

Year: 2018

Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-134C / Lone Grave Butte South

**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 – Final Intensive Inventory Decisions; USDI BLM - Oregon and Washington, November 1980.

b) **Inventory Unit Number(s)/ Name(s):** 1-134B/ Lone Grave Butte

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** Intensive Wilderness Inventory - Final Decisions; USDI BLM - Oregon, November 1980.

d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Lakeview District, Lakeview 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):

Unit #	Size (acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
1-134B	22,080	Y	N	N	N/A
1-134C*	11,831	Y	N	N	N/A

\*The inventory of this unit was updated in 2012. However, due to a State Office-sponsored Wilderness Inventory Consistency Evaluation and subsequent guidance, the 2012 inventory analysis and findings are being replaced by this current 2018 inventory review. Documentation of the 2012 inventory can be found in the wilderness inventory project record.

***Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table:***

In 1980, historic Unit 1-134B was broken into 2 sub-units along Road 6106-B0. Sub-unit 1-134A contained approximately 3,360 acres and was not evaluated further. Sub-unit 1-134B consisted of about 22,080 acres that was described as a generally flat with some broken basalt rims and large flats at different elevations along with some smaller hills. The major

topographic feature was Lone Grave Butte, which rose to 6,150 feet in elevation. This unit was long and narrow and rose gradually in elevation from south to north. Vegetation communities were primarily sagebrush. The unit contained approximately 13 miles of vehicle “ways,” which were found to be substantially unnoticeable. The most noticeable man-made feature was a two mile fence line which ran up the south slope of Long Grave Butte. Overall, the unit appeared generally natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable. The somewhat broken terrain provided some opportunity to find solitude. However, the broad expanses between elevation changes and the relatively narrow shape of the unit left one exposed to others. For this reason, opportunities for solitude were not found to be outstanding. The unit was noted as providing big game hunting and winter trapping, but these were associated with motorized vehicle access. Lone Grave Butte appeared as the most likely point of interest, but was close to a boundary, which received heavy traffic. The unit provided some opportunity for hiking and wildlife observation, but these were not found to be outstanding. No supplemental values were noted.

## FORM 2

### DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

**Unit Number/Name:** OR-015-134C/ Lone Grave Butte South

**(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?** Yes  No

In 2005, the BLM received a citizen proposal from the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) for a 424,570-acre area they referred to as Hart Mountain Proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data. All of these materials were considered during the BLM’s wilderness inventory update for this area. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in 2004. They identified this large area as having no interior routes, which meet the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (p. 87-120 of ONDA 2005).

Between 2008 and 2016, BLM staff conducted field inventory in the area as part of a process to update its road and wilderness inventories and to gather additional information to supplement ONDA’s wilderness information. This fieldwork included photo documentation of the boundary and interior routes and a re-evaluation of wilderness characteristics for this area. Using both ONDA and BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, the BLM completed route analysis within the area in 2017.

The BLM determined that several of the routes ONDA identified as “ways” are boundary roads. The Hart Mountain proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units, which must be evaluated individually.

The BLM determined that the inventory unit is bounded by BLM Roads 6106-C0 and National Wildlife Refuge lands to the west; BLM interim numbered road 6106-L0 and private lands to the south; 6176-00, 6176-L0, 6106-B0, and BLM interim numbered road 6176-LG to the east. Due to changes in boundary determinations (roads) and cut-outs of unnatural features (Shirk Ranch), approximately 10 acres were removed from the unit.

Thus, based on these boundary and road determinations, the BLM found the Lone Grave Butte South inventory unit to exceed the minimum size criteria at approximately 11,833 acres of BLM-administered lands.

Additional background on the process the BLM followed during this evaluation is contained in the document, *Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Process for the Lakeview Resource Area, BLM* and in the *Route Analysis Forms*. Both documents can be found in the wilderness inventory file.

