WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON
(Source: Oregon State Office Internal Guidance as of July 2007)

Year: **2010** Inventory Unit Number/Name: **Black Canyon**

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 _____ **Yes** ___X___ (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.):

a) **Inventory Source:** **Wilderness Review; Intensive Inventory, Oregon & Washington, March, 1980, pages 169-172.**

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** Wagontire Mountain, Subunits 2-43A.

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** BLM Intensive Wilderness Inventory; Oregon; March, 1980.

d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Burns District, Oregon; Three Rivers Field Office

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
Wagontire Mtn. 2-43A	**9,590**	**Y**	**N**	**N**	**N**

FORM 2 - DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: **Black Canyon**

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Current Unit Acres: **9,632** Yes ___X___ No _____

Citizen Information Received: The BLM received GIS data from Oregon Natural Desert Assoc. (ONDA) for a 196,015-acre proposed Lonesome Lakes WSA in September, 2007. More information including a narrative report, maps, photographs and route logs was received in May, 2008. This information was considered as part of the wilderness characteristics inventory maintenance update process for BLM Bald Butte Unit. Information in ONDA's report was considered and incorporated, as appropriate, in this document. ONDA's photos, taken in July, 2001, and their evaluation indicated there were no boundary roads within their proposed Lonesome Lakes WSA.

BLM's Boundary Road Determination Process: BLM conducted an analysis of routes in the Wagontire Mountain Unit, 2-43, which entailed field visits to verify the mechanical/tool construction of the routes and their current condition in May, 2008, and August, 2009. All the boundary roads are part of BLM's current transportation system as identified in BLM's Facility Asset Management System database.

Boundary changes since 1980: Boundaries within the original 1979 Wagontire Mountain, 2-43 Inventory Unit was divided by roads and non-BLM lands (private and state) into six subunits. Two of the six subunits (C and E) were eliminated from further review because they were less than 5,000 acres in size. The remaining four subunits (A, B, D and F), separated by various roads and private and State lands, met the minimum size criteria and were intensively inventoried in 1980.

Two of the boundary roads separating the original subunits B, C and D are now cherry-stem interior boundary roads. The North Butte Valley Road, BLM 7245-0-1DO, is a constructed route, but has not been maintained for many years. The intent of the BLM is to maintain the route in the future from the junction of Wagontire Lookout Road, BLM 7249-1-00, westward about four miles to the East and West Wagontire Allotments' division fence. BLM does not intend to maintain the remaining section of road continuing southwest onto private land in North Butte Valley. Photographs were taken at specific point locations and GPS photo points, BB-1 through BB-7 were recorded.

The other cherry-stem road is the Sourdough Lake Road, BLM 7245-0-1CA. The route provides access between North Butte Valley Road and Black Canyon Road, BLM 7245-0-1CO. It is primarily used by permittees for livestock management during the spring- through-fall grazing season and by hunters in the fall. The Sourdough Lake area is usually accessed from the west via the Black Canyon Road because about three miles of the Sourdough Lake Road off the North Valley Butte Road is extremely rocky and has not been recently maintained. BLM does not intend to maintain this road section in the future.

Current Unit Boundaries: (See BLM Unit Character Map):

ONDA's photo points and the photos for each location were reviewed. ONDA's narrative indicated the routes within their Lonesome Lakes proposed WSA (196,015 acres in size) are unmaintained ways and not maintained by mechanical means.

Based on current field checks and the knowledge of the area, BLM identified the Wilderness Inventory Maintenance (WIM) unit boundaries listed below. The roads have been mechanically constructed and improved or maintained at some time in the past. The roads are currently in useable condition for Bureau personnel, grazing permittees and other publics using pickup trucks and SUV's, including 4-wheel drive vehicles, to access the Wilderness Inventory Unit. These roads will be maintained in the future as needed.

Vehicle use occurs on a relatively regular basis. The grazing permittee utilizes the routes to manage livestock operations, including releasing and gathering cattle, distributing salt and mineral blocks and checking and maintaining range developments. BLM personnel use the routes for monitoring wildlife, botanical and range values and condition, constructing, maintaining and checking human developments and installations, wildfire suppression, and recreation use. Most public use is associated with hunting, camping and recreation use in late summer and fall.

N. boundary: BLM Road 7245-0-1BO, Sand Hollow-Lower Lost Creek
ONDA Photo Points: BQ 35-36, BQ 37-39
BLM route analysis Photo Points: L24, L25, XL3

E. boundary: BLM Road 7245-0-1BA, Chandler Butte-Burrows Lake Road, 7245-0-1CO, Black Canyon Road
ONDA Photo Points: None
BLM route analysis Photo Points:, BB16-22

S. boundary: BLM Road 7245-0-1BA, Chandler Butte-Burrows Lake Road and BLM 7245-0-1CO, Black Canyon Road
ONDA Photo Points: None
BLM route analysis Photo Points: L18, L23, BB21

W. boundary: Private land and BLM Road 7245-1-100, Hay Lake –Deep Valley Road
ONDA Photos: BQ 29-31, BQ 32-33, BQ 34
BLM route analysis Photo Points: L22

Note: Other ONDA photo pts. did not appear to be of boundary roads for this BLM unit.

