

Year 2010

Inventory Unit Number/Name Nub OR-015-067

**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:** Wilderness Inventory: Oregon and Washington Final Intensive Inventory Decisions, November 1980

**b) (Historic) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** Nub/1-67

**c) Map Name(s)/Number(s):** U.S. Department of the Interior: Bureau of Land Management Oregon: Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decisions 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/acreage and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

| Unit#/Name | Size (historic acres) | Natural Condition? Y/N | Outstanding Solitude? Y/N | Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N | Supplemental Values? Y/N |
|------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| BLM        | 6,520                 | Y                      | N                         | N  | N/A                      |
| Other      |                       |                        |                           |  |                          |

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

The previous inventory found that this unit met the minimum size criteria and that it appeared to be in a generally natural condition. Due to the relatively small size of the unit, limited topographic exposure and low vegetation, outstanding solitude was not found. Primitive recreational activities were found to be hunting and trapping which were not considered outstanding opportunities.

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

a. Unit Number/Name OR-015-067/Nub

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

Citizen Information Received:

In 2005, the BLM received a citizen proposal from the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) for the 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data with their route and photo point data; All of these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this area. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in May and June of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see Map, p. 194 of ONDA 2005).

Boundary Determination and Consideration of Citizen Information:

In the summer of 2008, 2009, and 2010, members of the BLM staff conducted a field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventory for this area and to gather additional information to supplement ONDA's wilderness information. This field work 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, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed road analyses on the main routes within the area.

The results of the road analysis are documented in the route analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. The BLM ID team determined that several of the routes ONDA identified as "ways" are in fact boundary roads. For this reason, the BLM found the Saunders Rim proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units (Maps 1 and 2) which must be evaluated individually.

This 6,910 acre triangular shaped unit is roughly 13 miles north of Abert Lake. The unit boundaries are motorized routes which have been determined to meet the wilderness definition of a road. The west boundary is the 6184-B0 (Diatomite Mine) road and an unnumbered road which connects the 6184-B0 to the 6184-00 (Alkali Lake) road. The northeastern boundary is an approximately five mile long unnumbered road which connects the 6184-B0 to the 6184-00. The southeastern boundary is road 6184-00.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS: The unit does not contain any private or other jurisdiction inholdings. The topography has not changed since the original inventory and can still be described as consisting of sage flats with low hills offering slight topographic relief. Vegetation is primarily big sagebrush.

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

ONDA's 2005 inventory concluded that their larger 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposal was generally natural and affected primarily by the forces of nature (page 191). After review the BLM determined that the Saunders Rim proposal is not one large roadless area, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units, which must be evaluated individually.

Within the Nub inventory unit there have been few notable changes since its original inventory in 1980. There are four waterholes in the unit which are located exclusively around the unit's perimeter. There is roughly four miles of primitive motorized routes within the unit, a majority of which occurs along the perimeter for waterhole access. The southern two miles of the 6184-B0 cuts through the western third of the unit, but it has started to reclaim.

One can gain a general overview of the naturalness of this unit by examining both ONDA and BLM field photographs contained in the wilderness inventory file. After considering the human imprints described above, the BLM ID team concluded that most of this unit would appear to be natural to the casual observer. The range developments are substantially noticeable from close distance (1/4mile), but are less noticeable from further distances.

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 ID team concluded that the unit was still 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\_\_\_\_\_

ONDA's 2005 inventory concluded that their larger 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposal would easily allow visitors to experience solitude due to the size of the area and rolling topography providing screening (page 192). Upon review, the BLM found that the proposal was not one large roadless area, but several smaller units, each one of which needs to be evaluated separately for outstanding opportunities for solitude.

The 1980 inventory noted topography within the Nub inventory unit was made up of sage flats, low hills, and coupled with its small size made it very difficult to avoid others. The units size, shape, topography, and screening have not changed since 1980 (Map 3).

The most common visitors to the unit include livestock permittees, BLM staff, hunters, and other recreationists. The continued presence of boundary roads and internal motorized routes (Map 2) provides motorized access to the perimeter and portions of the interior of the unit. The area is currently open to off-highway vehicle use (see Map R-7 of Lakeview RMP/ROD) and is managed to provide motorized access. The motorized access increases the likelihood of encountering other people visiting the unit. The noise associated with motorized activity may further diminish the solitude experience for those visitors attempting to get away from others.

