

**WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY**

**APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION**

**OR08-1 Bull of the Woods-Opal Creek Additions Wilderness  
Additions**

**Evaluation of Current Conditions:**

- 1) Document and review any existing BLM wilderness characteristics inventory findings on file regarding the presence or absence of individual wilderness characteristics, using Form 1, below.
- 2) Consider relevant information regarding current conditions available in the office. Identify and describe any changes to the existing inventory information. Use interdisciplinary team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc. and document the findings on Form 2, below. Document current conditions regarding wilderness characteristics, as opposed to potential future conditions.

Conduct field reviews as necessary to verify information and to ascertain current conditions. Reach conclusions on current conditions including boundaries, size of areas and presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. Fully explain the basis for each conclusion on Form 2, including any critical differences between BLM and citizen information.

Document the findings regarding current conditions for each inventoried area. Describe how the present conditions are similar to, or have changed from, the conditions documented in the original wilderness characteristics inventory. Document the findings on Form 2 for each inventory area. Cite to or attach data considered, including photographs, maps, GIS layers, field trip notes, project files, etc.

**FORM 1**

**Documentation of BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings from Previous Inventory on Record**

**1. Is there existing BLM wilderness characteristics inventory information on all or part of this area?**

No  (Go to Form 2)

Yes  (If yes, and if more than one area is within the area, list the unique identifiers for those areas.): OR08-1 Bull of the Woods/Opal Creek Additions is now split into subunits (a) which is Nasty Rock and (b) which is Opal Creek area containing Evan's Mountain and Elkhorn Creek

a) **Inventory Source:** Computer generated from old BLM policy and all applicable BLM inventory files

*Salem District Wilderness Characteristic Inventory, Western Oregon Plan Revision Draft Environmental Impact Statement – September 2006*

*Western Oregon Plan Revision Record of Decision (2008) – RESCINDED*

b) **Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s):** Opal Creek Additions-Evan's Mountain and Opal Creek-Elkhorn Creek

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** OR08-1(b) Bull of the Woods-Opal Creek Additions

d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Salem District, Cascades Resource Area

**2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:**

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory area is associated with the area, list each area and answer each question individually for each inventory area):

OR08-1: Bull of the Woods-Opal Creek Additions was found to contain Wilderness Characteristics during the Western Oregon Plan Revisions planning effort from 2006-2008. The plan was rescinded however the inventory remains valid.

**Inventory Source:** Denotes all applicable BLM Inventory files, printed maps, or published BLM Decisions documents with information pertaining to this unit.

<b>Unique Identifier</b>	<b>Sufficient Size? Yes/No (acres)</b>	<b>Naturalness? Yes/No</b>	<b>Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No</b>	<b>Outstanding Primitive &amp; Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No</b>	<b>Supplemental Values? Yes/No</b>
OR08-1 Bull of the Woods/Opal Creek Additions	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A

**FORM 2****Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics**

**Area Unique Identifier:** OR08-1(b) Opal Creek Additions – Evan’s Mountain and Elkhorn Creek

**Acreage Total:** 278 for Evan’s Mountain and 0 for Elkhorn Creek  
(If the inventory area consists of subunits, list the acreage of each and evaluate each separately).

1) **Is the area of sufficient size?** (If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check “Yes” and describe the exception in the space provided below),

Yes

No

Note: If “No” is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check “NA” for the remaining questions below.

**Description** (describe the boundaries of the area--wilderness inventory roads, property lines, etc.): The Evan’s Mountain area of this Opal Creek subunit is approximately 278 acres located in T8S, R4E, Section 29, Marion County, Little North Santiam 5<sup>th</sup> field watershed. The subunit boundaries are a combination of roads, past harvest, and ownership boundaries. The Opal Creek Wilderness, a 20,454 acre designated Wilderness area administered by the Willamette National Forest, Detroit Ranger District, is the eastern boundary of this land. The Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 designated the area. Boundaries were derived from a citizen’s proposal during scoping for the Western Oregon Plan Revisions. Current BLM wilderness characteristic policy and field verification has moved boundaries based on FOI (Forest Operations Inventory).

