

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory
OR08-OR05-1 b and c, Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness Addition

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: X (Go to Form 2) Yes: _____ (If yes, and if more than one area is within the area, list the unique identifiers for those areas):

- a) Inventory Source: _____
- b) Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s): _____
- c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): _____
- d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): _____

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)

Inventory Source: There are no inventory records for these subunits, because they were acquired in 2019, several years after the most recent BLM wilderness characteristics inventory effort in western Oregon.

Area Unique Identifier	Sufficient Size? Yes/No (acres)	Naturalness? Yes/No	Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No	Supplemental Values? Yes/No

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FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier¹: Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness Additions—OR08-OR05-1(b) (north)
Acreage: 64 acres

Area Unique Identifier: Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness Additions—OR08-OR05-1(c) (east)
Acreage: 176 acres

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 X No

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

Describe the boundaries of the area (wilderness inventory roads, property lines, etc.):

There are three subunits within this inventory unit, two of which are considered in this inventory; the BLM inventoried Boulder Creek subunit a in 2013 and determined that it has wilderness characteristics. The BLM acquired Boulder Creek North (subunit b) and Boulder Creek East (subunit c) through the Land and Water Conservation Fund in 2019. They are separate but both are contiguous with Boulder Creek subunit a, which is contiguous with the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness (see Map 1). This contiguousness causes portions of the two more recently acquired subunits to meet the size criterion for wilderness characteristics.

Boulder Creek North (subunit b) is to the north of Boulder Creek subunit a, and Boulder Creek East (subunit c) is to the east of the Boulder Creek subunit a. The Boulder Creek a subunit meets the size criterion because of its contiguousness with the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness, a 62,455 acre wilderness area administered by the Mount Hood National Forest, Zigzag Ranger District. The Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness was designated by the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984 and subsequently expanded by the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009.

Boulder Creek Road traverses the northeast portions of both Boulder Creek North (b) and Boulder Creek East (c). The portions of these subunits that are on the north and east side of this road do not meet the size criterion because they

¹ If the inventory area consists of subunits, list the acreage of each and evaluate each separately

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are not contiguous with Boulder Creek subunit a and so are not contiguous with the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness.

Boulder Creek North-OR08-OR05-1(b):

Refer to Map 1, below, for the location of the Boulder Creek North (b) subunit, which is located within T02S R06E, section 26. Because this is a relatively recent acquisition, this unit has not previously been inventoried for wilderness characteristics, as required under Section 201 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLMPA). The northern border curves northeastward, bordering private land and the community of Brightwood. Boulder Creek Road traverses the northeast corner of the subunit. To the west, south, and east, it is bounded by the BLM's Sandy River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). This ACEC was established for its scenic value. Boulder Creek, a tributary of the Salmon Wild and Scenic River (WSR) and within its designated corridor, bisects the subunit running south to north.

Boulder Creek East-OR08-OR05-1(c):

Refer Map 1, below, for the location of the Boulder Creek East (c) subunit located within T02S R06E Section 36. Because this is a relatively recent acquisition, this unit has not previously been inventoried for wilderness characteristics, required under Section 201 of the FLPMA. The unit is bounded to the east by Clackamas County land, to the south by land managed by the state of Oregon, and to the north and west by BLM's Sandy River ACEC. Boulder Creek Road traverses the northeast corner of the subunit. Boulder Creek, a tributary of the Salmon WSR and within its designated corridor, bisects the subunit running south to north.

2. Does the area or a portion of the area appear to be natural?

Yes X No N/A

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

Describe the area's apparent naturalness (include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation, and summary of major human uses/activities):

In landscape character and vegetation, subunits b and c mirror closely the wilderness characteristics of the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness. There is no direct public access from the north, as private landowners block road access, so the public would need to hike in from the west or cross the Salmon River to the east via BLM land to access either subunit. Consequently, recreational use is low. Boulder Creek Road travels through the northeast sections of both subunits. Private landowners block access to this road, and it appears to receive very little use (see route inventory, below). There are no known

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developments in either subunit. The terrain is steep and rugged throughout both subunits.