## **DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:**

This inventory unit is located immediately adjacent to the southeast corner of the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge; approximately 20 miles northeast of Plush, Oregon. The unit is approximately 9 miles long by 4 miles. Topographically, the unit is comprised of rolling hills/buttes (50-200 ft. high) with rims/ridges (45-150 ft. high). The western edge of the unit is largely characterized by 4 miles of Guano Slough/Canyon (10-200 ft. deep). While the southern third of the unit is dominated by Guano Valley and the dry lakebed flat of Shirk Lake. Overall, the unit ranges in elevation from 5,015 to 5,531 feet. Vegetation across the unit is predominantly sagebrush and low-growing grasses.

**(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?** Yes  No  N/A

In 1980, historic Unit 1-134B contained approximately 13 miles of vehicle “ways,” which were found to be substantially unnoticeable. The most noticeable man-made feature was a two mile fence line which ran up the south slope of Long Grave Butte. Overall, the unit appeared generally natural with the works of man substantially unnoticeable.

ONDA’s 2005 inventory concluded that their Hart Mountain Proposed Wilderness Study Area appears in a natural condition, primarily affected by the forces of nature. “Many of the manmade developments [are]...deteriorated making them appear more natural in the landscape, they do not have a cumulative impact to the area (p. 92-93 of ONDA 2005).” However, as noted above, the BLM found that this proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units, within which the natural character must be evaluated individually.

The unit currently contains the following man-made developments/disturbances: 347 acres of chemical treatments, 8.5 miles of fence, 13.5 miles of motorized routes, 0.5 miles of reclaiming routes, 3 waterholes, and 1 reservoir.

Presently, almost 4 decades after the original inventory, these developments are weathered and grown over with herbaceous grasses and sagebrush. As a result, developments now fade into the background of the unit and are largely only noticeable at a close distance (1/4<sup>th</sup> mile or less) and are thus substantially unnoticeable from further distances. The topography of the area also plays a role in screening disturbances and man-made developments. In addition, the

majority of disturbances are located near the perimeter of the unit and, as such, have a small area of influence.

Based on a review of all the available information including photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the BLM concluded that the unit appears in a natural condition where the imprints of man are substantially unnoticeable.

**(3) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for solitude?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X  N/A \_\_\_\_\_

In 1980, historic Unit 1-134B was found to possess broken terrain which provided some opportunity to find solitude. However, broad expanses between elevation changes and the relatively narrow shape of the unit was determined to leave one exposed to others. For this reason, opportunities for solitude were not found to be outstanding.

In 2005, ONDA's inventory identified the larger 424,570-acre Hart Mountain Proposed WSA as having outstanding opportunities for solitude based on sheer size as their proposal is contiguous with other inventory units and therefore no longer stands alone. As such, the sights and sounds of others could easily be avoided. ONDA noted that there are still flat and exposed slopes, but they do not dominate the entirety of the proposed WSA and one could easily find areas that have topographic screening (p. 93 of ONDA 2005). However, the BLM did not find this proposal to be one large roadless area, but are comprised of a number of smaller inventory units that must be evaluated individually.

The BLM acknowledges that there are limited opportunities for solitude within the Lone Grave Butte South inventory unit. The unit is approximately 9 miles long by 4 miles. Topographically, the unit is comprised of rolling hills/buttes (50-200 ft. high) with rims/ridges (45-150 ft. high). The western edge of the unit is largely characterized by 4 miles of Guano Slough/Canyon (10-200 ft. deep). While the southern third of the unit is dominated by Guano Valley and the dry lakebed flat of Shirk Lake. Overall, the unit ranges in elevation from 5,015 to 5,531 feet. Vegetation across the unit is predominantly sagebrush and low-growing grasses. These opportunities are less than outstanding as the area's characteristic landscape largely lacks vegetative screening and existing topographic screening is insufficient to effectively allow those recreating in the area to avoid the sights and sounds of others.

