

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

Year: 2011 Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-025-004G/Dog Mountain

**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, November, 1980, pages 120-121.

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): The area that has been currently inventoried was part of a unit in 1977 that was numbered OR-020-02-30. It encompassed 13,075 acres within 11 subunits. Due to a size of less than 5,000 acres, ten of the units were not intensively inventoried and dropped from further consideration. Subunit K contained 7,885 acres. It was intensively inventoried and found not to possess wilderness characteristics. This unit was not included in the 2007 citizen (ONDA) proposed area or included in the current BLM wilderness maintenance inventory of the Palomino Area.

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): BLM Intensive Wilderness Inventory; Oregon; April, 1979.

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
See 1. b	13,075	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

Citizen Information Received: The BLM received GIS data from Oregon Natural Desert Assoc. (ONDA) for a proposed 51,882 acre Palomino WSA in September, 2007. More information including a narrative report, maps, photographs and route logs was received in May, 2008. The information was submitted in accordance with Draft BLM Manual 6300-1 *Wilderness Inventory* (2011).

Their report was based mainly on the belief that the area was not accessible to the public, because it was surrounded on three sides by private land, no trespassing signs and locked gates were encountered and none of the interior routes were roads. These factors resulted in the area possessing naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation. Their assessment included an analysis of all the wilderness characteristics, which concluded that all of the characteristics were present and the area should be designated a Wilderness Study Area.

Their report characterized the area as being primarily effected by the forces of nature and was in natural condition as only one water hole and an old bridge were observed. The area possessed outstanding opportunities for solitude due to the large size, shape, vegetative and topographic screening. The diversity of the landscape, hiking, backpacking, camping, native flora and birding all provided outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Supplemental values included lava flows, sage grouse, wild horses and ephemeral lakes.

BLM's analysis of the area found there to be 5 sub-units within this proposed area that met the minimum size of 5,000 acres. Each of these units was inventoried intensively for wilderness characteristics. These units were named Lunch Lake, Batts Camp Lake, Weaver Lake, Chain Lake and Dog Mountain. Four units were less than 5,000 acres.

BLM Inventory Report

Unit Number/Name: **OR-025-004G Dog Mountain**

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Current Unit Acres: **6,336** Yes X No

BLM's Boundary Determination Process: Using all existing data and professional knowledge, BLM conducted an analysis of land ownership, ROWs and routes in the Palomino area (from Silver Creek on the west to Dog Mountain on the east). Field visits were conducted to verify the mechanical/tool construction of the routes and their current condition in July, 2010. During this inventory, conditions of roads in the Dog Mountain Unit were recorded to determine where boundaries were located. All the boundary roads are part of BLM's current transportation system as identified in BLM's Facility Asset

Management System database. GIS information was used to verify ownerships, project locations and geographic features not observed from the routes traveled.

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 Palomino proposed WSA (51,882 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 from mid-August through November when the roads are traveled at least 4-5 times a week. Camping and other recreation use occurs in late summer and fall.

N. boundary: Private Land and BLM Road 7222-0-100 Beshell Grade Road
ONDA Photo Points: None
BLM route analysis Photo Points: PB-20, PB-21

E. boundary: Private Land and unnamed road
ONDA Photo Points: None
BLM route analysis Photo Points: None

S. boundary: Private Land
ONDA Photo Points: None
BLM route analysis Photo Points: None

W. boundary: BLM Road 7222-0-1A0 Weaver Springs Road
ONDA Photos: None
BLM route analysis Photo Points: PB-22, PB-23

Where an inventory unit is bounded by a road or other linear feature that is authorized by an existing right-of-way, the legal right-of-way boundary rather than the feature itself shall be deemed the wilderness inventory unit boundary.

The following BLM photo references show examples of current road conditions in the Dog Mountain Unit.

PB-22 shows recent mechanical maintenance of the west boundary road.

PB-23 shows earthen and rock berms at the south end of the west boundary of the unit. There is noticeable a dirt and rock berm on the east side of the road. The road is easily passable by low clearance vehicles and currently does not require maintenance.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes No N/A

Current Condition Description: As indicated by its name, this unit is characterized by the 2 ½ mile long ridge running north and south known as Dog Mountain. The highest point on the ridge is approximately 500 feet greater than the surrounding valley floor. There are scattered juniper trees located across the ridge and on the eastern slopes. The unit is comprised of typical great basin vegetation such as Wyoming sage brush, bluebunch wheatgrass, basin wild rye, rabbitbrush, several forbs and annual grasses. There are two small water developments in the northwest corner and 2 miles of interior fences. The presence of man is minimal and the area has primarily been influenced by the forces of nature.

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

Fences: 11.4 miles
Reservoirs: 1
Seedings: 0 acres
Boundary roads: 5.2 miles
Non-boundary roads: 3 miles
Pipelines: 0 miles
Wells: 0
Troughs: 0
Waterholes: 1
Brushbeat: 0 acres

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

Yes No N/A

Current Condition Description: The unit does possess some topographic screening in the form of small canyons-the longest being a little less than 2 miles in length. The relatively small size of the unit and gentle terrain would make it easy for visitors to encounter each other within a matter of a few hours. The proximity of the unit to roads,

agricultural lands and private land lends little chance to experience outstanding opportunities for solitude.

