

Year 2012 Inventory Unit Number/Name: Juniper Dunes
 Wilderness Area Adjacent Unit (OR 135-03)

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 _____ (Go to Form 2) Yes X (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.):

a) **Inventory Source:** BLM FLPA Section 603 Wilderness Inventory: BLM Final Intensive Inventory Decisions for Oregon and Washington, November 1980.

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** Juniper Forest (OR 13-01)

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** _____

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

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):

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics¹:
 Inventory Source: _____

Unit#/Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
Juniper Forest Inventory Unit (OR 13-01)	7,806 acres	Y	Y	Y	Y
Juniper Dunes	7,100 acres	Y	Y	Y	Y

Wilderness Area PL- 96-933					

The Juniper Forest Unit was designated as the Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area in the Washington State Wilderness Act, Public Law 96-339 on July 3, 1984, Appendix A. The lands include 7,100 acres of public lands managed by the Spokane District.

FORM 2

Use additional pages as necessary

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

a. Unit Number/Name: Juniper Dunes / Wilderness Area Adjacent Unit (OR135-03)

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Yes X No

There are approximately 19,135 acres of public lands within the current inventory unit. The increased current inventory unit size for the Wilderness is due to improved GIS capabilities, and for the rest of the area due to subsequent land acquisitions, when compared to the 1980 listed inventory unit sizes.

The unit lies between the US Highway 395 and the Pasco-Kahlotus Highway in Franklin County, Washington, approximately 15 miles northeast of Pasco, Washington.

As lands adjacent to an existing 7,144 acre Wilderness, a portion of the area, two small parcels, of 632 and 407 acres, at the south edge of Juniper Dunes Wilderness qualify for the size requirement.

The remainder of the unit is bisected by man-made intrusions into smaller parcels which are less than 5,000 acres in size and have been affected by OHV recreational activity.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

The public lands are surrounded by private lands to the west, south and north, while the Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area and private lands form the

boundary on the east side. There are additional public lands in a checkerboard pattern nearby. At the present time, there is no legal public access to the public lands. Visitors to the area currently rely on the tolerance of private landowners to cross their property to get to these areas.

The Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area was established to protect a remnant ecosystem which once extended from its present location to the Columbia and Snake Rivers covering an area of nearly 250,000 acres. This ecosystem contains some of the largest sand dunes and the largest remaining natural groves of western juniper *Juniper occidentals*, in the state of Washington.

The sand dunes were formed by strong southwesterly winds. The dunes reach 130 feet in height and 1,200 feet in width. The juniper groves are 75 to 150 years old and represent the approximate northernmost limit of the species.

The sand dune/juniper grove ecosystem provides a unique blend of environmental conditions to which many wildlife species have become adapted. Mule Deer, coyote, skunk, weasel, and many small rodents are representative of the mammal populations which are common to the Columbia basin. A variety of reptiles and songbirds inhabit the area as well and the area is a valuable habitat for birds of prey.

The land provides for several wildlife species important to the state and the Federal Government, including ferruginous hawk, Swainson's hawk, long-billed curlew, sage thrasher, kangaroo rat, pygmy rabbit, and the sage sparrow.

A portion of the area was established as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) by the BLM in 1981 for the protection of ferruginous hawks and Swainson's hawks.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No X N/A

Description:

There are several man-made features which divide the unit into smaller parcels, none of which are 5,000 acres in size themselves. These features include the following:

W 04387 Powerline ROW (50 feet), OR 17154 W Powerline ROW (20 feet), OR 4212 W a ROW, OR 60485W a road and pipeline ROW, OR 16904 W a powerline ROW (10 – 12 feet)

The lands have been leased for potential oil and gas development, although no development has occurred. (OR 59689 W OG lease, OR 59688 W OG lease OR 59686 W OG Lease, OR 59887 W OG Lease, OR 59685 W OG lease OG Lease of 6/5/1996 for some parcels).