The Evan’s Mountain area of the Opal Creek subunit boundary roads are non-gated paved and graveled forest roads with semi regular maintenance. Timber harvest, Forest Operations Inventory class, and roads will determine the boundary. The southern boundary is State owned lands.

The Elkhorn Creek area or the southern portion of the original inventory unit (lands within T9S R4E Sections 5-7 and 17; T9S, R3E Section 1) is adjacent to the USFS-administered Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area land that is to the south of the Opal Creek Wilderness and bisected by roads. The USFS stated they will not pursue wilderness designation of this area. Because this area is not directly contiguous with the Opal Creek Wilderness, it does not meet the size criteria and has been dropped from this inventory unit.

With these boundary adjustments to the Evan’s Mountain area and the dropped Elkhorn Creek area, the acreage of the Opal Creek subunit (OR08-1 (b)) is now 278 acres added to the existing Opal Creek Wilderness.

**2) Does the area appear to be natural?**Yes No N/A 

Note: If "No" is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.

**Description** (include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation, and summary of major human uses/activities):

The Evan's Mountain area is currently BLM-administered Oregon and California Revested Lands, and classified as Connectivity (CONN) Land Use Allocation (LUA) in the Salem BLM's current Resource Management Plan.

Of the 278 acres of this section proposed for addition to the adjacent Opal Creek Wilderness, approximately 94 acres (or 34 percent) are currently classified as "withdrawn" from timber production; likely due to large rock outcroppings and ledges ranging from 1,360 to 3,180 feet in elevation. Dispersed recreation occurs in the area.

These stands consist of fully stocked mid to late mature seral stage Douglas-fir ranging in age from approximately 80 to 150 years. There are no records of any previous harvest or timber management activities.

**3) Does the area (or the remainder of the area 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** (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for solitude): Although small in size, the unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude in association with the adjacent Opal Creek Wilderness Area. The area is one mile by 0.70 of a mile wide. You may hear louder sounds from the surrounding environment to the north, south and west of the area from management practices on non wilderness lands however one can experience solitude due to terrain and heavy vegetative cover in association with the adjacent Opal Creek Wilderness.

**4) Does the area (or the remainder of the area 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 

Note: If "No" is checked for both 3 and 4 the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for question 5.

**Description** (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation): Overall, the unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation in association with the adjoining Opal Creek Wilderness lands. The area has no trails or developed recreation sites. Dispersed non-motorized recreation occurs in the area. The unit, in conjunction with the contiguous Opal Creek Wilderness and Scenic Recreation Area, offers outstanding primitive recreation opportunities that draw visitors from outside the region.

**5) Does the area have supplemental values** (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)?

Yes

No

N/A

Description of Supplemental Values:

### Timber

A planned timber sale (called "Evan's Mountain Thinning") is proposed directly west of the proposed subunit in section 29, with the current proposed wilderness addition boundaries adjusted to exclude this area. A main access road follows near the north-western boundary of this subunit (8-4E-30.0 road) is paved along portions of the road, and will be used as a main haul route for the "Evan's Mountain" thinning sale; proposed for sale in 2013.

All of the proposed additions in section 29, with the exception of the "withdrawn" acres, could be considered for current and future timber harvest opportunities according to the direction in the Salem District RMP pertinent to lands designed as CONN LUA (See RMP Appendix D-3). Some road construction would be necessary to access portions of the Evan's Mountain area for timber harvest, when other areas (about 60 acres) would only be accessible to log by helicopter. These areas were considered for treatment under the "Evan's Mountain" timber sale, but were dropped from the proposal. Other areas east of the 8-3-30.0 road just south of the "withdrawn" area could be available for timber harvest with additional road construction.

### Owls

The Evan's Mountain subunit is primarily suitable habitat with some dispersal habitat within the proposed addition. This area is within the Provincial home range of two Northern Spotted Owl pairs, is the core area of one pair, and contains one site center.

### Summary of Analysis\*

#### Area Unique Identifier: OR08-1 (b) Opal Creek Additions – Evan's Mountain

##### Summary

Results of analysis: A smaller portion of the Opal Creek Subunit contains wilderness characteristics – the Evans' Mountain area that is approximately 278 acres.

The inventory found that the Elkhorn area does not meet the size criteria – it is not adjacent to identified wilderness characteristics on USFS lands. The area is natural but does not contain outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation.