Thus, for the reasons specified above and based on a review of all the available information including (BLM and citizen provided) photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the BLM concluded the Lone Grave Butte South inventory unit does not possess outstanding opportunities for solitude.

**(4) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X  N/A \_\_\_\_\_

In 1980, historic Unit 1-134B was found to provide opportunities for big game hunting and winter trapping, but these were associated with motorized vehicle access. Lone Grave Butte appeared as the most likely point of interest, but was close to a boundary, which received heavy traffic. The unit provided some opportunity for hiking and wildlife observation, but these were not found to be outstanding.

In 2005, ONDA's inventory identified the larger 424,570-acre Hart Mountain Proposed WSA as having outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation based on sheer size as their proposal is contiguous with other inventory units and therefore no longer stands alone. ONDA considered potential opportunities for hunting, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, wildlife observation, and photography as outstanding (p. 93 of ONDA 2005). However, the BLM did not find this proposal to be one large roadless area, but are comprised of a number of smaller inventory units that must be evaluated individually.

The BLM finds the unit offers limited opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, backpacking, camping, wildlife observation, exploration, scenery, photography, stargazing, trapping, and hunting. However, the BLM determined that the unit does not possess outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation through either the diversity of recreational activities possible in the area or by the outstanding quality of one opportunity relative to opportunities found within the Lakeview Resource Area.

**(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?** Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ N/A  X

Supplemental values were not evaluated as the unit was determined to lack both outstanding opportunities for solitude and or primitive and unconfined recreation, and therefore does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

**Unit Number/Name:** OR-015-134C/ Lone Grave Butte South

**Summary Results of Analysis:**

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

**Conclusion (Check One):**

     The area- or a portion of the area- has wilderness character:  
*(items 1, 2 and 3 must be checked "yes").*

  X   The area does not have wilderness character: *(any of items 1, 2 and 3 are checked "no").*

