

**WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON**

Year: 2008 Current Inventory Unit Number/Name: Midnight Point Unit (5-67)

**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 Inventory, Proposed Initial Inventory – Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not Have Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington, April 1979, p. 46

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Midnight Point Unit (5-67)

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): April 1979 Map

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Burns District – Three Rivers Resource Area and Prineville District - Central Oregon Resource Area

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: Wilderness Inventory, Proposed Initial Inventory – Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not Have Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington, April 1979, p. 46

Unit#/Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
5-67	5,520	N	N	N	N

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

Unit Number/Name: **Midnight Point Unit (5-67)**

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Current Unit Acres: **5,520** Yes **X** No _____

[State the BLM acreage of the unit. Describe the boundaries of the unit (roads, property lines, etc.) If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check "Yes" and describe the exception. If more than one inventory unit is involved, list the acreage in each and evaluate each unit/subunit separately. Complete the analysis for (1), (2), (3),(4) and (5) for each unit or sub-unit. If you check "No" above, check "N/A" (Not Applicable) in the remaining boxes below, and you need not provide additional evaluation for the unit or subunit. Use additional space as necessary.]

Description of the Current Conditions: (Include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation features and summary of major human uses/activities). **See Attachment 1 for the definition of key terms.**

Citizen Information Received: None.

Boundary Road Determination Process: In updating wilderness inventory information for this BLM unit several resource staff familiar with the area helped identify routes which would meet the boundary road criteria.

Many of the interior routes not identified as boundary roads may have been mechanically improved or maintained at some point and may be maintained in the future as needed. Most are in a useable condition, but currently they may not receive relatively regular use, so they were not identified as boundary roads.

Boundary changes since 1979: The boundaries for the current Midnight Point Unit appear to be similar to those identified for Unit 5-67 (See Unit Boundary Map). It appears that non-federal land in the northern part of the unit is now BLM land making the unit slightly larger.

Current Unit Boundaries:

Northern Boundary: Highway 20

Eastern Boundary: East Glass Butte Road and a right-of-way with a developed power line.

Southern Boundary: Bushwell Road and a right-of-way with a developed power line.

Western Boundary: Obsidian Road

Interior Boundaries: There are two small private inholding in the unit.

ID-team members familiar with the area confirmed that these roads have been mechanically improved or maintained at some point, they are currently in a useable condition. These roads would be maintained in the future as needed and do receive relatively regular use primarily in the late spring, summer and fall. Road uses by grazing permittees include motorized access for monitoring and managing cattle, salting and checking and maintaining range improvements. Use by BLM staff includes motorized access for wildfire suppression, maintaining range improvements, monitoring cattle and rangeland/resource conditions and other resource management activities. Use by the public is primarily associated with recreational activities.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No N/A

1979 Unit Description: 1979 Inventory Report described this unit as having flat to rolling topography with vegetation that includes big sagebrush, low sagebrush, Idaho fescue, and other native grasses. The unit contains ways, mining activities, powerlines and an airstrip; it is not substantially free of the works of man.

Current Condition Description: The primary human uses in the unit and the surrounding area are associated with livestock grazing and recreation by the public. Since the 1979 report, there as been a 554-acre juniper removal treatment area in 2006 (See Unit Character Map). Mining activities and the airstrip do are not as evident and the powerlines are not included within the unit. Current BLM data indicates that the following developments exist:

Fencing: 9.4 miles

Non-Boundary Routes: 12 miles

There are developments present, they are fairly well distributed throughout the unit and the team found that they are not substantially noticeable and the unit is natural. However, the team did feel this unit was borderline and close to being unnatural.

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

Yes _____ No N/A _____

Current Condition Description: As described above as part of the 1979 report, this unit has very little topographic or vegetative screening. Given this limited screening, the unit's relatively small size and disturbance associated with noise along the major Highway 20, the team found that opportunities for outstanding solitude are not present.

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

Yes _____ No N/A _____

Current Condition Description: Current recreation opportunities consist primarily of big-game hunting, collection of obsidian, hiking and camping. BLM finds that recreation opportunities present are not unique and do not present characteristics either individually or collectively that would result in these recreation activities being outstanding within the unit.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes No _____ N/A _____

Current Condition Description: Unit provides important habitat for Greater sage-grouse, a BLM Sensitive Species.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: **Midnight Point Unit (5-67)**

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

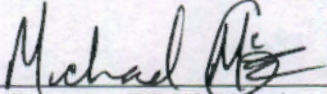
Conclusion (Check One):

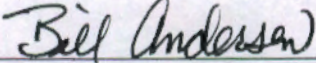
The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.