The area's precise logging history is not known. It appears to have been logged in the distant past, and there are no known old growth stands within either subunit. Both subunits are forested, consisting of mixed conifer dominated by western red cedar, hemlock and Douglas-fir in the bottomlands, mixed forest vegetation with some hardwood on slopes, and mixed conifer with true firs at upper elevations. In the sections west and south of Boulder Creek Road, the rugged terrain and lack of human developments and impacts render both units affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor. The sections north and east of Boulder Creek Road do not appear natural, due to their proximity to development.

Boulder Creek North-OR08-OR05-1(b):

This subunit is in steep, rugged terrain, bisected in the northeast by Boulder Creek, a tributary of the Salmon River. Salmonids spawn in this stream. This portion of the creek is within the boundaries of the Salmon River WSR corridor, which is managed in part for its scenic quality. Sustained yield timber harvest is excluded in the WSR corridor. The higher elevations are somewhat flatter, and the creek bottom is rocky and rugged. Elevations range from 1,120 feet up to 1,781 feet. Age class of the trees is variable, but there are some mid to late mature stage Douglas-fir and western hemlock with alder and maple in riparian areas. The slopes display a variety of forest types, and are generally mixed conifer, with mid stage Douglas-fir, hemlock, maple, and true firs at higher elevations.

Recreational visitation to the subunit is low due to the inaccessibility of the terrain and lack of trails. The unit is surrounded on three sides by the Sandy River ACEC. This ACEC was established for its scenic value. The Wildcat Trail System Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) is to the west of this subunit. This SRMA is managed for mountain biking but is also used for hiking. The land use allocations identified for Boulder Creek North (b) under the BLM's 2016 Northwestern and Coastal Oregon Resource Management Plan are mixed; the north and west portions are Congressionally Reserved Land and National Conservation Land. Riparian Reserve dominates the central portion, and there is some Harvest Land Base in the south. Boulder Creek Road traverses the northeast portion of this subunit. Private property owners to the north have blocked road access to this subunit. This lack of road access makes it unlikely that it is used frequently for fishing or hunting. Due to the rugged terrain and lack of human developments and impacts, the majority of the subunit appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor. The section north and east of Boulder Creek Road does not appear natural.

Boulder Creek East-OR08-OR05-1(c):

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Like subunit b, subunit c encompasses steep rugged terrain bisected in the middle by Boulder Creek, a tributary of the Salmon River. This portion of the creek is within the boundaries of the Salmon River WSR River corridor, which is managed in part for its scenic quality. The creek bottom is rocky, populated with alders, maples, western red cedar, and Douglas-fir. Salmonids spawn in this stream. The slopes are forested, with a mixture of maple, Douglas-fir, and true fir in the higher elevations. Elevations range from 1,360 ft. up to 1,800 ft at the higher elevations. Age class of the trees is variable, but there are some mid to late mature stage Douglas-fir and western hemlock with alder and maple in riparian areas. The slopes display a variety of forest types, and are generally mixed conifer, with mid stage Douglas-fir, hemlock, maple, and true firs at higher elevations. The county land to the east of this subunit has been clear cut recently, so views to the east do not appear natural, but the subunit itself appears natural.

Recreational visitation to the subunit is low, due to the inaccessibility of the terrain and lack of trails. The Wildcat Trail System SRMA is to the west of this subunit. The land use allocation identified for Boulder Creek East (c) under the BLM's 2016 Northwestern and Coastal Oregon Resource Management Plan is dominated by Congressionally Reserved Land and National Conservation Land, which is prevalent in the north and in the center. Riparian Reserve and Harvest Land Base comprise the rest of the unit. Boulder Creek Road traverses the northeast portion of this subunit. Private landowners have blocked public access to this road. This lack of road access makes it unlikely that it is used frequently for fishing or hunting. Due to the rugged terrain and lack of human developments and impacts, most of the subunit appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor. The section north and east of Boulder Creek Road does not appear natural.

3. Does the area have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes X No N/A

Describe the area's outstanding opportunities for solitude:

Boulder Creek North-OR08-OR05-1(b):

Public access to the area requires off trail hiking through dense, forested terrain. Recreational use is low because of this challenging access. The sounds of US Highway 26, approximately 3/4 mile north of the subunit, are audible in places, especially at higher elevations, away from the stream. However, these sounds are not omnipresent and do not detract substantially from opportunities for solitude. The unit's topography, remoteness and vegetation result in this subunit containing outstanding opportunities for solitude, especially when considered in conjunction with the nearby Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness. The section of the subunit north and east of Boulder Creek Road does not have outstanding opportunities for solitude, due to its proximity to other roads and developments.