A portion of the lands are managed as an Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Open Area, with unrestricted OHV use. These lands have numerous tracks, traditional dispersed camping areas which are heavily impacted, and washboarding occurring along vehicle trails. These lands are not in a natural condition. The condition also extends into the adjacent ACEC designated lands as well, although these lands are designated as restricted to specifically designated vehicle routes only.

A portion of the lands in the eastern region of the qualifying unit which border the southern boundary of the designated Wilderness Area appear to be in a natural condition. This is because a fence line along the west side of the area restricts OHV access from that direction, while access from any other direction is restricted by the public/private land issue. There are two separate parcels, separated from each other by private lands. The two subunits are approximately 407 acres and 632 acres in size. Although there is a fence line separating these subunits from the Wilderness Area, the fence line itself is substantially unnoticeable except in its immediate vicinity. A wilderness character road creates the southern boundary of the larger subunit. And a powerline ROW creates its western boundary, except where a fence line further indents into the northwest quarter of T10N, R31E, Sec 13. A 102-acre parcel west of that fence within that quarter section, and east of the powerline, does not have wilderness characteristics due to lack of naturalness from OHV activity.

The two qualifying subunit parcels adjacent to the designated wilderness area share the same conditions as the Wilderness Area. The areas within the Wilderness Characteristics Area were initially recognized as having a somewhat reduced wilderness condition compared to the wilderness, but this has been enhanced due to the construction of the fence line along its western boundary which extends further south and a resultant change in the OHV use pattern.

A BLM weather station located at T10N, R31E, Section 12 (NE,SE,SE) creates an approximately one-half acre size unit that is not in natural condition but is substantially unnoticeable beyond that perimeter.

An above ground well casing located at T10N, R32E, Section 18 (NE ¼) is substantially unnoticeable.

A sub-surface water pipeline running roughly parallel to the road in part of T10N, R32E, Section 18 in the larger subunit is not noticeable except where it connects to a stock watering trough visible from the road in the NW ¼ of that Section. The stock watering trough impacts naturalness for approximately ½ acre in its immediate vicinity.

(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 N/A

Description:

Access is extremely difficult and the expectation of meeting anyone else in the qualifying unit is remote. There is no road available for public use which provides motorized access to either subunit, although the larger subunit has a wilderness character road constituting its southern boundary. There is both topographical screening and vegetation screening, with low rolling dunes and juniper groves.

(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 N/A

Description:

The two qualifying subunits are similar in nature to the lands which lie within the Wilderness Area and which have documented levels of outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. They are separated from the Wilderness Area by only the Wilderness Area boundary fence line. Although actual use levels are unknown, primitive recreation set within the Wilderness Area may be crossing into this area as well.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes No N/A

Description:

The initial Wilderness Inventory effort documented the presence of the largest area of active sand dunes in Washington State, the state's largest concentration of western juniper, one of the larger areas of steppe vegetation concentrations in the state, and that it provides for several

wildlife species important to the state, including ferruginous hawk, Swainson's hawk, long-billed curlew, sage thrasher, and the sage sparrow.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Juniper Dunes / Wilderness Area Adjacent Unit (OR 135-03)

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

A portion of the area, two small parcels in the southeast corner of the inventory unit, which are adjacent to the Wilderness Area and which lack public access, have wilderness characteristics. The remainder of the unit is bisected by man-made intrusions into smaller parcels which are less than 5,000 acres in size and all have been adversely affected by the OHV recreational activities.

Lands with Wilderness Character:	1,039 acres
Lands without Wilderness Character	18,096 acres

Check One:

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

The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by:

Team Members:


Linda Clark – Border Field Office Manager
Tim Finger – Wilderness
Debbie Plummer – Fire
Jerry Magee – Oregon NLCS Lead

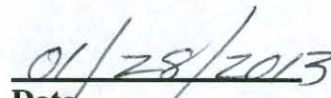
Scott Pavey – Planning and NEPA
Rich Bailey – Archeology
Dave Gibbins – Law Enforcement
Chris Shafer – Range