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 ID team concluded that opportunities for solitude have not changed since 1980. The unit still does not have an outstanding opportunity 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 \_\_\_\_\_

ONDA's 2005 inventory concluded that their larger 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposal had outstanding opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, and hunting trapping (page 192). Upon review, the BLM found that the proposal was not one large roadless area, but several smaller units, each one of which needs to be evaluated separately for outstanding opportunities for solitude.

The BLM currently manages the area to provide semi-primitive motorized recreational experiences. Further, the area is open off-highway vehicle use (see Maps R-3 and R-7 of Lakeview RMP/ROD). The BLM ID Team considered the primitive recreation opportunities identified in 1980 and those identified by ONDA and determined that hunting and wildlife observation continue to be the primary primitive recreation opportunities available. These recreation opportunities are similar to those available on other surrounding BLM lands within the Lakeview Resource Area and are not unique or outstanding. The unit does not provide a single, unique primitive recreational opportunity, nor does it provide a unique diversity of primitive recreation opportunities.

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 ID team concluded that primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities have not changed since 1980. The unit still does not have an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation.

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

Supplemental values were not evaluated as the unit does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number:                     Nub/OR-015-067                    

**Summary Results of Analysis:**

- 1. Does the area meet 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 (items 1, 2 and 3 are checked “yes”).

The area does not have wilderness character (any of items 1, 2 and 3 are checked “no”).

Sanders Rim  
Neb

Prepared by (ID Team Member Names and Titles):

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3/29/2011  
Date

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Thomas E. Rasmussen  
Field Manager

3/25/11  
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.*

Year 2010

Inventory Unit Number/Name OR-015-065/Saunders Rim

**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:** Wilderness Inventory: Oregon and Washington Final Intensive Inventory Decisions, November 1980, Wilderness Proposed Initial Inventory, Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not Have Wilderness Characteristics: Oregon and Washington.

**b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** 1-65/Saunders Rim, 1-66/Unnamed

**c) Map Name(s)/Number(s):** U.S. Department of the Interior: Bureau of Land Management Oregon: Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decisions November, 1980, and U.S. Department of the Interior: Bureau of Land Management Oregon: Proposed Initial Inventory Roadless Areas and Islands Which Do Not Have Wilderness Characteristics April, 1979

**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/acreage and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

| Unit#/Name | Size (historic acres) | Natural Condition? Y/N | Outstanding Solitude? Y/N | Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N | Supplemental Values? Y/N |
|------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 1-65       | 17,000                | Y                      | N                         | N  | NA                       |
| 1-66       | 8,000                 | N                      | N                         | N  | NA                       |

Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table): Unit 1-65/Saunders Rim was described as consisting of sage basins, a few low rolling hills, and rims. Saunders Rim was the most significant feature rising 250 feet along the eastern portion of the unit. At the time the unit contained four lakebed pits, a well and six miles of range fence. The eastern boundary is a right-of-way for a 500KV power line which was substantially noticeable from roughly 20% of the unit. Overall the unit was found to be in

a generally natural condition. Solitude was evaluated and found that the 1-65 unit only offered solitude to a minor degree due to its small size, lack of topographic relief and vegetative screening. One could not easily avoid the sights and sounds of others in the unit. Finally recreation within 1-65 was evaluated and found that only minimal opportunities for unconfined and primitive recreation were present.

Unit 1-66 fell out of the process during the initial inventory phase. The unit was described as having a terrain consisting of broken upland, rim rock, shallow draws and small dry lake basins. In the northern half of the unit was a grassland seeding, while the southern half contained big sagebrush. The 500KV power line just outside the eastern boundary dominates the eastern half of the unit. Overall, the unit was dominated by the works of man and was natural.

## FORM 2

### DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

a. Unit Number/Name OR-015-065/Saunders Rim

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

#### Citizen Information Received:

In 2005, the BLM received a citizen proposal from the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) for the 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data with their route and photo point data; All of these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this area. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in May and June of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see Map, p. 194 of ONDA 2005).

#### Boundary Determination and Consideration of Citizen Information:

In the summer of 2008, 2009, and 2010, members of the BLM staff conducted a field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventory for this area and to gather additional information to supplement ONDA's wilderness information. This field work 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, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed road analyses on the main routes within the area.

