

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

Year: 2010      Inventory Unit Number/Name: Hole in the Ground

**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:** Wilderness Review; Intensive Inventory, Oregon & Washington, March, 1980, pages 169-172.

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** The area that has been inventoried was part of a unit in 1977 that was numbered OR-020-02-34. It was recommended and approved at that time that the area did not warrant intensive inventory.

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** BLM Intensive Wilderness Inventory; Oregon; March, 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

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

Unit Number/Name: Hole in the Ground

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



Current Unit Acres: 16,774

Yes  X  No

**Citizen Information Received:** The BLM received GIS data from Oregon Natural Desert Assoc. (ONDA) for a proposed Buzzard Creek WSA in September, 2007. More information including a narrative report, maps, photographs and route logs was received in May, 2008. This proposed area is adjacent to the Hole in the Ground Unit and information from their report was considered in making determinations about the Unit.

**BLM's Boundary Road Determination Process:** BLM conducted an analysis of routes in the West Warm Springs Unit, which entailed field visits to verify the mechanical/tool construction of the routes and their current condition in August, 2009. During this inventory, conditions of roads in the Hole in the Ground 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.

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

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: BLM Road 7228-0-00 Dusenbury Lake Road

ONDA Photo Points: None

BLM route analysis Photo Points: CL-8, CL-10,

E. boundary: BLM Road 7228-0-C0, Hole in the Ground Road

ONDA Photo Points: None

BLM route analysis Photo Points: CL-18, CL-19, CL-20, CL-21

S. boundary: BLM Road 7228-0-A0 Power Line Road

ONDA Photo Points: None

BLM route analysis Photo Points: CL-21, CL-37-40, CL-52

W. boundary: BLM Road 7257-0-00, Capehart Lake Road and Highway 395



ONDA Photos: None

BLM route analysis Photo Points: CL-32, CL-34-36, CL-52

There are two interior cherry stem roads that total about one mile.

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 DusenburyLake Unit. There are also other BLM photos on file for this unit.

CL-39 shows the south boundary power line road going southwest. There are constructed berms on each side of the road. This road was constructed in the early 1980's during the power line construction. The road is easily passable by low clearance vehicles and currently does not require maintenance.

CL-20 shows the Hole in the Ground road about mid way along the east 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.

CL-35 shows the Capehart Lake Road at the mid-point of the west boundary road. A distinct, constructed berm of rock and dirt is present on both sides of the road. The road is passable and is no need of maintenance at this time.

CL-10 shows the north boundary road as it travels east and west. A mostly rock berm that was pushed up during construction is still present on the north side of the road. The road is in fair condition.

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

Yes  No  N/A

**Current Condition Description:** The large 500KV power line that traverses the southern boundary of the unit has an immediate impact on the sense of naturalness, as does Highway 395 on the western boundary. There is a fence that crosses the entire unit from north to south and is generally noticeable from a couple of locations, but does not detract from the naturalness of the unit. The brush beatings are also becoming reestablished with sagebrush and are noticeable only at close proximity to them. There have been very few human intrusions to the interior of the unit and the unit appears to be in a natural condition. Two small wildfires are present on the southern portion of the unit.

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

Fences: 15.3 miles

Reservoirs: 0

Seedings: 95 acres



Boundary roads: 22 miles  
Non-boundary roads: 5.7 miles  
Pipelines: 0 miles  
Wells: 0  
Troughs: 0  
Waterholes: 4  
Brushbeat: 207 acres

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

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

**Current Condition Description:** This unit has very little vegetative screening due to the lack of any trees or structural vegetation to provide screening. There is also very limited topographic screening as almost the entire unit can be seen from any part of the unit. A small butte on the western side of the unit rises to about 400 feet above Capehart Lake, where the entire unit can be observed. There would be a few limited areas where visitors could not be seen by others in the unit.

Therefore, 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Condition Description:** Activities associated with area include hunting for antelope and deer, sightseeing, hiking 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. Therefore, opportunities are not outstanding.

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

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

**Current Condition Description:** No inventories for species, except sage grouse, of concern 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: **Hole in the Ground**



**Summary Results of Analysis:**

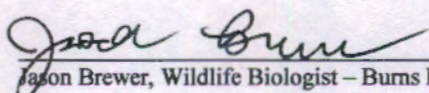
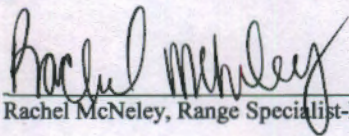
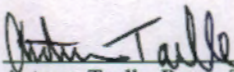
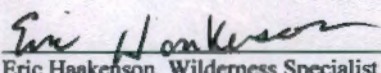
1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements?  Yes \_\_\_ No
2. Does the area appear to be natural?  Yes \_\_\_ No
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? \_\_\_ Yes  No \_\_\_ NA
4. Does the area have supplemental values? \_\_\_ Yes  No \_\_\_ NA

**Conclusion (Check One):**

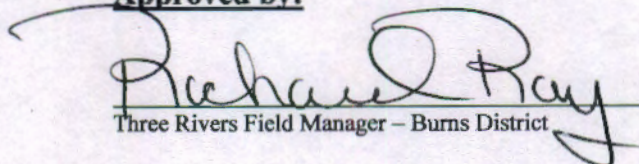
- \_\_\_ The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.
- The area does not have wilderness character.