Robert Beamer – Forestry
Al Gardner - Forestry
Anne Boyd – Archeology
Heidi Honner – Lands and Realty
Kelly Courtright – Minerals
Jason Lowe – Wildlife
William Cook – Safety
Kerrin Doloughan - Range
Steve Smith – Wilderness, Recreation, Visual, ACEC, Wild and Scenic River, OHV

Mike Fallon - GIS
Sean MacDougall – Weeds
Mark Hatchel - Lands
Mike Sweeney – Minerals
Alex Kwan - Engineering
Glenn Paulson – Range
Richard Parrish – Fuels

Approved by:


Field Manager


Date

REFERENCES:

1. Realty References:

Master Title Plats

T. 11 N., R. 31 E.

T. 11 N., R. 32 E.

T. 10 N., R. 31 E.

T. 10 N., R. 32 E.

Realty Case Files:

W 04387 Powerline ROW (50 feet)

OR 17154 W, Powerline ROW (20 feet)

OR 4212 W, a ROW

OR 60485W, a road and pipeline ROW

OR 16904 W, a powerline ROW (10 – 12 feet)

2. Recreation/Wilderness Program Reference:

BLM Juniper Forest Recreation Opportunities Site Map, November 2004

Recreation Management Information System (RMIS) 2011

BLM Spokane District Management Framework Plan 1981

3. Engineering program Reference:

BLM Spokane District Route Inventory (FAMS)

4. Range Program Reference:

Range Allotment Files

5. GIS Program reference:

BLM Resource Data-Wildlife, vegetation, fuels, watershed, visual
Aerial Photos, FY 2009 Google Earth

6. Mineral Program Reference:

OR 59689 W OG lease
OR 59688 W OG lease
OR 59686 W OG Lease
OR 59887 W OG Lease
OR 59685 W OG lease
OG Lease of 6/5/1996 for some parcels

BLM geographic report for case recordation and mining claim status in LR 2000.

7. Planning and NEPA references:

1. Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, Section 201 and 206
2. Spokane District Resource Management Plan, signed May, 1987, amended 1992.
3. Juniper Dunes Wilderness Management Plan, BLM Spokane District, January, 1987.
4. Washington State Wilderness Act, Public Law 96-339 on July 3, 1984, Appendix A.