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

Check one:

The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as lands with wilderness characteristics.

The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

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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 1610.5-3.

**Prepared by (name, title):**

Traci Meredith  
Traci Meredith, Outdoor Recreation Planner

**Date**

2/19/2013

**Team Members (name, title):**

Alisa Tanner  
Alisa Tanner, Forester

2/15/13

Dugan Bonney  
Dugan Bonney, Silviculturist

2/19/2013

James England  
James England, Wildlife Biologist

2/11/2013

Bruce Zoellick  
Bruce Zoellick, Fisheries Biologist

2/13/2013

Terry Fernell  
Terry Fernell, Botanist

2/19/2013

**Reviewed by (Field Manager or District Manager):**

John Huston  
John Huston, Cascades Resource Area Field Manager

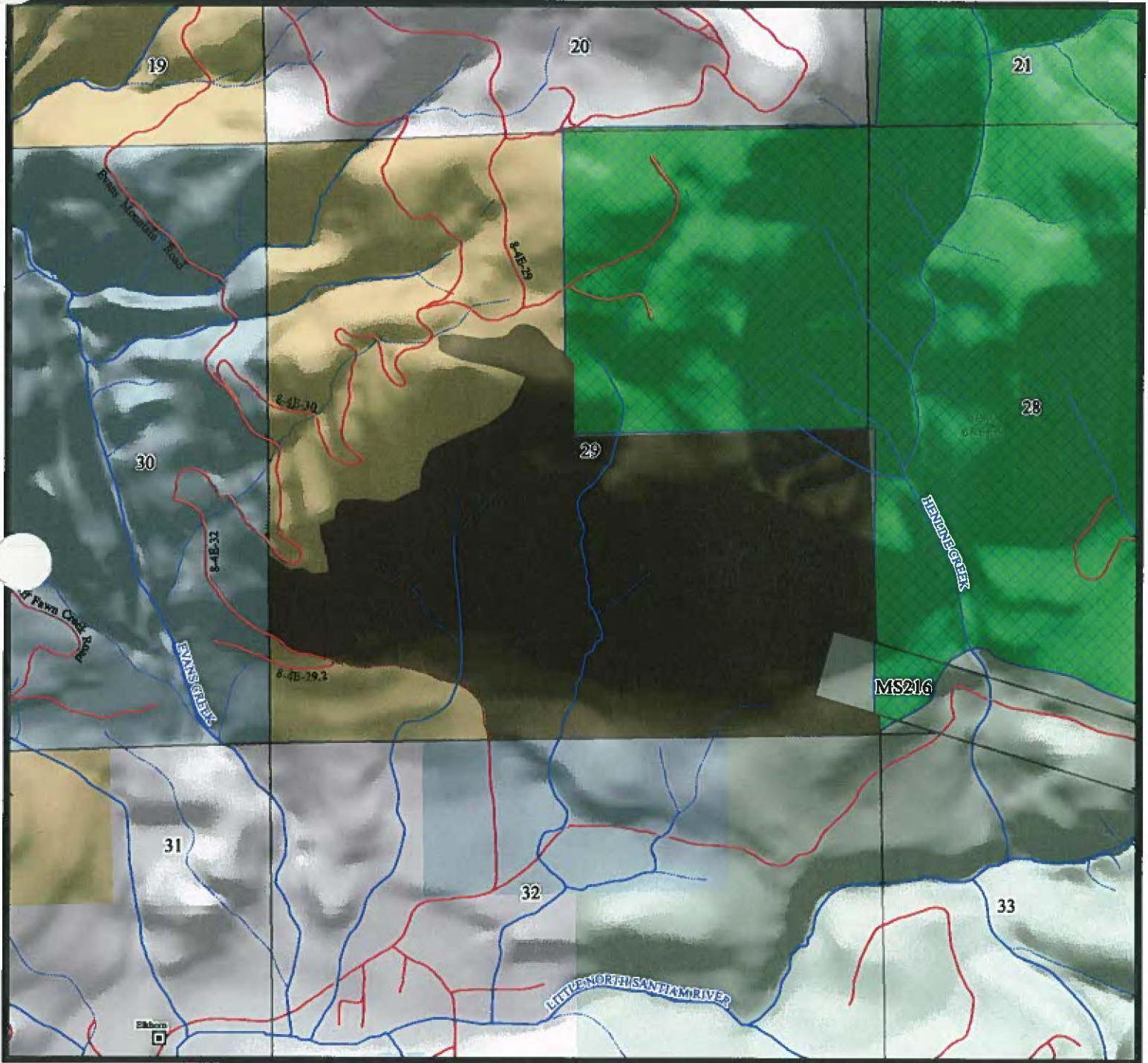
2/7/13  
Date



United States  
 Department of the Interior  
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**  
 Salem District / Cascades Resource Area  
**Inventory Unit: Opal Creek Additions**






Subunit: Evans Mountain  
 OR08-01b





September 26, 2012



0 500 1,000  
 Feet

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management for the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.

-  Road
-  Intermittent
-  Perennial
-  Proposed Wilderness Characteristics Area
-  Region 6 Wilderness

-  Bureau of Land Management
-  U.S. Forest Service
-  State
-  Private/Unknown





## WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY

### APPENDIX D – PHOTO LOG

Photographer(s): Traci Meredith

Inventory Area Unique Identifier: OR08-1(b) Bull of the Woods/Opal Creek Additions

Date	Frame #	Camera Direction	Description	GPS/UTM Location	Township	Range	Sec.	Photo Point #