The results of the route analysis are documented in the route analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. The BLM ID team determined that several of the routes ONDA identified as "ways" are in fact boundary roads. For this reason, the BLM found the Saunders Rim proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of

several smaller inventory units (Maps 1 and 2) which must be evaluated individually. This analysis focuses on the Saunders Rim inventory unit.

This 25,868 acre unit is roughly 17 miles north of Lake Abert. The units northern, southern and western boundaries are motorized routes which have been determined meet the wilderness definition of a road. To the north is the 6194-A0 (East Burma) road and two unnumbered roads which make up the northwestern boundary. To the west is a segment of the 6184-B0 (Diatomite Mine) road and an unnumbered road that connects the 6184-00 (Alkali Lake) road which is also the southern boundary. The eastern boundary is a power line right-of-way.

**DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:** The unit does not contain any private or other jurisdiction inholdings. The current OR-015-065 Saunders Rim unit consists of historic units 1-65 and 1-66. During the recent inventory it was found the historic boundary between these two units, the 7144-A0(Saunders Rim) road, no longer meets the wilderness definition of a road thus creating one large unit. However, the topography has not changed since the original inventory and still consists of a series of low rolling hills, sage basins with small rock rims scattered through the unit, broken uplands, shallow draws, and small dry lake basins. The most obvious feature in the unit is Saunders Rim which forms a semi-circle along the east and middle sections of the unit. This rim is approximately 100-250 feet high and the land drops off to the southern half of the unit and to the Poverty Basin at the east. Vegetation is primarily big sagebrush.

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

ONDA's 2005 inventory concluded that their larger 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposal was generally natural and affected primarily by the forces of nature (page 191). After review the BLM determined that the Saunders Rim proposal is not one large roadless area, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units, which must be evaluated individually.

Currently the unit contains three waterholes, one reservoir, one guzzler, one well, one water trough and one mile of water pipeline. These range improvements are distributed across the entirety of the unit and most of them have an associated motorized route for access. The unit contains 16 miles of primitive motorized routes, and 10 miles of reclaiming routes. There is record of a 2500 acre wildfire in the southern portion of the unit which was followed with a 2581 acre crested wheatgrass seeding in 1984 (Map 2). The drill rows are still visible giving portions of the crested wheat seeding a very visible and unnatural appearance. Most of the disturbances are substantially noticeable from close distances (1/4 mile), but are less noticeable from further distances.

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 ID team concluded that the unit as a whole was in a natural condition.

**(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 \_\_\_\_\_

ONDA's 2005 inventory concluded that their larger 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposal would easily allow visitors to experience solitude due to the size of the area and rolling topography providing screening (page 192). Upon review, the BLM found that the proposal was not one large roadless area, but several smaller units, each one of which needs to be evaluated separately for outstanding opportunities for solitude.

During previous inventories the unit was described as having low rolling hills, sagebrush covered basins, and rock rims and offered a minor degree of solitude due to the lack of screening and small topographic relief.. Currently, the inventory unit includes additional lands, but the additional topography and vegetation is much the same (Map 3). The BPA power line, though outside of the units boundary, is still readily visible from the eastern two-thirds of the unit.

The most common visitors to the unit include livestock permittees, BLM staff, hunters, and other recreationists. The continued presence of boundary roads and internal motorized routes (Map 2) provides motorized access to the perimeter and portions of the interior of the unit. The area is currently open to off-highway vehicle use (see Map R-7 of Lakeview RMP/ROD) and is managed to provide motorized access. The motorized access increases the likelihood of encountering other people visiting the unit. The noise associated with motorized activity may further diminish the solitude experience for those visitors attempting to get away from others.

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 ID team concluded that opportunities for solitude have not changed since 1980. The unit still does not have an outstanding opportunity 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 \_\_\_\_\_

ONDA's 2005 inventory concluded that their proposed 58,306 acre Saunders Rim unit would easily allow visitors to experience solitude. Upon review, the BLM found that the proposed unit was not one large roadless area, but several units, each one of which needs to be evaluated separately for outstanding opportunities for solitude.

The BLM currently manages the area to provide semi-primitive motorized recreational experiences. Further, the area is open off-highway vehicle use (see Maps R-3 and R-7 of Lakeview RMP/ROD). The BLM ID Team considered the primitive recreation opportunities identified in 1980 and those identified by ONDA and determined that hunting and wildlife observation continue to be the primary primitive recreation

opportunities available. These recreation opportunities are similar to those available on other surrounding BLM lands within the Lakeview Resource Area and are not unique or outstanding. The unit does not provide a single, unique primitive recreational opportunity, nor does it provide a unique diversity of primitive recreation opportunities.