Juniper Dunes Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Results

Boundary Feature

- ×—× Fence
- Powerline
- ⋯ Right-of-way

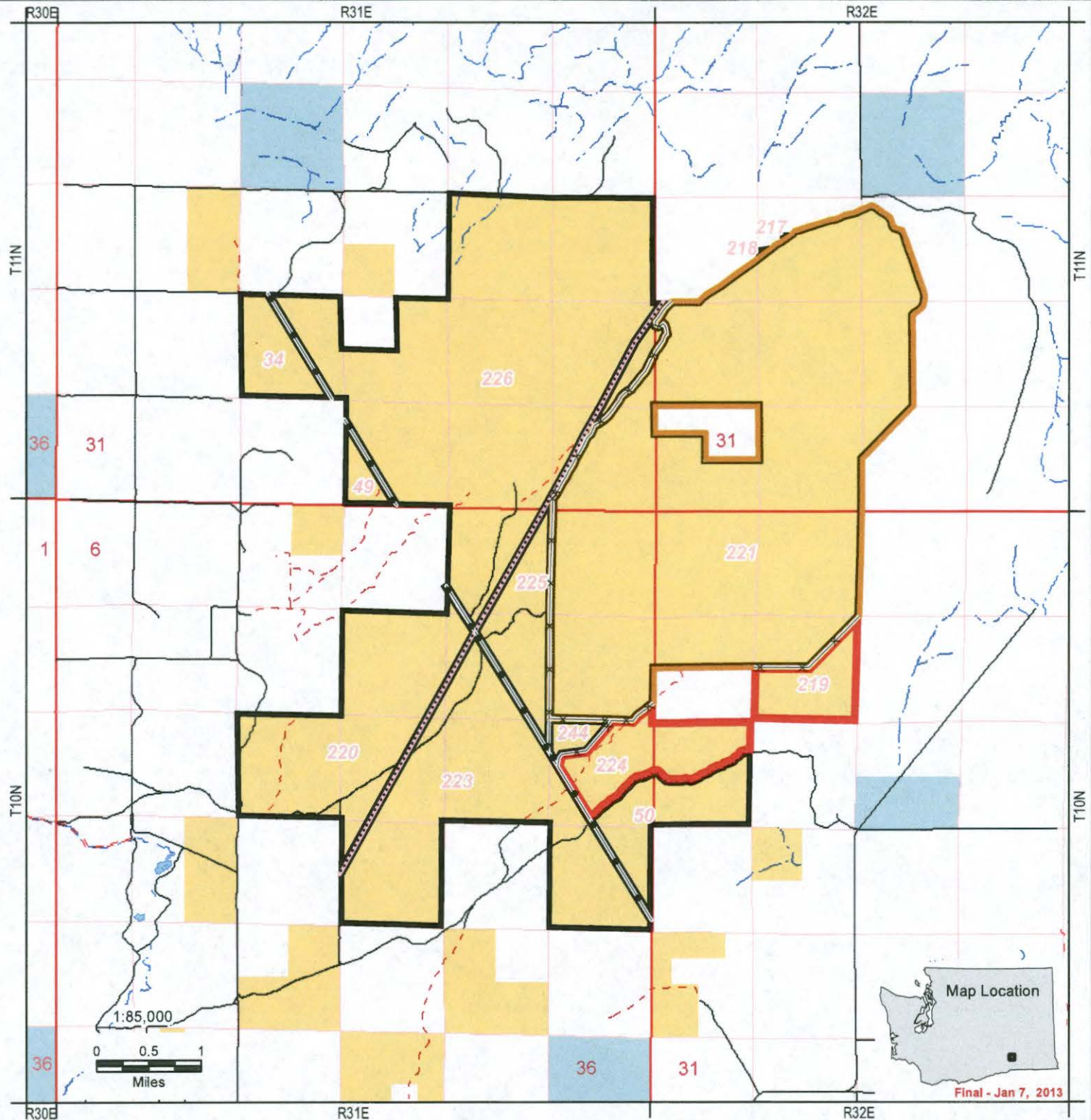
Unit Evaluation

- Existing Wilderness - Not Applicable
- Yes - Wilderness Characteristics
- No - Wilderness Characteristics

Surface Jurisdiction

- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- WA Dept. of Natural Resources

Unique ID	Evaluation	Acres
34	N	377
49	N	134
50	N	603
217	N	3
218	N	5
219	Y	407
220	N	1788
221	X	7144
223	N	2333
224	Y	632
225	N	714
226	N	4893
244	N	102
Total		19,135



United States Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Land Management
 Spokane District Office
 1103 N. Fancher
 Spokane, WA 99212



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Final - Jan 7, 2013

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.

**H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON**

APPENDIX C - ROAD* ANALYSIS

**Wilderness Inventory Area Name and Number (UNIT_ID): Juniper Dunes
Wilderness Area Adjacent Unit (OR 135-03)**

Route Name and/or Identifier: _____ Subunit Road _____

(Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known, include route number supplied by citizen information when available)

- I. LOCATION:** refer to attached Field map, BLM Minerals Management Status Map, 1/100,000 Scale and BLM corporate data (GIS). List photo point references (where applicable): T 10 N., R. 31 E., Section 24 to T 10 N., R. 32 E., Section 18; see photos #1 - 4.

II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE:

Examples: Rangeland/Livestock Improvements (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment).

Describe: This Route is used for BLM administrative access, range program access, range permittee access, for fire purposes, and for maintenance of the buried stock water pipeline roughly parallel to the road in Section 18. The BLM administrative use is occasional, while most use is by the Range Permittee. Public access is not authorized for this route.

III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route? Yes No X Unknown

- IV. CONSTRUCTION** (Is there evidence that the route was originally constructed using mechanical means?)