10/18/12	021	North	01 North-Evans Subunit 021		8S	4E	29	1
	032	North	01 North Zoom-Evans Subunit 032		8S	4E	29	2
	022	Northeast	02 North East-Evans Subunit 022		8S	4E	29	3
	031	Northeast	02 North East Zoom-Evans Subunit 031		8S	4E	29	4
	023	East	03 East-Evans Subunit 023		8S	4E	29	5
	030	East	03 East Zoom-Evans Subunit 030		8S	4E	29	6
	024	Southeast	04 South East-Evans Subunit 024		8S	4E	29	7
	025	South	05 South-Evans Subunit 025		8S	4E	29	8
	029	South	05 South Zoom-Evans Subunit 029		8S	4E	29	9
	028	South	05 South Zoom-Evans Subunit 028		8S	4E	29	10
	026	Southwest	06 South West-Evans Subunit 026		8S	4E	29	11
	027	Southwest	06 South West-Evans Subunit 027		8S	4E	29	12
	034	South	01 S-Evans Subunit 034		8S	4E	29	13
	035	South	01 S-Evans Subunit 035		8S	4E	29	14
	036	Southwest	02 SW-Evans Subunit 036		8S	4E	29	15
	037	West	03 W-Evans Subunit 037		8S	4E	29	16
	038	Southwest	03 SW-Evans Subunit 038		8S	4E	29	17
	039	Southwest	04 SW corner-Evans Subunit 039		8S	4E	29	18
	040	West	05 W-Evans Subunit 040		8S	4E	29	19
	041	Southwest	06 SW-Evans Subunit 041		8S	4E	29	20
	042	Northwest	06 NW-Evans Subunit 042		8S	4E	29	21
	043	Northeast	07 NE-Evans Subunit 043		8S	4E	29	22
	044	South	08 S-Evans Subunit 044		8S	4E	29	23
	045	South	09 S-Evans Subunit 045		8S	4E	29	24
	046	South	10 S-Evans Subunit 046		8S	4E	29	25
	047	South	10 S-Evans Subunit 047		8S	4E	29	26
	048	WSW	10 WSW-Evans Subunit 048		8S	4E	29	27
	049	South	11 S-Evans Subunit 049		8S	4E	29	28
	050	WSW	12 WSW-Evans Subunit 050		8S	4E	30	29
	051	East	13 E-Evans Subunit 051		8S	4E	29	30

052	East	14 E-Evans Subunit 052		8S	4E	29	31
053	Northwest	01 NW-Elkhorn Subunit 053		9S	4E	4	32
054	Southwest	02 SW-Elkhorn Subunit 054		9S	4E	6	33
055	Southwest	02 SW-Elkhorn Subunit 055		9S	4E	6	34
056	Southwest	02 SW-Elkhorn Subunit 056		9S	4E	6	35
057	Southwest	02 SW-Elkhorn Subunit 057		9S	4E	6	36