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Boulder Creek East-OR08-OR05-1(c):

Public access to the area requires off trail hiking through dense, forested terrain. Recreational use is low because of this challenging access. The sounds of US Highway 26, approximately 1.5 miles north of the subunit, are audible in places, especially at higher elevations, away from the stream. However, these sounds are not omnipresent, and do not detract substantially from opportunities for solitude. The unit's topography, remoteness and vegetation result in this subunit containing outstanding opportunities for solitude, especially when considered in conjunction with the nearby Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness. The section of the subunit north and east of Boulder Creek Road does not have outstanding opportunities for solitude, due to its proximity to other roads and developments.

4. Does the area have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes X 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.

Describe the area's outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation):

Boulder Creek North-OR08-OR05-1(b):

This subunit contains no recreational trails or facilities. Public access to the area requires off trail hiking through dense, forested terrain. Recreational use is low because of this challenging access. Taken in context with its proximity to the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness, the crossing of the subunit by a WSR corridor, and the presence of an excellent salmonid stream, the opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation is outstanding. These opportunities include hiking, berry picking, mushroom foraging, fishing, photography, and hunting. The section of the subunit that is north and east of the Boulder Creek Road is close to developments and roads and does not possess outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Boulder Creek East-OR08-OR05-1(c):

This subunit contains no recreational trails or facilities. Access to the area requires off trail hiking through dense, forested terrain. Recreational use is low because of that difficulty in access, but, taken in context with its proximity to the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness, the crossing of the subunit by a WSR corridor, and the presence of an excellent salmonid stream, the opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation is outstanding. These opportunities include hiking, berry picking, mushroom foraging, fishing, photography, and hunting. The section of the subunit north and east of the Boulder Creek Road is close to developments and roads and does not possess outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

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

Yes X No N/A

Describe the area's supplemental values:

Boulder Creek North-OR08-OR05-1(b):

The subunit is adjacent to the Sandy River ACEC, which is managed for its outstanding scenic value. The subunit is similar in appearance to the adjacent scenic ACEC, with lush riparian vegetation in the bottomlands, pristine forested slopes and excellent views of Mount Hood at ridgetops. The section of the subunit that is east and north of Boulder Creek Road does not have supplemental values.

Boulder Creek East-OR08-OR05-1(c):

The subunit is adjacent to the Sandy River ACEC, which is managed for its outstanding scenic value. The subunit is similar in appearance to the adjacent scenic ACEC, with lush riparian vegetation in the bottomlands, pristine forested slopes and excellent views of Mount Hood at ridgetops. The section of the subunit that is east and north of Boulder Creek Road does not have supplemental values.

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Summary of Analysis¹

Area Unique Identifier: OR08-OR05-1 b and c, Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness Addition

Summary of Analysis Results

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA
2. Does the area appear to be natural? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NA
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

Check one:

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

Note: The portions of subunits b and c that are contiguous with Boulder Creek subunit a have wilderness characteristics up to the Boulder Creek Road. The portions to the east and north of Boulder Creek Road do not possess wilderness characteristics.

☐ The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by:

Name	Title	Role in inventory
Dean Reese	Outdoor Recreation Planner, Cascades Field Office	Visited/assessed the subunits on September 9, September 13, and September 27, 2024. Led the process and prepared the inventory document
Harrison Friedman	Natural Resource Specialist (soils), Cascades Field Office	Visited/assessed the subunits on September 9, 2024, with team members.
Chad Palmer	Hydrologist, Cascades Field Office	Visited/assessed the subunits on September 9, 2024, with team members.
Malia Volke	Botanist, Cascades Field Office	Visited/assessed the subunits on September 9, 2024, with team members.

Reviewed and Approved by (District or Field Manager):

Signature: JOSEPH ARAGON

Digitally signed by
JOSEPH ARAGON
Date: 2025.05.06
09:42:48 -07'00'

Joseph Aragon, Cascades Field Office Manager

¹ 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.

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ROUTE ANALYSIS FORM¹

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road² for wilderness characteristics inventory purposes.)

Area Unique Identifier: OR08-OR05-1(b) (north), OR08-OR05-1(c) (east)

Route or Route Segment³ Name and/or Identifier: Boulder Creek Road

- I. **Route Location:** Refer to Map 1 (above), BLM corporate data, and the attached photo log (below).