Yes No _____

Examples:

Paved _____ Bladed Graveled _____ Roadside Berms _____
Cut/Fill _____ Other _____

Describe: The route shows evidence of cut construction by a blade especially at its western end. _____

V. IMPROVEMENTS (Is there evidence of improvements to facilitate access?)

Yes _____ No

By Hand Tools _____ By Machine _____

Examples:

Culverts _____ Stream Crossings _____ Bridges _____ Drainage _____
Barriers _____ Other _____

Describe: _____

VI. MAINTENANCE (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure continued use?):

A. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes _____ No

Hand Tools _____ Machine _____

Explain: It is unknown if the route has previously been maintained by hand tools or machinery, but there is not significant evidence of any maintenance. _____

B. If the route is in passable condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM to meet the purpose(s) of the route in the event this route became impassable?

Yes No _____

Comments: The route is critical for range permittee access especially for livestock management and water pipeline maintenance, as well as for BLM administrative and fire access and would be maintained to allow continued access for relatively regular and continuous use by vehicles suited to the purpose of the road. _____

VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes No _____

This route receives occasional use by the range permittee as well as occasional use for BLM administrative and fire purposes. Evidence found of use is a few vehicle tracks. Use of the route is by passage of vehicles and stock animals.

VIII. CONCLUSION:

To meet the definition of a road, items IV or V, *and* VI-A or B, *and* VII must be checked yes.

Road: Yes No

Explanation:

Evaluator(s): Smith/Gibbins Date: 1/31/12

* **road:** An access route which has been **improved and maintained** by **mechanical means** to insure **relatively regular and continuous use**. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

a. **"Improved and maintained"** – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. "Improved" does not necessarily mean formal construction. "Maintained" does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.

b. **"Mechanical means"** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.

c. **"Relatively regular and continuous use"** – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.

**H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON**

**APPENDIX D – PHOTO LOG
(modify form as needed)**

Photographer(s): Dave Gibbins 2/18/12 Steve Smith 1/31/12

Inventory Area Name & No.: Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area Adjacent Unit (OR 135-03)

Date	Frame #	Camera Direction	Description	GPS/UTM Location	Township	Range	Sec.
2/18/12	1	east	Wilderness Characteristics Road / cut		10N	31E	24
2/18/12	2	east	Wilderness Characteristics Road / cut		10N	31E	13
2/18/12	3	east	Wilderness Characteristics Road		10N	31E	18
2/18/12	4	north	Feature / stock watering trough		10N	31E	18
1/31/12	5	east	Feature / weather station		10N	31E	12
1/31/12	6	east	Natural landscape		10N	31E	18