**Prepared by: Bill Andersen**

**Coordinating Personnel:**

 Jason Brewer, Wildlife Biologist - Burns District	<u>7/6/10</u> Date
 Rachel McNeley, Range Specialist-Burns District	<u>7/9/10</u> Date
 Autumn Toelle, Range Technician - Burns District	<u>6/4/10</u> Date
 Eric Haakenson, Wilderness Specialist - Burns District	<u>6/30/10</u> Date

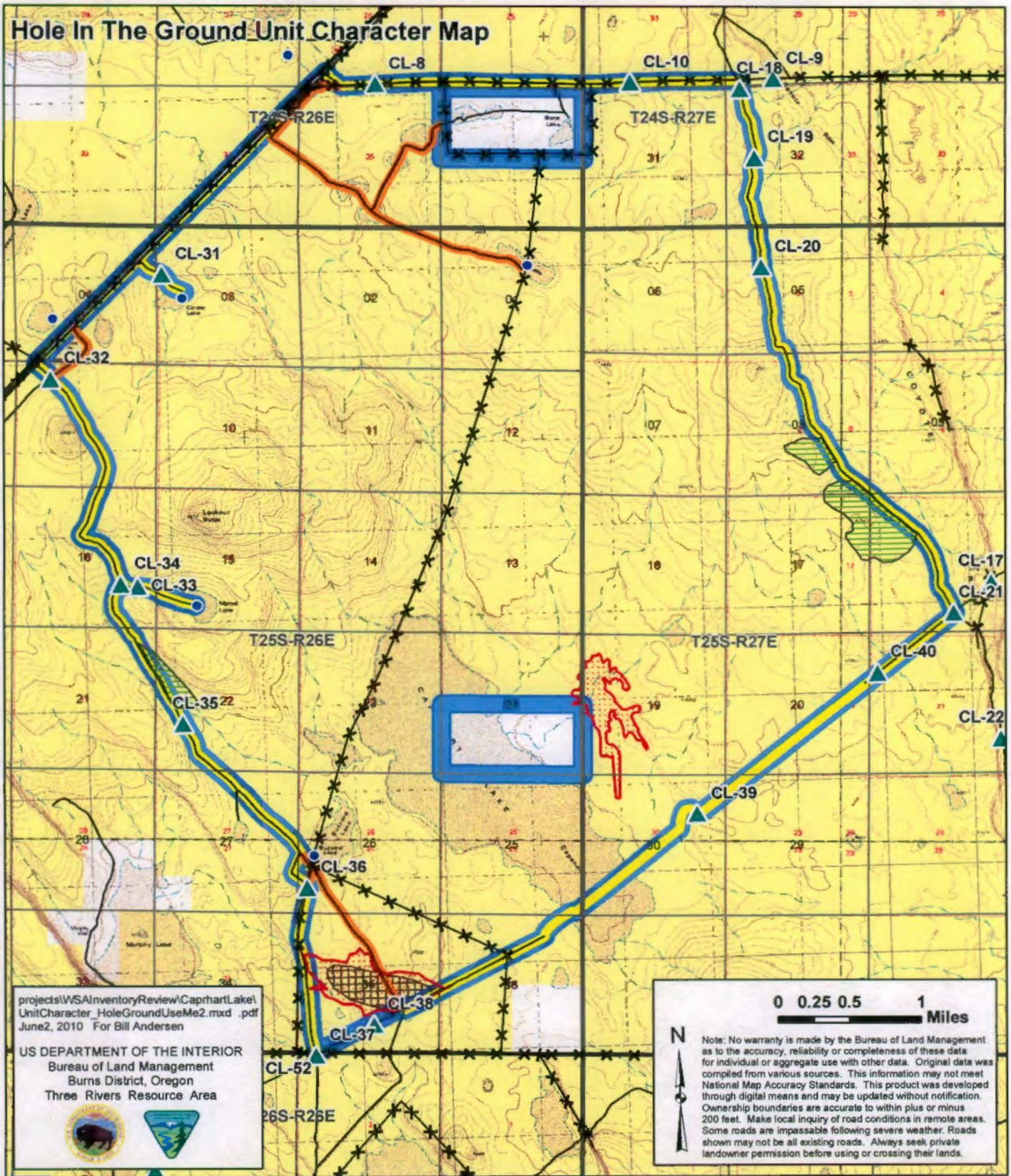
**Approved by:**

 Three Rivers Field Manager - Burns District	<u>7/19/10</u> Date
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*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*



# Hole In The Ground Unit Character Map



projects\WSAInventoryReview\CaphartLake\ UnitCharacter\_HoleGroundUseMe2.mxd .pdf  
 June2, 2010 For Bill Andersen

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



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

N

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 impassable following severe weather. Roads shown may not be all existing roads. Always seek private landowner permission before using or crossing their lands.

- Hole In The Ground 16,774 Acres
- Waterhole 4
- Brushbeat 207 Acres
- Boundry Roads 22 Miles
- Fence 15.3 Miles
- Wildfire 155 Acres
- Seeding 95 Acres
- Primitive Routes 5.7 Miles
- Wildfire 155 Acres
- Land Administration
- BLM Photo Points
- Paved Road
- Private (White)
- Non-Paved Improved Road
- Bureau of Land Management
- Primitive Road Surface