Description of route location: As shown in Map 1, the Boulder Creek Road traverses the northeast portions of both subunits. Road access is blocked by private landowners, so use on this road is low. The BLM does have a right-of-way across adjacent private land for access to the road.

II. **Route Context:**

- A. Current purpose⁴ of route, if any (examples: access to/for rangeland/livestock improvements, inholdings, mines, recreation, utilities, administrative):

The road appears to be used only sporadically, mostly by the local landowners, who block access to the public.

B. **Right-of-Way (ROW):**

¹ 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.

² **Road** (for the purposes of wilderness characteristics inventory): An access route which has been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way/route 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

³ If a portion of a route is found to meet the wilderness inventory road criteria (see Part III) and the remainder does not meet these criteria (e.g., a cherry stem road with a primitive route continuing beyond a certain point), identify each segment and explain the rationale for the separate findings under pertinent criteria

⁴ The purpose of a route is not a deciding factor in determining whether a route is a road for wilderness characteristics inventory purposes. The purpose of a route does provide context for factors on which such a determination may be based, particularly the question of whether maintenance of the route ensures relatively regular and continuous use. The purpose also helps to determine whether maintenance that may so far have been unnecessary to ensure such use would be approved by BLM when the need arises

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1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?
Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown ☐
2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW?
Reciprocal access for logging of Oregon and California Railroad Revested ands.
3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?
Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown or NA ☐

Explain: These subunits have not been accessed by the BLM for many years. The local landowners appear to use the road regularly.

III. Wilderness Inventory Road Criteria

A. Is there evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means?

Yes ☒ No ☐

(Check "yes" for III.A if *either* III.A.1 or III.A.2, below, are checked "yes"; check "no" for III.A if *both* III.A.1 and III.A.2, below, are checked "no")

1. Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally **constructed** using mechanical means?
Yes ☒ No ☐

Examples (check all that apply): Paved ☐ Bladed ☒ Graveled ☐ Roadside Berm ☒
Cut/Fill ☒ Other ☐

Description of construction: There is visible evidence of construction.

2. Is there evidence of **improvements** using mechanical means to facilitate access?
Yes ☒ No ☐ If "yes," by Hand Tools ☐ by Machine ☒

Examples (check all that apply): Culverts ☐ Hardened Stream Crossings ☐
Bridges ☐ Drainage ☒ Barriers ☐ Other ☐

Description of improvements: There is visible evidence of berms and blading.

B. Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure relatively regular and continuous use?

Yes ☒ No ☐

(Check "yes" for III.B if *either* III.B.1 or III.B.2, below, are checked "yes"; check "no" for III.B if *both* III.B.1 and III.B.2, below, are checked "no")

1. Is there evidence or documentation of **maintenance** using hand tools or machinery?
Yes ☐ No ☒ If "yes," by Hand Tools ☐ by Machine ☐

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Description of maintenance:

2. If the route or route segment is in good¹ 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 X No N/A

Explanation for why the BLM would approve maintenance: If the local landowners requested the BLM to fix a washout, the BLM would either fix the road or allow the landowners to do it, as per reciprocal ROW policy.

C. Is there evidence of relatively regular and continuous use?

Yes X No

Description of evidence (e.g., direct evidence such as observed vehicles or vehicle tracks or indirect evidence such as the need for regular access associated with purpose of the route, such as maintenance of a facility) and other rationale for whether use has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis²:

There are visible vehicle tracks, providing evidence that regular, albeit sporadic, use occurs on this route.

IV. Conclusion

Does the route or route segment³ meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A and III.B and III.C all checked yes)?

Yes X = Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Road

No = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation⁴: Based on the visible evidence of construction and improvement (see photos, below) and the relatively regular and continuous use of the route, it clearly qualifies as a road for the purposes of wilderness characteristics inventory. No citizen proposal has been submitted for these subunits.

¹ Good condition would be a condition that ensures regular and continuous use relative to the purposes of the route. Consider whether the route can be clearly followed in the field over its entire course and whether all or any portion of the route contains any impediments to travel.

² Include estimate of travel rates for the stated purposes, e.g., trips/day or week or month or season or year or even multiple years in some facility maintenance cases.