2



3



4

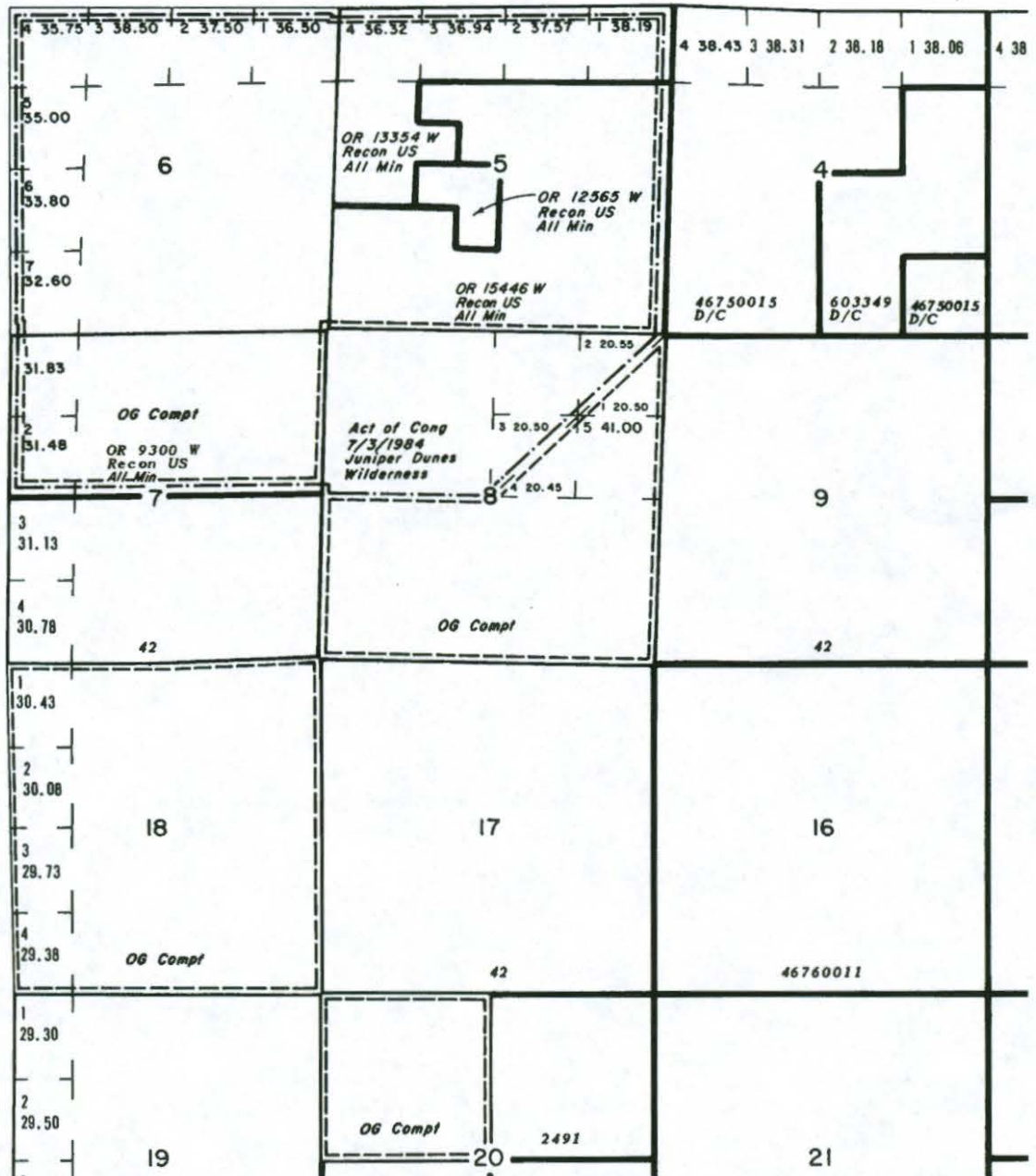


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6







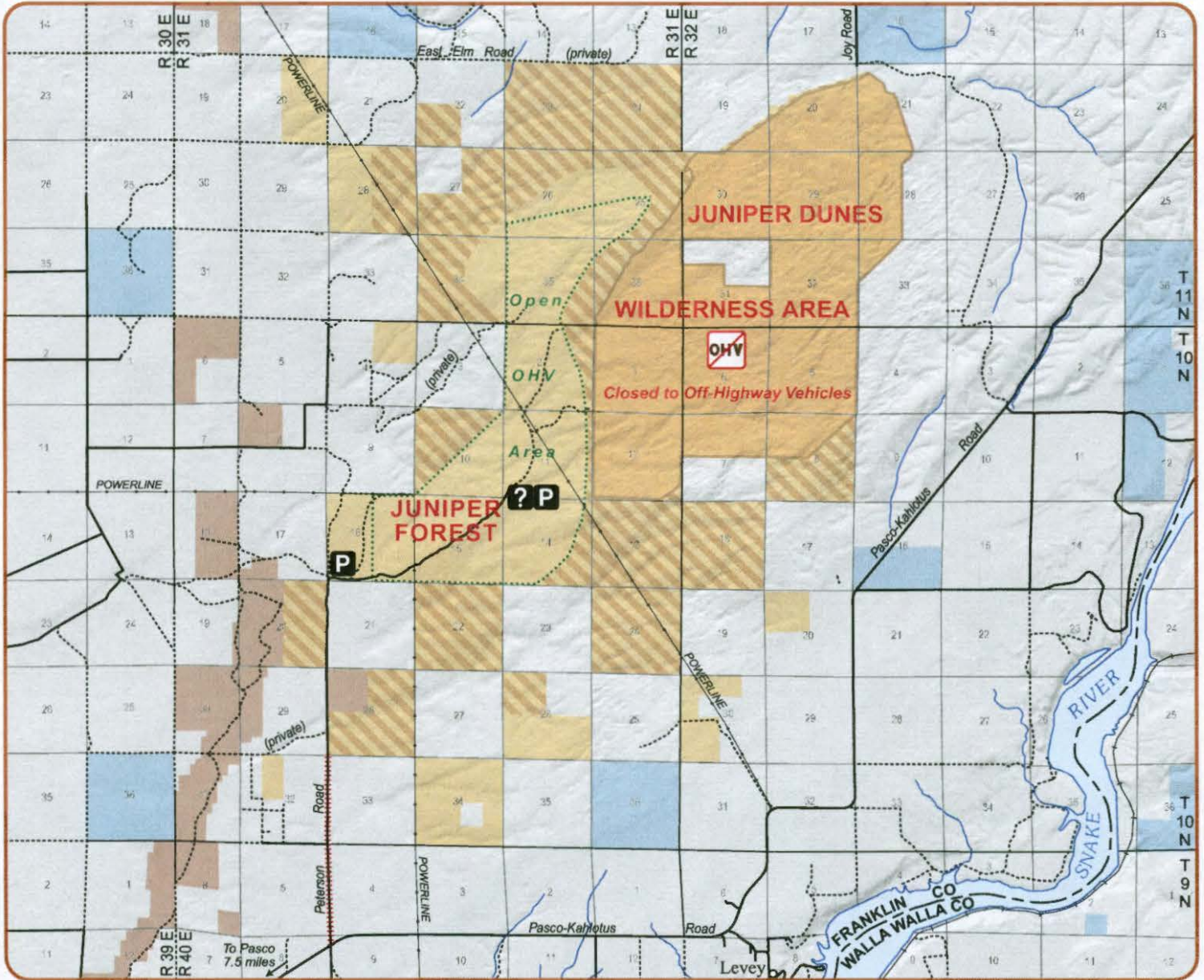
Juniper Forest

Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area

Recreation Opportunities



Recreation Opportunities



LEGEND

Recreation

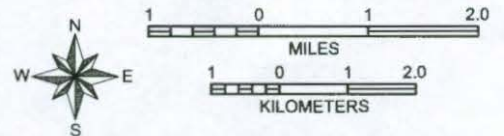
- ?** Information
- P** Parking

Transportation

- Improved Road
- - - - - Other Road or Trail, Access as Designated
- ▬ Private Road
- +— Railroad

Administered Land

- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
(OHV use limited to designated roads and trails)
- BLM Wilderness Area *(closed to OHVs)*
- BLM Area of Critical Environmental Concern
(OHV use limited to designated roads and trails)
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Washington Dept. of Natural Resources
- Private or Other



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 (509) 536-1200

It is unlawful to trespass on private lands. State hunting and fishing regulations apply to private lands. Landowners are not required to post or fence their lands. Check with private landowners before entering their property.