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 ID team concluded that primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities have not changed since 1980. The unit still does not have an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation.

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

Supplemental values were not evaluated as the unit does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: Saunders Rim/OR-015-065

**Summary Results of Analysis:**

- 1. Does the area meet 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 (items 1, 2 and 3 are checked "yes").

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

Prepared by (ID Team Member Names and Titles):

Paul Whitman 3/29/2011  
Paul Whitman Date  
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Chris Bishop 3/22/2011  
Chris Bishop Date  
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Range Management Specialist

Zach Adams 3/22/2011  
Zach Adams Date  
Cartographic Technician

Approved by:

Thomas Rasmussen 3/25/11  
Thomas Rasmussen Date  
Field Manager

*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.*

Year 2010

Inventory Unit Number: Twin Butte/OR-015-064

**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:** Wilderness Inventory: Oregon and Washington Final Intensive Inventory Decisions, November 1980

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** Twin Butte/1-64

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** U.S. Department of the Interior: Bureau of Land Management Oregon: Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decisions 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/acreage and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

| Unit#/ Name | Size (historic acres) | Natural Condition? Y/N | Outstanding Solitude? Y/N | Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N | Supplemental Values? Y/N |
|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| BLM         | 22,080                | Y                      | N                         | N  | N/A                      |
| Other       |                       |                        |                           |  |                          |

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

The previous inventory found that the unit met the minimum size criteria, and that it was in a generally natural condition unaffected by the works of man. The topographic relief of the unit was found to be limited, with no vegetative screening leaving a person exposed to the presence of others within the unit resulting in a lack of outstanding opportunities for solitude. It was also found that the unit had no outstanding features or points of interest which would focus visitor attention or present any outstanding recreation opportunities.

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

a. Unit Number/Name OR-015-064/Twin Buttes

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

Citizen Information Received:

In 2005, the BLM received a citizen proposal from the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) for the 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data with their route and photo point data; All of these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this area. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in May and June of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see Map, p. 194 of ONDA 2005).

Boundary Determination and Consideration Citizen Information:

In the summer of 2008, 2009, and 2010, members of the BLM staff conducted a field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventory for this area and to gather additional information to supplement ONDA's wilderness information. This field work 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, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed road analyses on the main routes within the area.

The results of the road analysis are documented in the route analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. The BLM ID team determined that several of the routes ONDA identified as "ways" are in fact boundary roads. For this reason, the BLM found the Saunders Rim proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units (Maps 1 and 2) which must be evaluated individually.

This 23,273 acre unit is roughly fifteen miles northeast of Paisley. The unit boundaries are motorized routes which have been determined meet the wilderness definition of a road. The west boundary is made up of the 6104-00 (Sheep Rock), and 6194-00(Burma) roads. The Eastern boundary consists of the 6184-B0(Diatomite Mine) road and an unnumbered road which connects the 6184-B0 to the 6184-00(Alkali Lake) road. The southern boundary is the 6184-00 road.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS: The unit does not contain any private or other jurisdiction inholdings. The topography has not changed since the original inventory and can still be described as generally flat to low rolling terrain. The most noticeable geographic feature is the northern of the "Twin Buttes" in the southwest corner of the unit. Vegetation is primarily big sagebrush.

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

ONDA's 2005 inventory concluded that their larger 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposal was generally natural and affected primarily by the forces of nature (page 191). After review the BLM determined that the Saunders Rim proposal is not one large roadless area, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units, which must be evaluated individually.

There have been few notable changes in the unit since its original inventory. There are four waterholes and one reservoir in the unit which are located primarily near the units perimeter. Most of these range improvements have an associated primitive motorized access route for a total of 3.5 miles of interior routes. Also along the perimeter there are four miles reclaiming motorized routes. The most obvious man-made disturbances are associated with the Diatomite Mine midway up the eastern boundary. Here there are four acres of abandoned mining areas which contain six abandoned mining disturbances and one abandoned mine site. These disturbances are noticeable from close distance (1/4mile), but are less noticeable from further distances.

One can gain a general overview of the naturalness of this unit by examining both ONDA and BLM field photographs contained in the wilderness inventory file.

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 ID team concluded that the unit was still in a natural condition, where the improvements 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  N/A

ONDA's 2005 inventory concluded that their larger 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposal would easily allow visitors to experience solitude due to the size of the area and rolling topography providing screening (page 192). Upon review, the BLM found that the proposal was not one large roadless area, but several smaller units, each one of which needs to be evaluated separately for outstanding opportunities for solitude.

The 1980 inventory noted mild contours and low vegetative cover were present where users would be readily visible to others in the unit. While the size of the unit offered some degree of solitude, it was not considered outstanding. There has been no change in vegetation or topography in the unit since 1980 (Map 3).

The most common visitors to the unit include livestock permittees, BLM staff, hunters, and other recreationists. The continued presence of boundary roads and internal motorized routes (Map 2) provides motorized access to the perimeter and portions of the interior of the unit. The area is currently open to off-highway vehicle use (see Map R-7 of Lakeview RMP/ROD) and is managed to provide motorized access. The motorized access increases the likelihood of encountering other people visiting the unit. The noise associated with motorized activity may further diminish the solitude experience for those visitors attempting to get away from others.

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 ID team concluded that opportunities for solitude have not changed since 1980. The unit still does not have an outstanding opportunity 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 \_\_\_\_\_

ONDA's 2005 inventory concluded that their larger 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposal had outstanding opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, and hunting trapping (page 192). Upon review, the BLM found that the proposal was not one large roadless area, but several smaller units, each one of which needs to be evaluated separately for outstanding opportunities for solitude.

The BLM currently manages the area to provide semi-primitive motorized recreational experiences. Further, the area is open off-highway vehicle use (see Maps R-3 and R-7 of Lakeview RMP/ROD). The BLM ID Team considered the primitive recreation opportunities identified in 1980 and those identified by ONDA and determined that hunting and wildlife observation continue to be the primary primitive recreation opportunities available. These recreation opportunities are similar to those available on other surrounding BLM lands within the Lakeview Resource Area and are not unique or outstanding. The unit does not provide a single, unique primitive recreational opportunity, nor does it provide a unique diversity of primitive recreation opportunities.

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 ID team concluded that primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities have not changed since 1980. The unit still does not have an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation.

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

Supplemental values were not evaluated as the unit does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

## Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Twin Buttes/OR-015-064

### Summary Results of Analysis:

1. Does the area meet 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 (items 1, 2 and 3 are checked "yes").

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

Saunders Rim  
Twin Butte

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Date

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Year: 2010

Inventory Unit Number/Name: Small Unnumbered Units

**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:** Wilderness Inventory: Oregon and Washington Final Intensive Inventory Decisions, November 1980

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** portions of 1-65 and 1-47

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** U.S. Department of the Interior: Bureau of Land Management Oregon: Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decisions 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/acreage and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

| Unit#/ Name | Size? Y/N | Natural Condition? Y/N | Outstanding Solitude? Y/N | Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N | Supplemental Values? Y/N |
|-------------|-----------|------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| BLM         | Y         | N                      | N                         | N  | Y                        |
|             |           |                        |                           |  |                          |

Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table):  
These small units were formerly part of two larger inventory units did not contain wilderness characteristics in 1980.

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

**a. Unit Number/Name Small/Unnumbered Units**

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

Citizen Information Received:

In 2005, the BLM received a citizen proposal from the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) for the 58,306 acre Saunders Rim proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data with their route and photo point data; All of these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this area. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in May and June of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see Map, p. 194 of ONDA 2005).

Boundary Determination and Consideration of Citizen Information: In the summer of 2008, 2009, and 2010, members of the BLM staff conducted a field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventory for this area and to gather additional information to supplement ONDA's wilderness information. This field work 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, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed route analyses on the main routes within the area in 2010.

The results of the road analysis are documented in the route analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. The BLM ID team determined that several of the routes ONDA identified as "ways" are in fact boundary roads. For this reason, the BLM found the Saunders Rim proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units (Maps 1 and 2) which must be evaluated individually.

Three of the inventory units the BLM identified met the minimum size criteria; three did not. This evaluation focuses on these small, unnumbered units. All of which are located along the northern end of units OR-015-064 and OR-015-065 (Map 2). These units are less than 5,000 acres in size. Based on this determination there was no need for the BLM ID team to evaluate these units further.

Additional background on the process that the BLM ID team followed during this evaluation is contained in the document *Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Process for the Lakeview Resource Area*, BLM contained in the wilderness inventory file.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS: These units are located roughly 20 miles northeast of Paisley (Map 1).

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

Naturalness was not evaluated as the units did not meet the minimum size criteria or any of the exceptions to the size criteria.

**(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 \_\_\_X\_\_\_

Solitude opportunities were not evaluated as the unit did not meet the minimum size criteria or any of the exceptions to the size criteria.

**(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 \_\_\_X\_\_\_

Recreation opportunities were not evaluated as the unit did not meet the minimum size criteria or any of the exceptions to the size criteria.

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

Supplemental values were not evaluated as the unit did not meet the minimum size criteria or any of the exceptions to the size criteria.

## Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number Small/Unnumbered Units

### Summary Results of Analysis:

1. Does the area meet the size requirements?      \_\_\_Yes   X  No
2. Does the area appear to be natural?            \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No   X  NA
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation?      \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No   X  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 are checked “yes”).

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

Saunders Rim  
Small / Unnumbered

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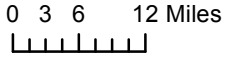
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# Map 1 - Wilderness Characteristics Evaluation Area

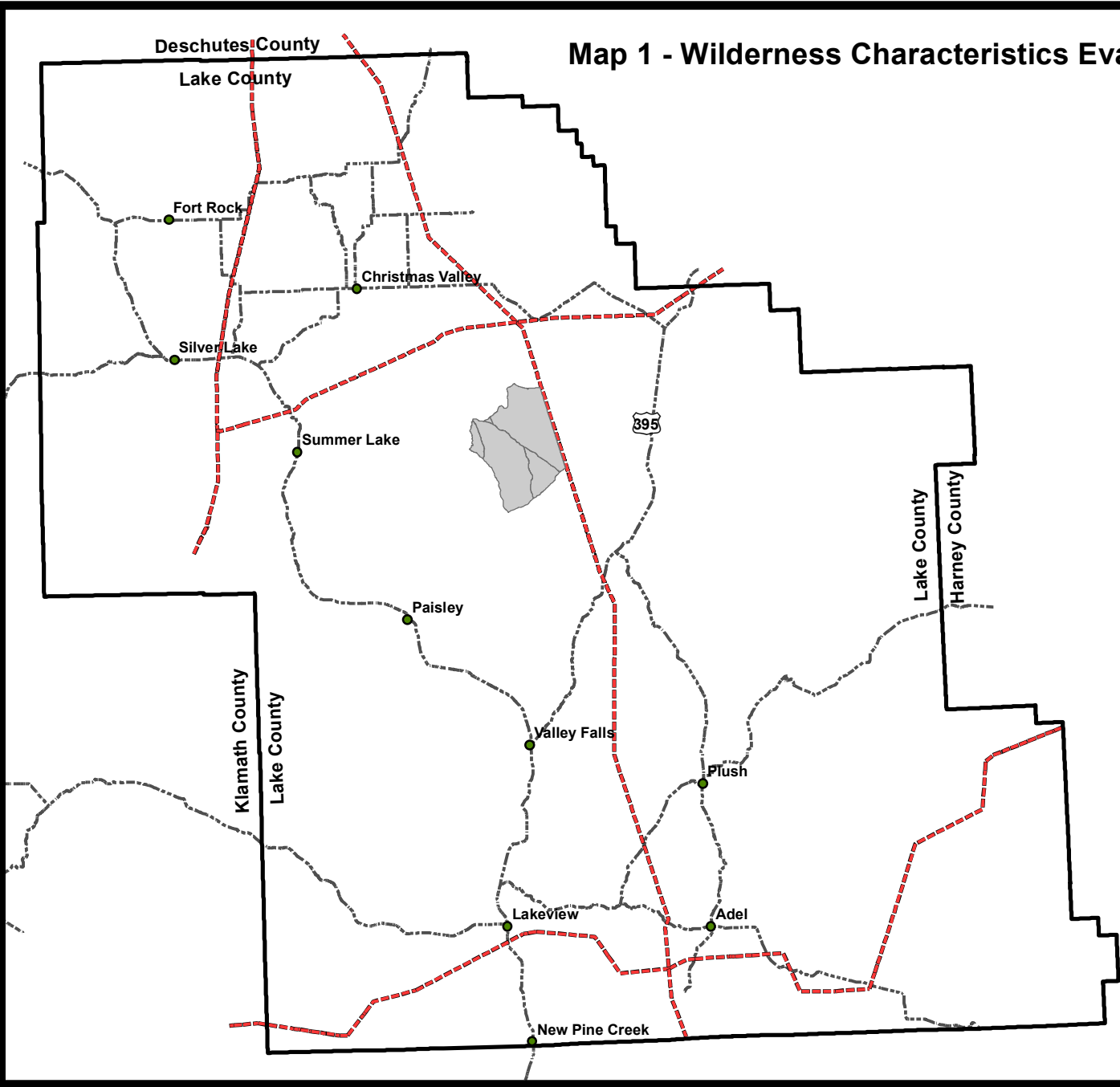


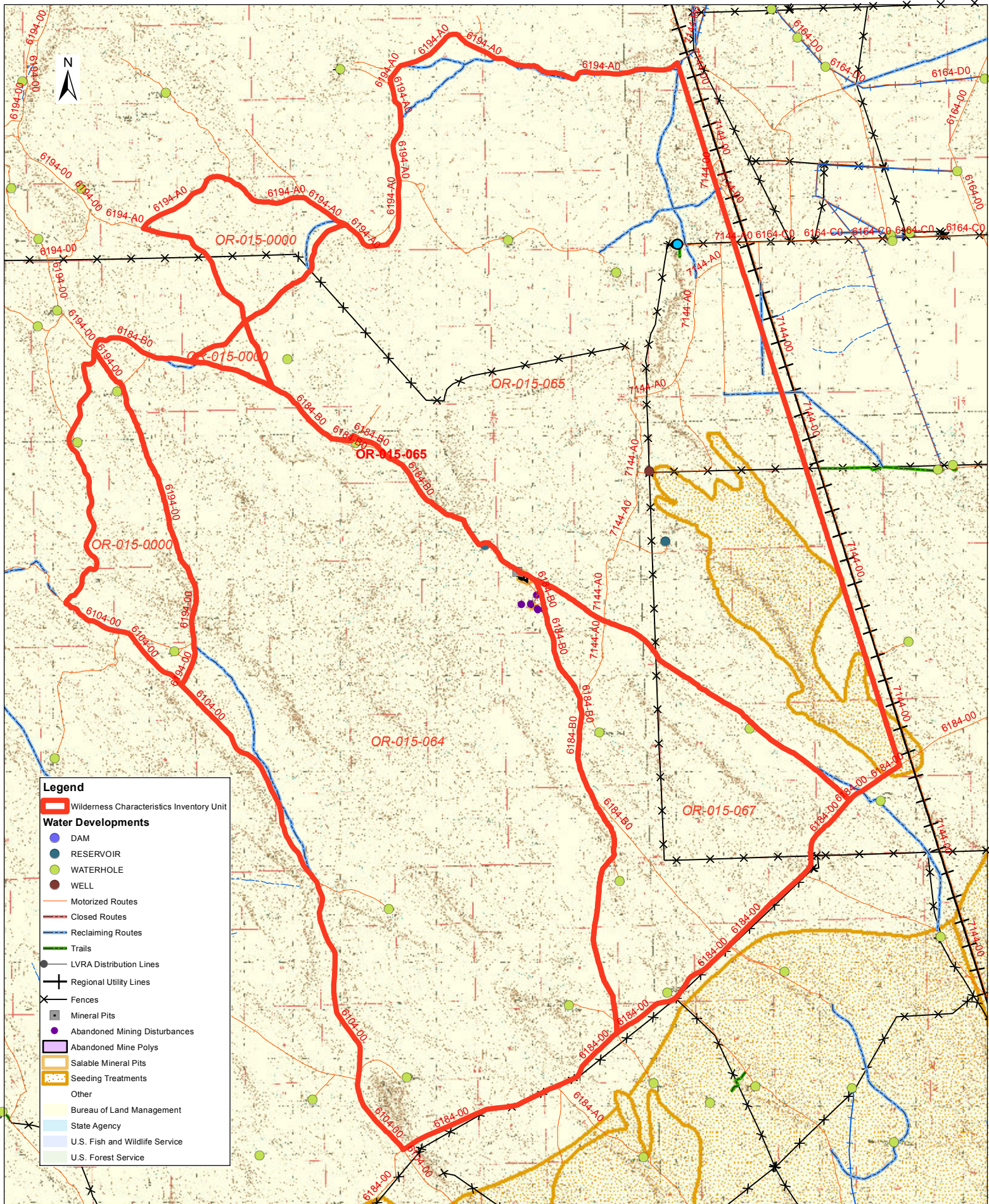
**Legend**

- Cities
- Saunders Rim Units
- Major Utility Corridors
- Major Roads
- Resource Area Boundary



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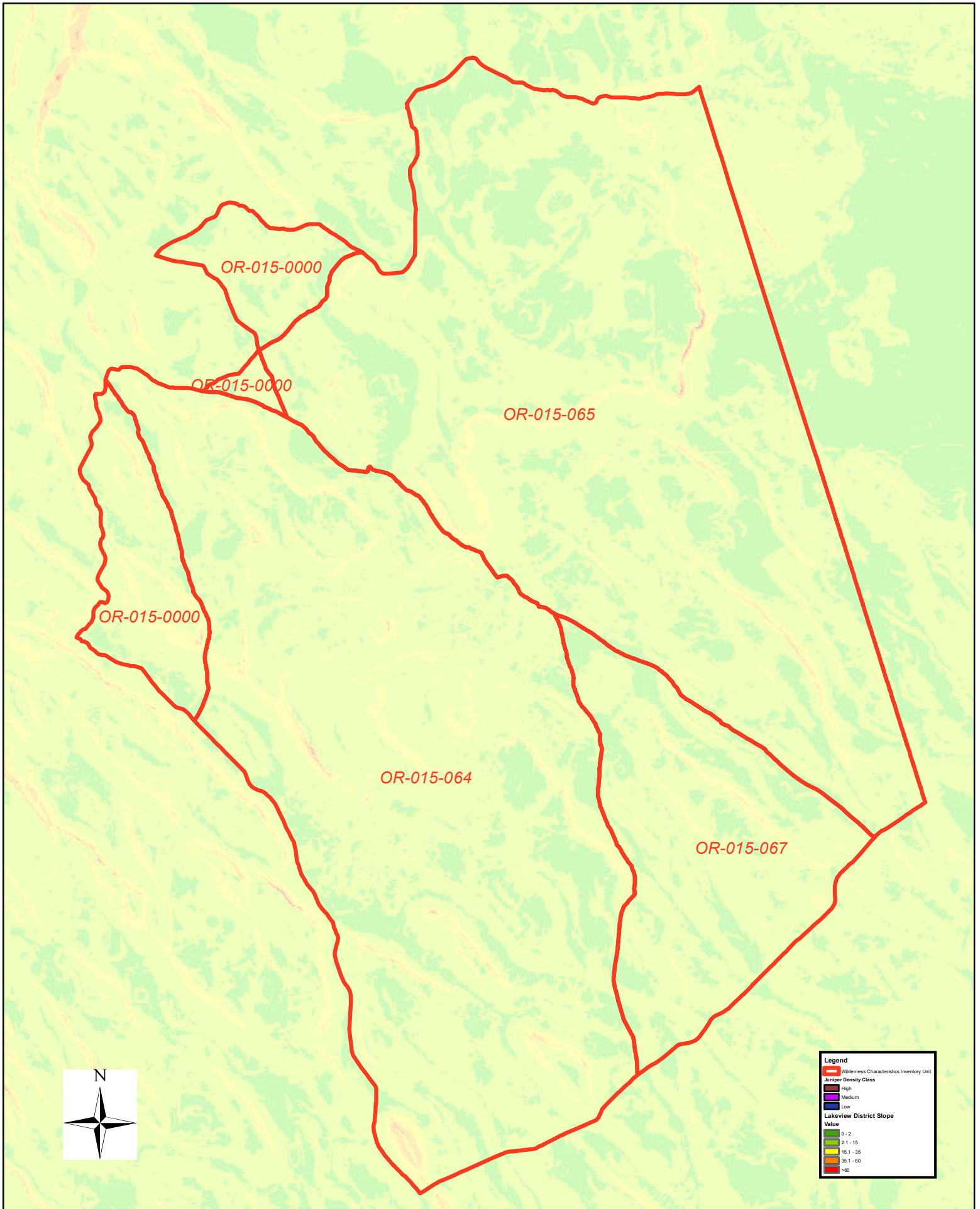




**Map 2 - Wilderness Character Evaluation for Saunders Rim Area**

0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5  
Miles

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Map 3 - Topographic Screening in Saunders Rim Area

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

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