**Prepared by** (Member Names and Titles):

Chris Bishop  
Chris Bishop: Outdoor Recreation Planner

10/18/2018  
Date

Jami Ludwig  
Jami Ludwig: Assistant Field Manager

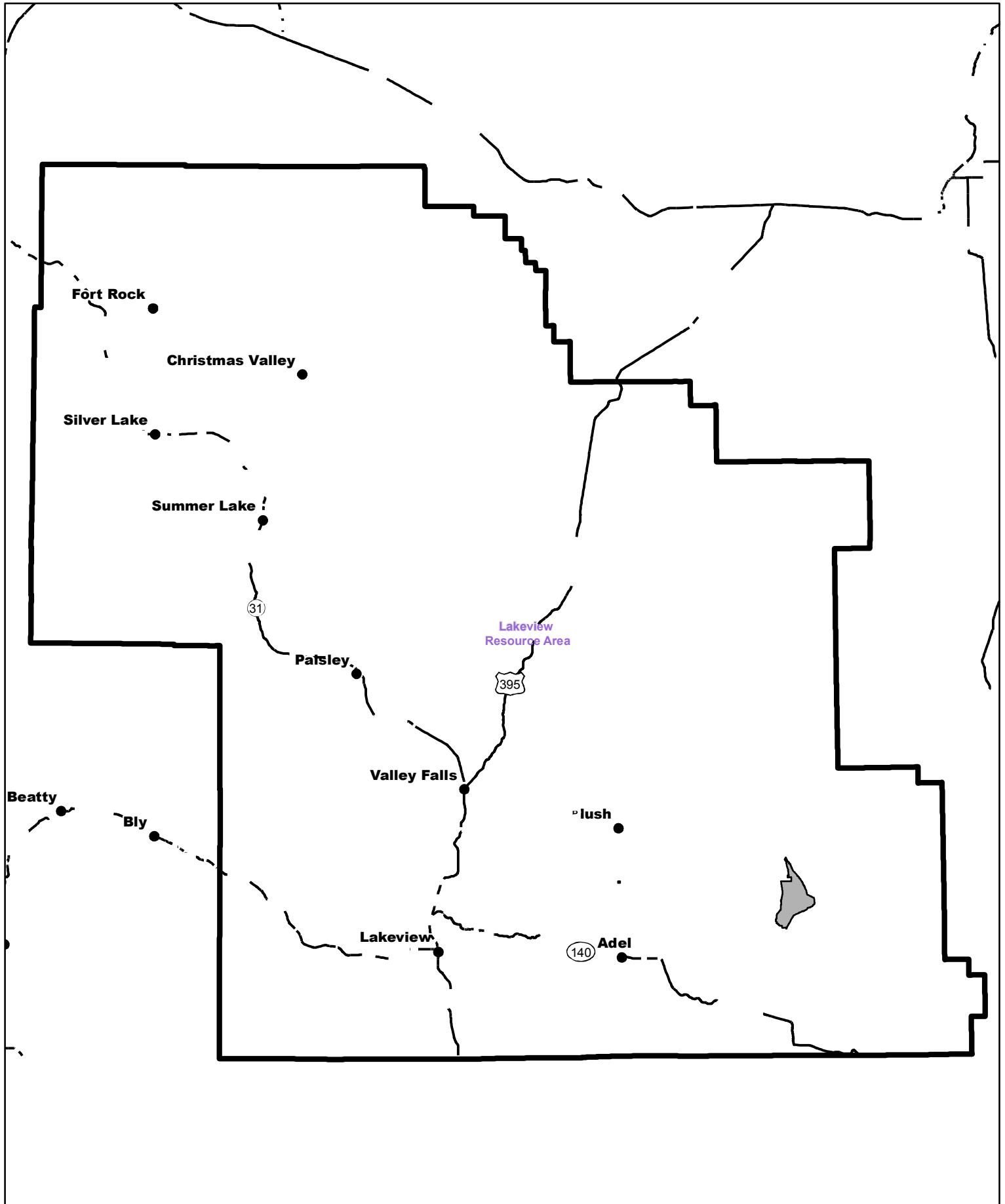
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**Approved by:**

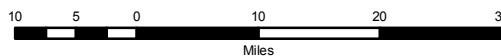
J. Todd Forbes  
J. Todd Forbes  
Field Manager


10/18/18  
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 43 CFR parts either 4 or 1610.5-2.*