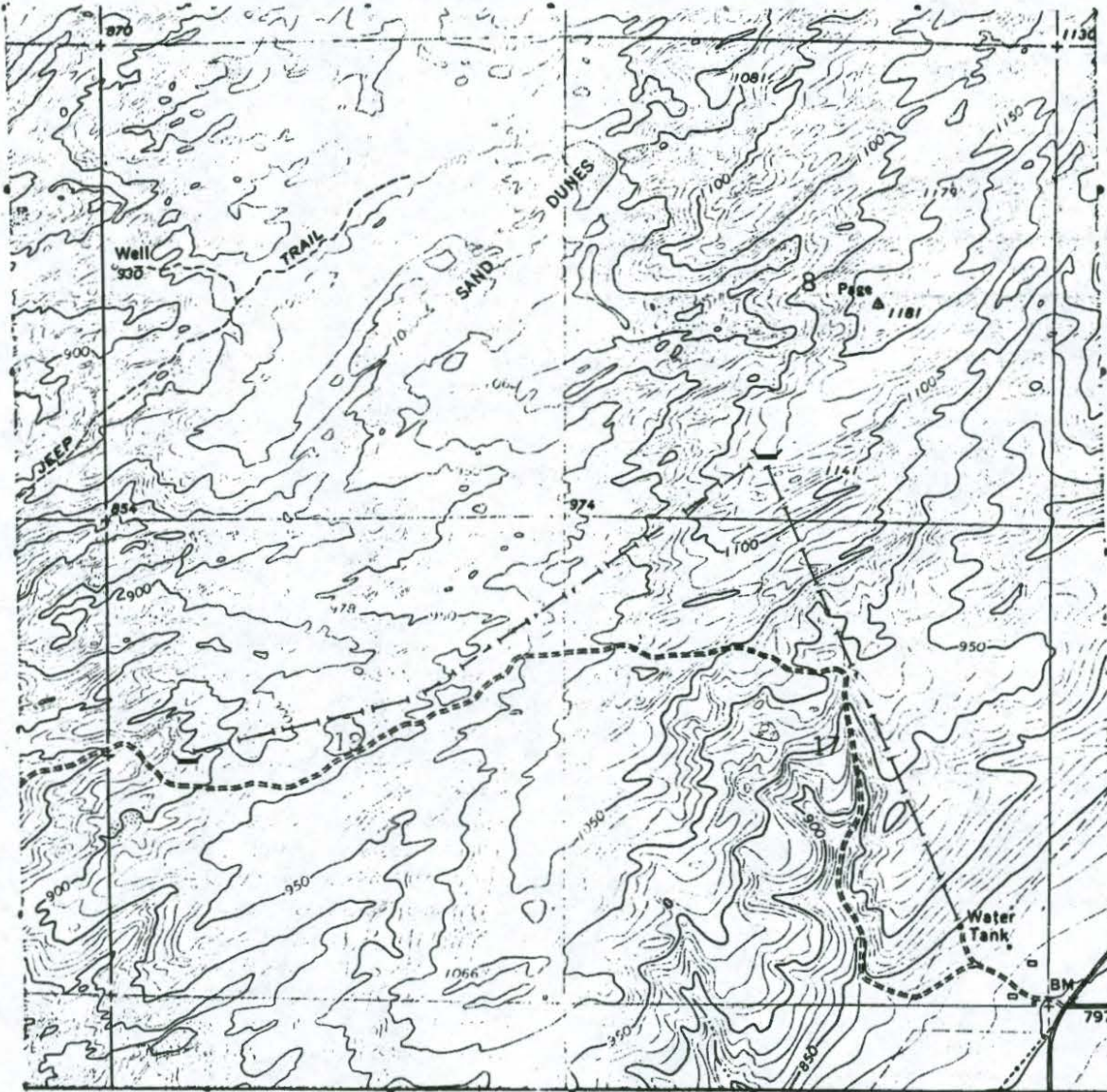
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

EXHIBIT "A"

Serial Number

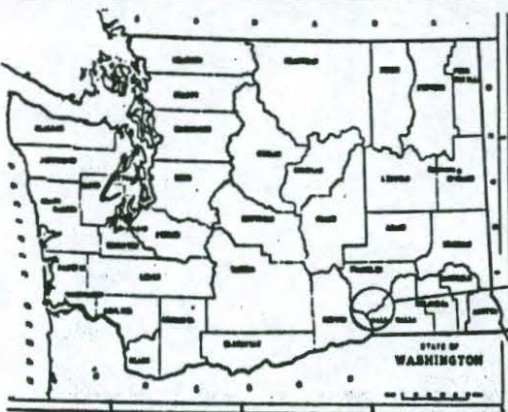
SITE PLOT

Township 10N., Range 32 E., Willamette Meridian



LAND OWNERSHIP KEY AND ADDITIONAL TOPOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

Scale: 1" = 2000'



	Pipeline Right-of-Way
	General Location

OTHER DATA

SITE PLOT

Form 2060-2 (January 1975)

450172

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