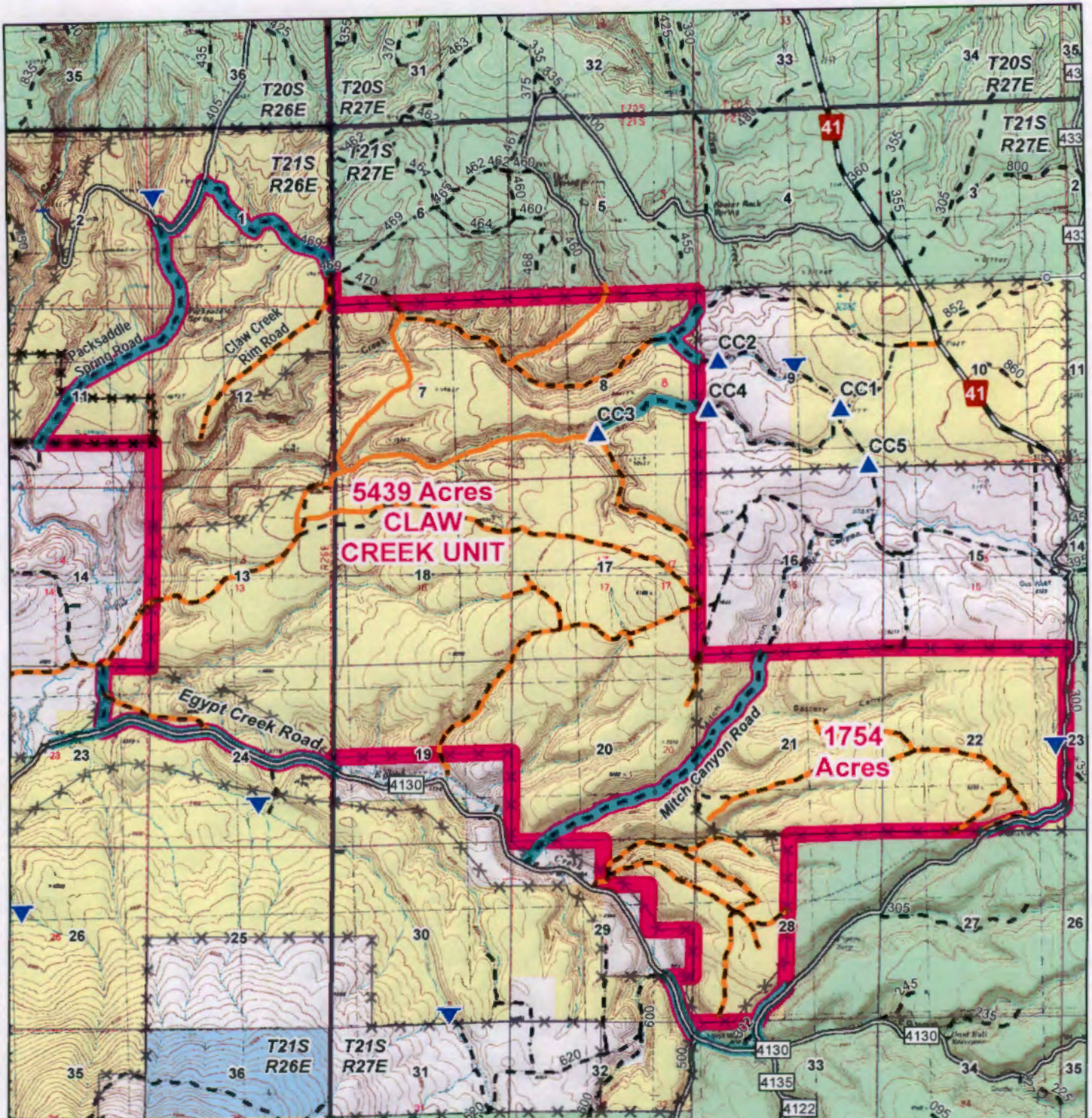
Willie Street 8/8/08
Date
Willie Street, Lead Range Specialist – Burns District

Dave Vickstrom 8-11-08
Date
Dave Vickstrom, Wilderness Specialist – Burns District














Approved by:

Joan M. Suther 8/14/08
Date
Joan M. Suther, Three Rivers Field Manager – Burns District

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 1610.5-2.02



CLAW CREEK UNIT CHARACTER MAP

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
|  | Claw Creek WIM Unit |  | FENCE |
|  | Claw Creek WIM Photo Points |  | Primitive Routes |
|  | DAM |  | Unit Boundary Roads |
|  | GATE |  | Bureau of Land Management |
|  | RESERVOIR |  | State |
|  | Paved Road |  | U.S. Forest Service |
|  | Non-Paved Improved Road |  | Private |
|  | Primitive or Unknown Road Surface | | |

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

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ClawCreekUnitCharacter.mxd
July 29, 2008 for Dave Vickstrom see also .pdf file

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