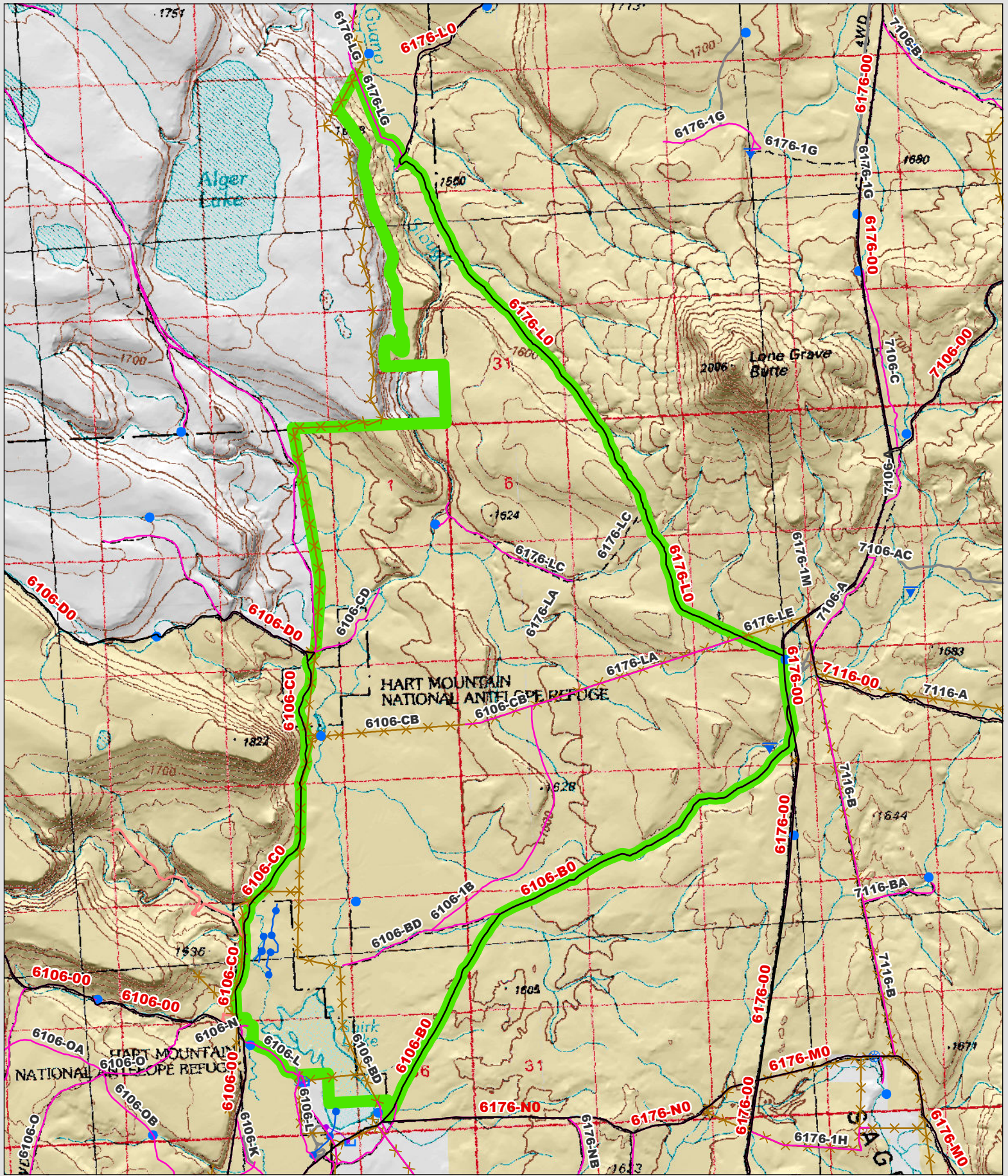


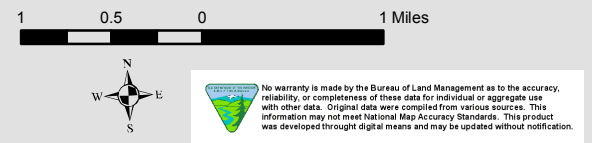
 Wilderness Character Inventory Unit



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<p><b>Wilderness Character Inventory Unit</b></p> <p><b>Ownership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Bureau of Land Management</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: lightgreen; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> U.S. Forest Service</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: white; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Private/Unknown</li> </ul>	<p><b>Roads/Trails</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; border-bottom: 2px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Motorized Routes</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; border-bottom: 2px solid gray; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Highways</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; border-bottom: 2px dashed gray; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Reclaiming Routes</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; border-bottom: 2px dashed magenta; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Interim Routes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pipelines and Ditches</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; border-radius: 50%; border: 1px solid blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Ditch</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: magenta; border: 1px solid magenta; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Water Pipeline</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: cyan; border: 1px solid cyan; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Guzzler</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Fences</li> </ul>	<p><b>Water Developments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: lightblue; border: 1px solid blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Dam</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: lightblue; border: 1px solid blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Reservoir</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; border: 1px solid blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Spring Development</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; border: 1px solid blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Trough</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; border: 1px solid blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Water Diversion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; border-radius: 50%; border: 1px solid blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Water Tank</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; border-radius: 50%; border: 1px solid blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Waterhole</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: lightblue; border: 1px solid blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Well - Water</li> </ul>	<p>1 0.5 0 1 Miles</p>  <p>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 were 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.</p>
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