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

Yes ___ No X N/A ___

Current Condition Description: Activities associated with the area include hunting for antelope and deer, sightseeing, hiking, horseback riding and wildlife viewing. None are outstanding. Big game (deer and antelope,) numbers have diminished in the last fifteen to twenty years in this particular area of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Juniper hunting unit, so wildlife viewing and hunting opportunities are less than they were 10 years ago.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes ___ No X N/A ___

Current Condition Description: No inventories for species of concern, except sage grouse have been conducted in the unit at this time. There may be habitat for, and the presence of, the pygmy rabbit and burrowing owl in the unit's lower-elevation, open, sagebrush-covered areas. There are no known sage-grouse leks in this unit.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: **Dog Mountain OR-025-004G**

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**

Bill Andersen

1-21-11

Date

Coordinating Personnel:

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Caryn Meinicke, Botanist-Burns District

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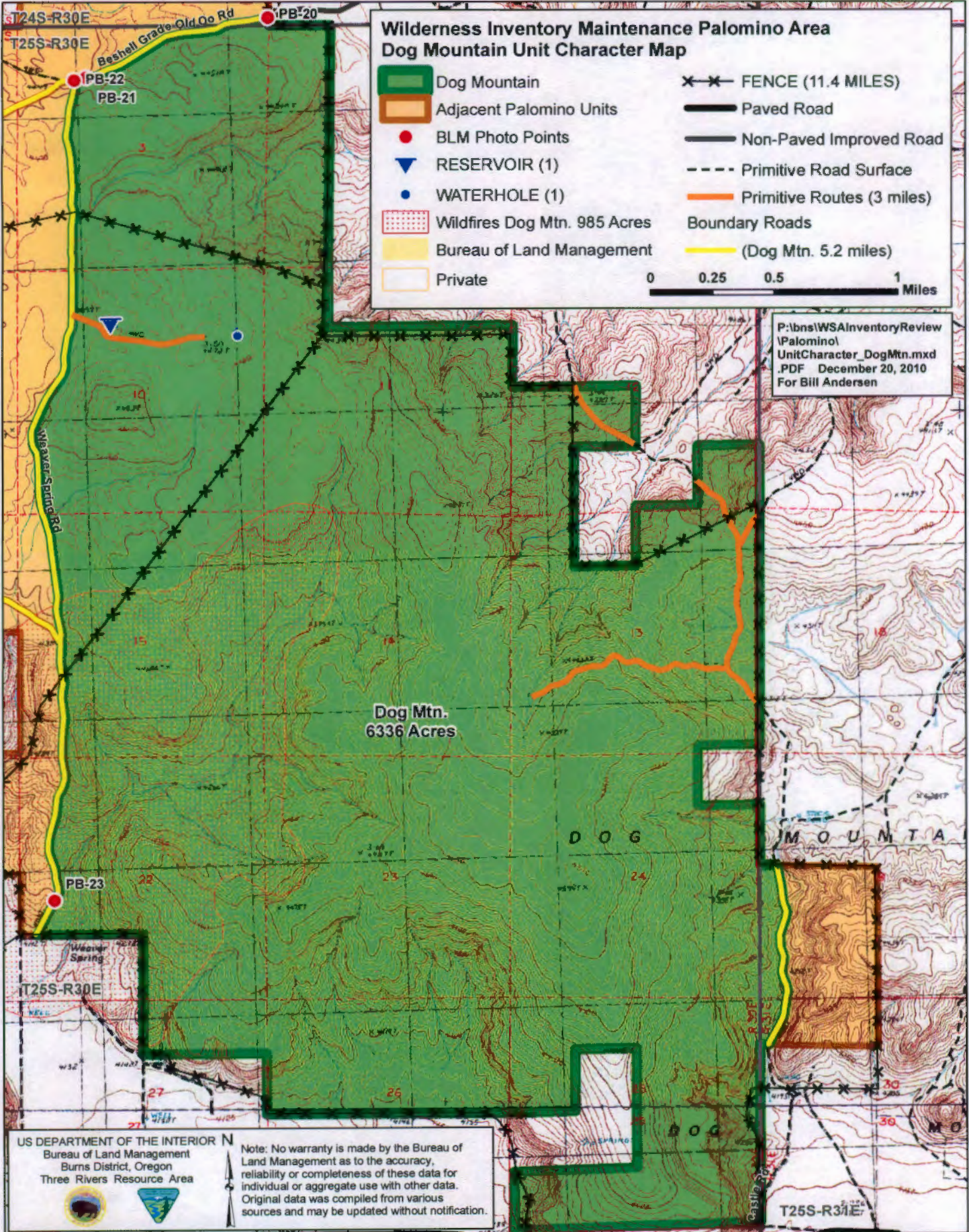
Approved by:

Richard Ray
Three Rivers Field Manager - Burns District

1/25/11

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 1610.5-2.02



**Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Palomino Area
Dog Mountain Unit Character Map**

Dog Mountain	FENCE (11.4 MILES)
Adjacent Palomino Units	Paved Road
BLM Photo Points	Non-Paved Improved Road
RESERVOIR (1)	Primitive Road Surface
WATERHOLE (1)	Primitive Routes (3 miles)
Wildfires Dog Mtn. 985 Acres	Boundary Roads (Dog Mtn. 5.2 miles)
Bureau of Land Management	
Private	

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

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(Palomino)
UnitCharacter_DogMtn.mxd
.PDF December 20, 2010
For Bill Andersen

**Dog Mtn.
6336 Acres**

D O G M O U N T A I N

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

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