³ If part of the route meets the wilderness inventory road definition, and the remainder does not, describe the segment meeting the definition and any remaining portion not meeting the definition and why.

⁴ Describe and explain rationale for any discrepancies with citizen proposals

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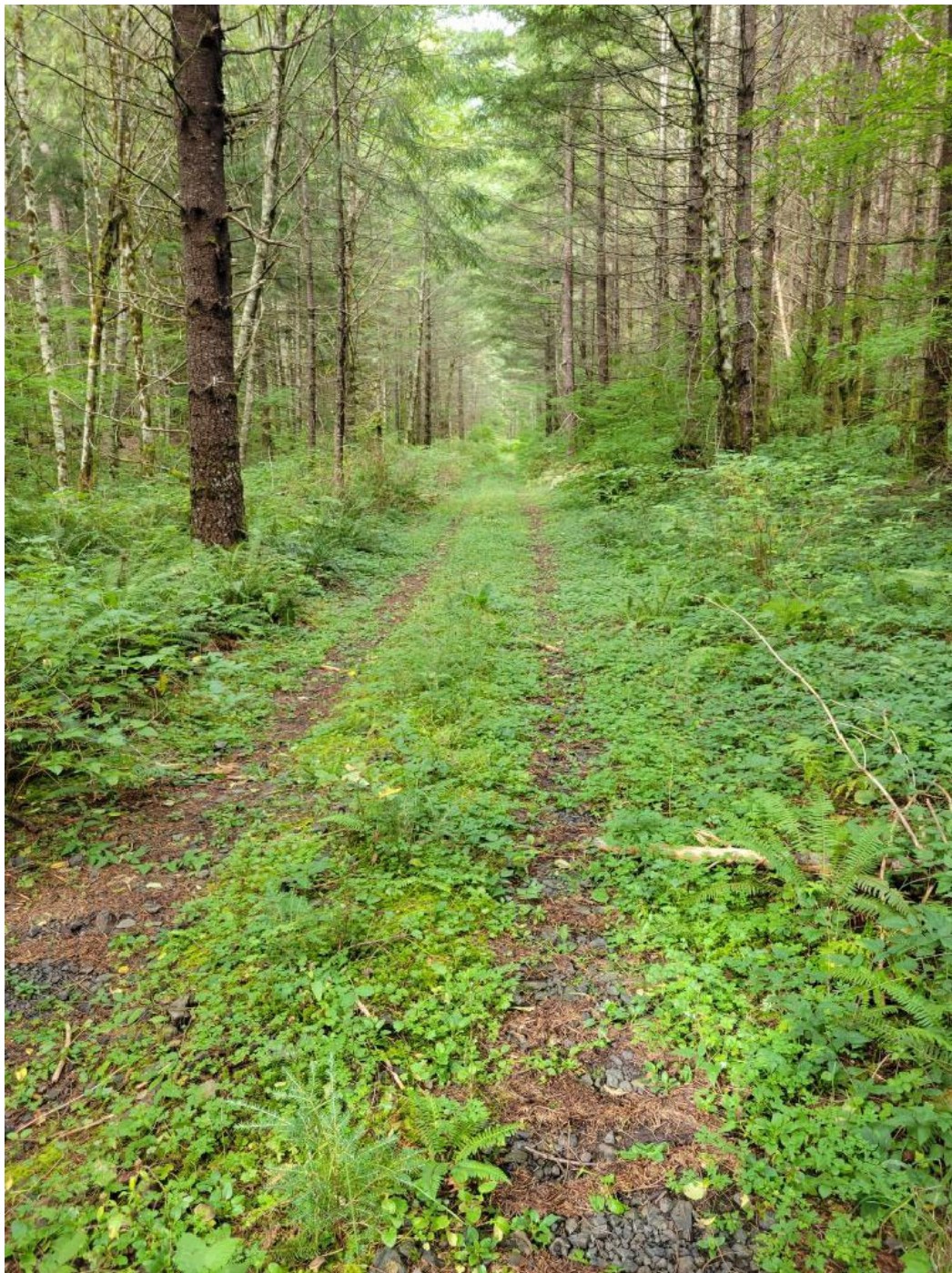
Date: 03/27/2025

Area Unique Identifier: OR08-OR05-1(b) (north), OR08-OR05-1(c) (east)

[illegible]

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Photo Point #1



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Photo Point #2