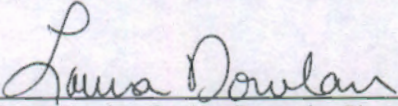
The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by: Laura Dowlan, Outdoor Recreation Planner (Wilderness Specialist)

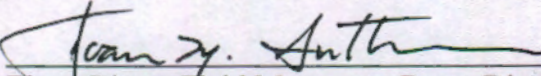
Team Members:

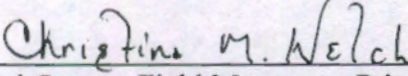

Mike McGee, Wildlife Biologist – Burns District 3/10/08
Date


Bill Andersen, District Range Management Specialist – Burns District 3/10/08
Date


Laura Dowlan, Outdoor Recreation Planner (Wilderness Specialist) – Burns District 3/10/08
Date

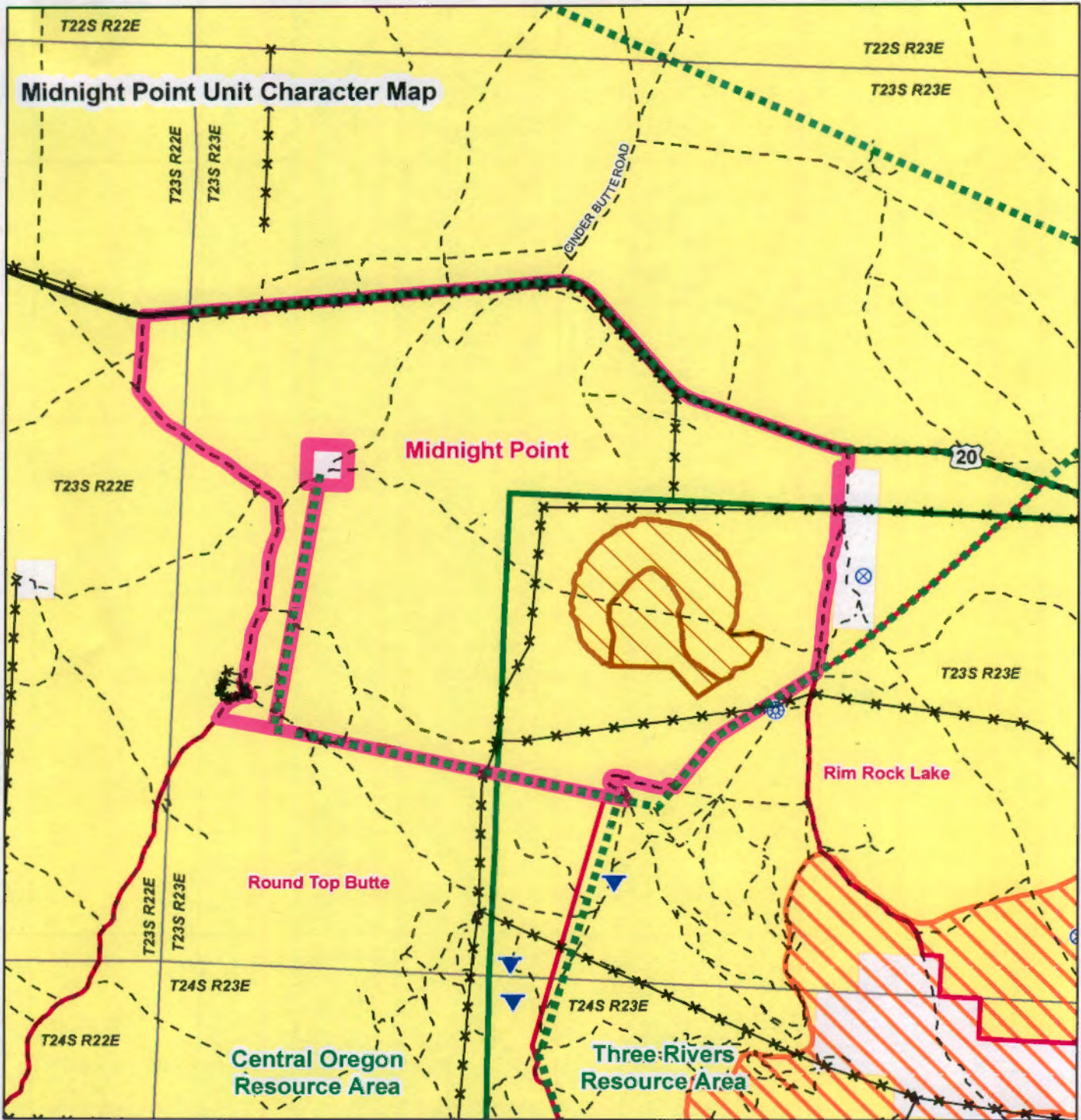
Approved by:


Three Rivers Field Manager – Burns District 3/11/08
Date


Central Oregon Field Manager – Prineville District 3/17/08
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.

Midnight Point Unit Character Map



Powerline	POND	Juniper Removal	<p>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.</p> <p>US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Bureau of Land Management Burns District, Oregon Three Rivers Resource Area \projectslg-corridor\MapTreatMNPT.mxd March 7, 2008 For Laura Dowlan</p>
FENCE	RESERVOIR	Midnight Point Unit	
CATTLE GRD	TROUGH	Adjacent Units	
CORRAL	WATERHOLE	2007 Wildfires	
DUGOUT	WELL	Resource Area Boundary	
GUZZLER	Paved Road	Bureau of Land Management	
	Non-Paved Road	Private	
		Land Administration	
		Private	
		Private	

0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles