

Year: 2011

Inventory Unit Number/Name: West Benjamin Lake Area Units<5,000 Acres/OR-015-000

**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   X   (go to Form 2) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.)

a) Inventory Source: N/A

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): N/A

**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 #	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

There is no documentation for these units from the previous inventory, presumably because they did not meet the size requirement and were eliminated from further review.

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

**a. Unit Number/Name: West Benjamin Lake Area Units<5,000 Acres/OR-015-000**

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

Boundary Determination: In 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011 the BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes. Using BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed an analysis of the motorized routes within the area in April 2011.

On the west, the units are bounded by the 500 KV BPA power line ROW. On the north, the units are bounded by a combination of private land, and BLM 6171-00 (North Boundary Road). On the south, the units are bounded by a combination of private land and Lake County 5-12B (Frederick Butte Road). On the east, the unit is bounded by a combination of a utility corridor ROW, Unnumbered Route #2, and Lake County 5-12B (Frederick Butte Road). See Map 2, road analysis forms, photos, and photo logs in the wilderness inventory file for additional supporting information regarding these boundary determinations.

As a result, there are a total of 9 inventory units within the West Benjamin Lake Area. Only one of these inventory units met the minimum size criteria and has been evaluated separately, leaving the remaining 8 units less than 5,000 acres. The average size of these 8 units is 1,742 acres. They range in size from 0.28 acres to 4,445 acres and do not meet any exception to the size requirement.

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:**

The 8 unnumbered inventory units in the West Benjamin Lake Area are comprised of approximately 13,939 acres of BLM administered land located approximately 14 miles north of Christmas Lake. The terrain consists mostly of low rolling which are populated primarily by juniper and small desert shrubs. Major human activities in the area include hunting, ranching, and OHV recreation.

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

The current natural condition of these units was not evaluated because the units failed to meet the minimum size requirement.

**(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

The current opportunities for solitude within these units were not evaluated because the units failed to meet the minimum size requirement.

**(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

The current opportunities for recreation within these units were not evaluated because the units failed to meet the minimum size requirement.

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

Supplemental value was not evaluated within these units because the units failed to meet the wilderness criteria.

### Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: West Benjamin Lake Area Units<5,000 Acres/OR-015-000

#### **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 N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation?      \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No X N/A
4. Does the area have supplemental values?      \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No X N/A

#### **Conclusion** (*Check One*):

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

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

West Benjamin Lake  
West Benjamin Lake Units  
(1)

**I.D. TEAM:**

Chris Bishop [Signature] Date: 7/7/2011  
 Recreation Planner

Casey O'Connor [Signature] Date: 7/7/2011  
 Range Management Specialist

Edward Hennagin [Signature] Date: 7/7/2011  
 Cartographic Technician

Zach Adams [Signature] Date: 7/7/2011  
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Theresa Romasko [Signature] Date: 7/7/2011  
 Associate Field Manager for Botany and Range

Breanna O'Connor [Signature] for Breanna Date: 7/7/2011  
 Park Ranger

Jayna Farrell [Signature] for Jayna Date: 7/7/2011  
 Range Management Specialist

**Approved by:**

[Signature] 7/7/2011  
 Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager 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 2011

Inventory Unit Number/Name: **West Benjamin Lake/Unit OR-015-005**

**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:** U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management. Wilderness Proposed Initial Inventory, Oregon and Washington: Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not Have Wilderness Characteristics. (April, 1979. Pg. 7)

**b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** **OR-1-5**

**c) Map Name(s)/Number(s):** **N/A**

**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):

<b>Unit#/Name</b>	<b>Size (historic acres)</b>	<b>Natural Condition? Y/N</b>	<b>Outstanding Solitude? Y/N</b>	<b>Outstanding Primitive &amp; Unconfined Recreation? Y/N</b>	<b>Supplemental Values? Y/N</b>
OR-1-5	9,000	N	N	N	N/A

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

This unit was eliminated from further review in 1979. The previous inventory noted the 500KV BPA power line as a major impact that impaired the natural condition of the west side of the unit. In addition, the low rolling terrain, lack of adequate vegetative screening, and long narrow aspect of the unit precluded any outstanding opportunities for solitude or unconfined recreation.

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

**Unit Number/Name: West Benjamin Lake/Unit OR-015-211**

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

Boundary Determination: In 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011 the BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes. Using BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed an analysis of the motorized routes within the area in April of 2010.

On the west, the unit is bounded by the 500 KV BPA power line corridor. On the north, the unit is bounded by a combination of private land, and BLM 6171-00 (North Boundary Road). On the south, the unit is bounded by private land. On the east, the unit is bounded by a combination of BLM 6171-A0 (Saddle Butte Road), and Lake County 5-12B (Frederick Butte Road). See Map 2, road analysis forms, photos, and photo logs in the wilderness inventory file for additional supporting information regarding these boundary determinations.

Following the unit boundary determination, a BLM ID team conducted an inter-disciplinary evaluation of the current wilderness characteristics within the unit boundary. The results are contained in the following section. 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:**

Inventory unit OR-015-005 is comprised of approximately 10,618 acres of BLM administered land and is located about 14 miles north of Christmas Lake. The terrain is mostly rolling with small hills. Most of the unit is populated with sparse to moderate juniper, and sagebrush.

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

Primitive motorized routes exist within the unit totaling about 7 miles, with approximately 10 miles of pasture division fence that exists mostly within the core of the unit. Additionally, there is 5 water developments located near the east and west boundaries. On the west is the 500KV BPA power line corridor which forms approximately 10 miles of the western boundary and can be seen from one half mile away in some places, and from greater distances in others.

The density of human disturbances within the unit's interior relatively low (see Table 1 below). The water developments, related ways, and pasture division fence are minor human disturbances

given the size of the unit and are considered to be generally unnoticeable to the average visitor. However, the 500 KV BPA power lines to the west is a pervasive and omnipresent outside impact which significantly detracts from the overall apparent naturalness of the unit as a whole.

*Table 1: Disturbance Summaries*

West Benjamin Lake Area	Unit OR-015-005
<b>Acres</b>	
-BLM	10,618
-Other	0
Water Developments	
-Waterhole	5
Pasture Fence (miles)	10
Primitive Motorized Routes (miles)	7
Trails (miles)	.25

For the reasons specified above and based on a review of all of the available information including BLM photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the ID team concluded that due to the major outside impact of the power lines, the unit is not in a natural condition primarily affected by the forces of nature.

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

Opportunities for solitude were not evaluated because the unit failed to meet the naturalness 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\_\_\_\_\_

Opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation were not evaluated because the unit failed to meet the naturalness criteria.

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

Supplemental values were not evaluated because the unit failed to meet wilderness criteria.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: **West Benjamin Lake/Unit OR-015-005**

**Summary Results of Analysis:**

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

**Conclusion (Check One):**

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

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

West Benjamin Lake  
West Benjamin Lake  
2

**ID Team Members:**

Chris Bishop [Signature] Date: 7/7/2011  
Recreation Planner

Casey O'Connor [Signature] Date: 7/7/2011  
Range Management Specialist

Edward Hennagin [Signature] Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

Zach Adams [Signature] Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

Theresa Romasko [Signature] Date: 7/7/2011  
Associate Field Manager for Botany and Range

Breanna O'Connor [Signature] for Breanna Date: 7/7/2011  
Park Ranger

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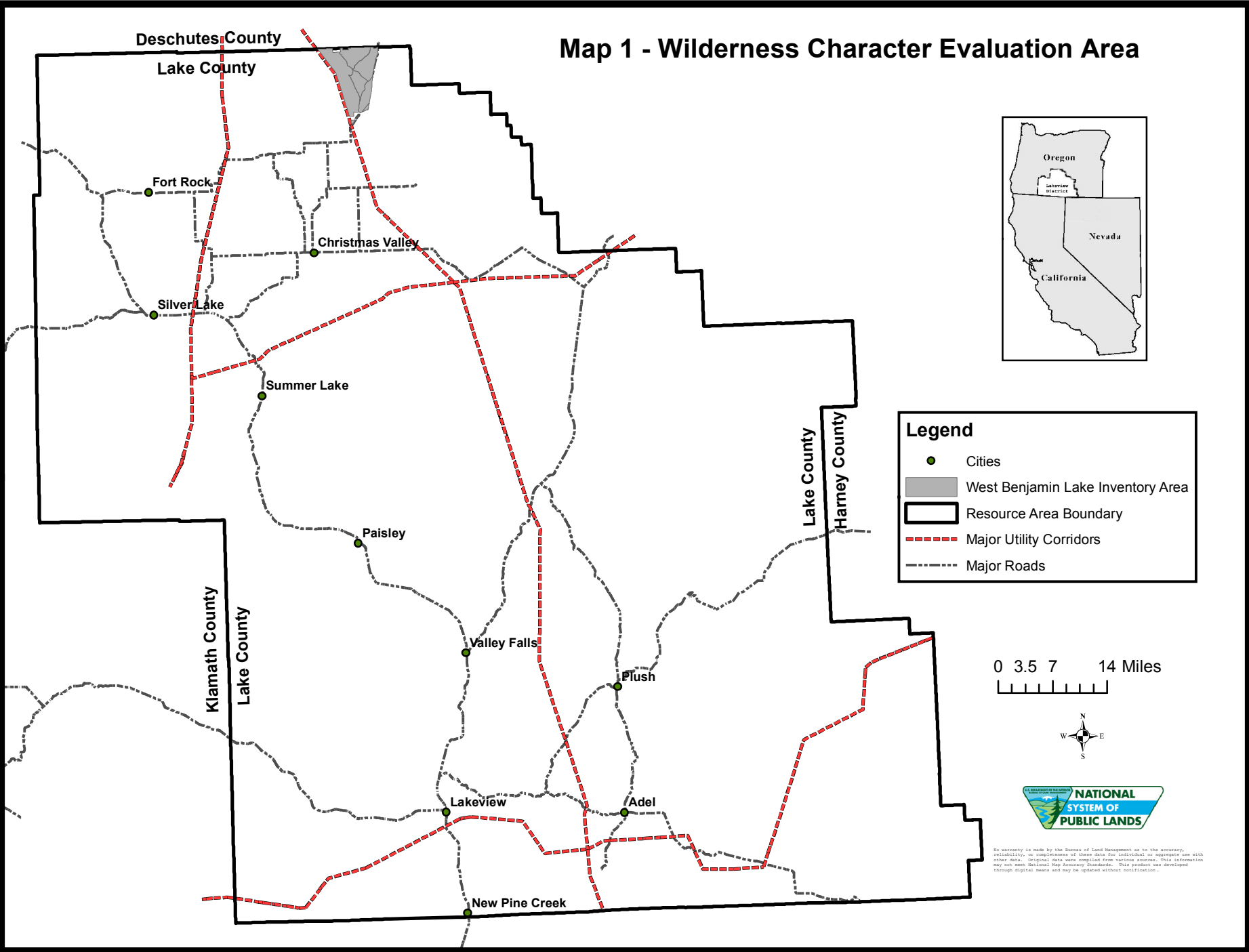
**Approved by:**

[Signature]  
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager

7/7/2011  
Date

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# Map 1 - Wilderness Character Evaluation Area

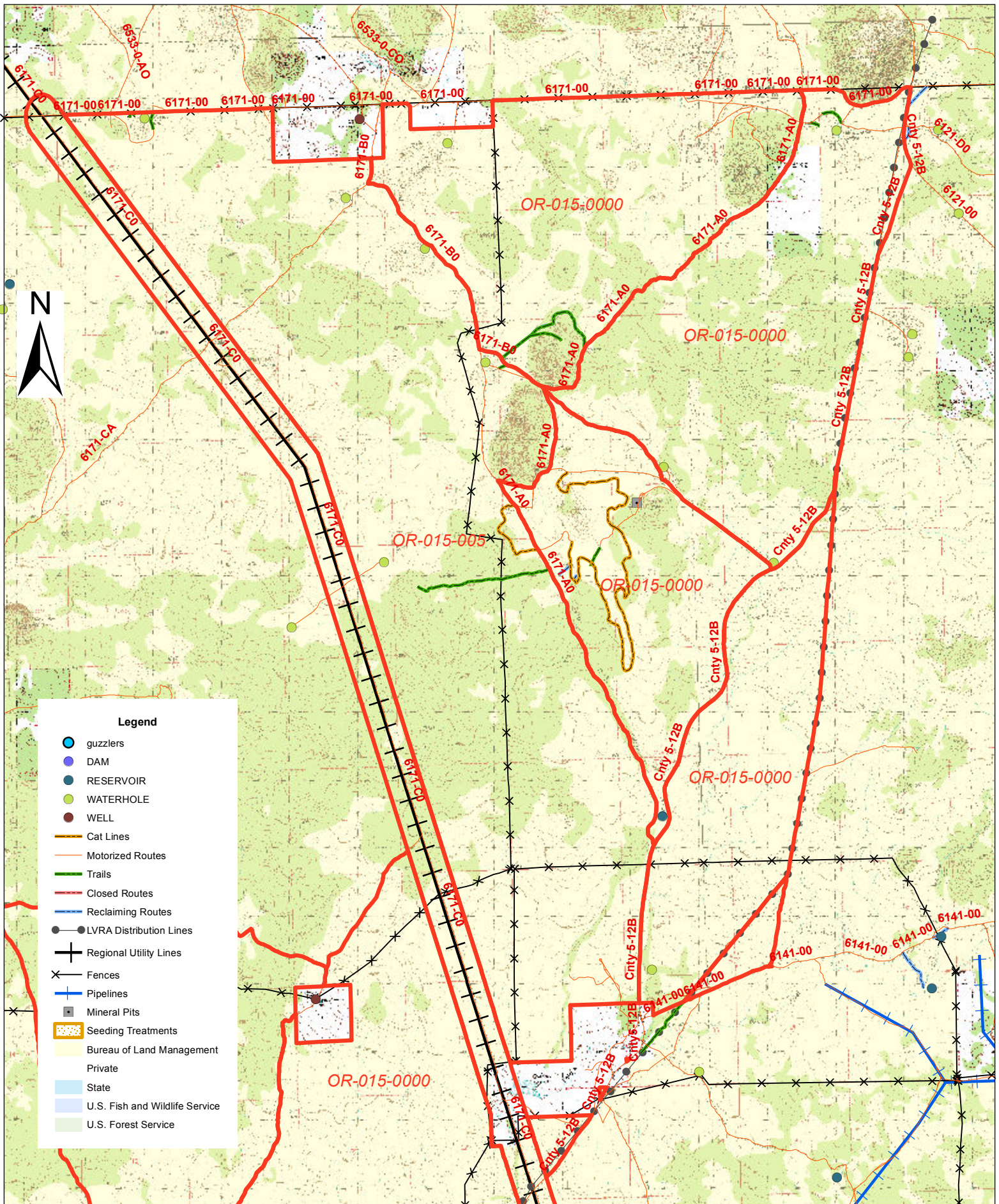


**Legend**

- Cities
- West Benjamin Lake Inventory Area
- Resource Area Boundary
- Major Utility Corridors
- Major Roads



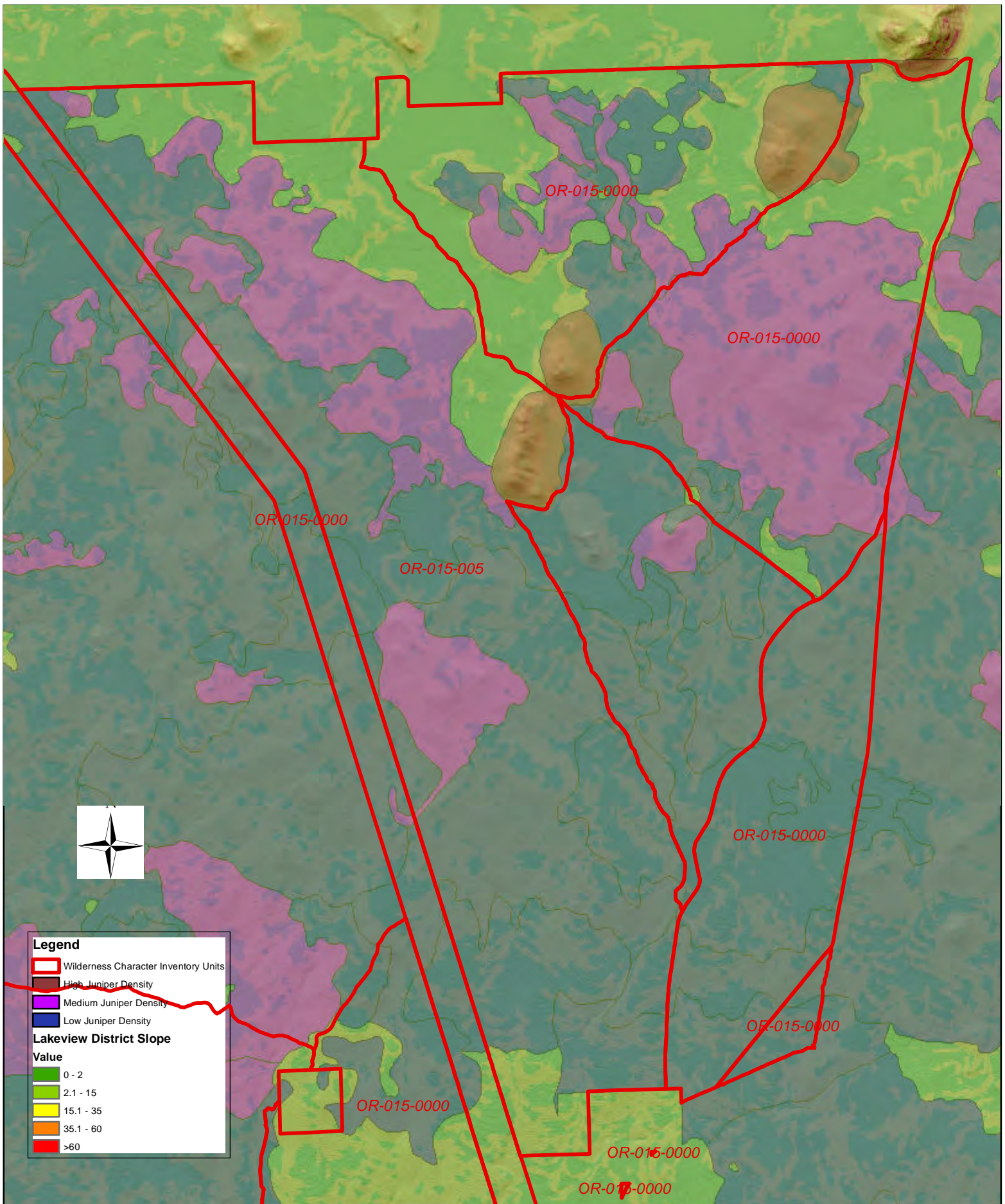
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**Map 2 - Wilderness Characteristics in West Benjamin Lake Area**

0 0.3 0.6 1.2 1.8 Miles

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Map 3 - Screening in West Benjamin Lake Area

0 0.4 0.8 1.6 Miles