The following BLM photo references show examples of current road conditions in the Black Canyon Unit. There are also other BLM photos on file for this unit.

L18 and L23, Black Canyon Road show small constructed berms and the brush beating that occurred along many roads in the area to act as fire breaks in case of wildfire.

•L19-27-N and L20-28-N, Hay Lake-Deep Valley Road, show a well-traveled road during the summer and fall seasons. This road has been constructed through very sandy soils with low, weathered berms higher than the road's surface. Maintaining this road on a regular basis would only speed the lowering of the road's surface and conditions would still remain the same.

BB20, Black Canyon Road clearly shows a high berm on the south side of the road that was made with a dozer during original construction.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes __X__ No _____ N/A_____

1980 Unit Description: Black Canyon Unit is composed of the original Wagontire Mountain subunit 2-43A. The developments were limited to less than 1 mile of fence and one reservoir and less than 2 miles of vehicle ways. The sub-unit appeared to be in a generally natural condition; mans foot print is substantially unnoticeable.

Current Condition Description:
There is a cherry-stem road in the middle of the unit that has been constructed since the original inventory. This will continue to be utilized to check the Chandler Butte Well, that was installed a few years ago, and to access range condition monitoring sites. The permittee will continue to use the route to check livestock and place salt and mineral blocks at various locations. Hunters will continue using the roads during the fall hunting seasons, if they have vehicles to traverse the roads.

The brush beating in the northern portion of the unit, completed to enhance sage grouse habitat, is noticeable from a number of locations.

ONDA's report noted that their proposed WSA is primarily affected by the forces of nature and is in a natural condition. The individuals inventorying the proposed area did not notice the road and new well. The report also indicated the original BLM Wagontire Mountain Unit, 2-43, should not be subdivided into subunits because there are no roads within the unit.

This unit appears to be in a natural condition.
The unit currently has the following developments **(See Unit Character Map)**:

Fences: 1.3 miles
Reservoirs: 1
Seedings: 0 acres
Boundary roads: 26.2 miles
Non-boundary roads: 0 miles
Pipelines: 0 miles
Wells: 1
Troughs: 1
Waterholes: 0
Brushbeat: 375 acres
Guzzlers: 2

(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No __X__ N/A_____

1980 Unit Description: The majority of this subunit is comprised of flat to gently rolling topography. The topography on the east side of the subunit is slightly more diverse with several small but pronounced drainages flowing toward the center of the area. The vegetation includes sagebrush and grass, with some scattered juniper on the east side. The general lack of vegetative screening prevents the area from offering outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Current Condition Description:

The BLM Wagontire Mountain fire lookout is situated so personnel can see vast areas with high-powered viewing instruments. All the surrounding area is regularly scanned during the fire season. No locations go unchecked and the only areas which remain unseen are small sections of the deeper canyons. Any activities which involve vehicles, camps/camping activities, hunting, firefighting, and moving of cattle are likely observed.

Almost ¾ of the unit has little to no vegetative screening and only two small draws less than ½ mile long would provide any opportunity for solitude.

ONDA indicated in their report that the area provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. This is because ONDA considered all the BLM subunits as contiguous, within their large, proposed Lonesome Lakes WSA.

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes ___ No __X__ N/A___

1980 Unit Description: All subunits offered opportunities for hiking, hunting, horseback riding, and wildlife viewing, but none were outstanding.

Current Condition Description: The opportunities noted in the 1980 description are still present in the WIM unit as there is little hiding or escape cover for wildlife. None are outstanding. Big game (deer, antelope, and elk) numbers have diminished in the last fifteen to twenty years in this particular area of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Wagontire hunting unit, so wildlife viewing and hunting opportunities are less than when the original wilderness inventory was completed.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes __X__ No ___ N/A ___

1980 Unit Description: None known.

Current Condition Description: No inventories for species of concern have been conducted in the unit at this time. There may be habitat for, and the presence of, the pygmy rabbit, sage-grouse and burrowing owl in the southwestern half of the unit's lower-elevation, open, sagebrush-covered areas. There are no known sage-grouse leks in this unit. The unit may also be habitat for the Pallid bat, Townsend's big-eared bat, Ferruginous hawk and Northern sagebrush lizard. All species noted are Federal Species of Concern.

ONDA's report indicated their proposed Lonesome Lakes WSA provides prime habitat for the greater sage-grouse, a species of concern, and may also be home to the pygmy rabbit, sage-grouse and burrowing owl. However, their proposed WSA is a much larger area.

There are no playa lakes in the unit to support potential archaeological resources; however, archaeological sites have been discovered in the surrounding areas and limited potential to be located within the unit.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: **Black Canyon, 2-43A**

Summary Results of Analysis:

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? _X_ Yes ___No

2. Does the area appear to be natural? _X_ Yes ___ No

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? ____Yes __X_ No ___NA

4. Does the area have supplemental values? _X__ Yes __ No ___NA

Conclusion (Check One):

_____ The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.

___X_ The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by: Bill Andersen

Coordinating Personnel:

Jason Brewer, Wildlife Biologist – Burns District — Date: 5/3/2010

Rob Sharp, Range Specialist-Burns District — Date: 4/27/2010

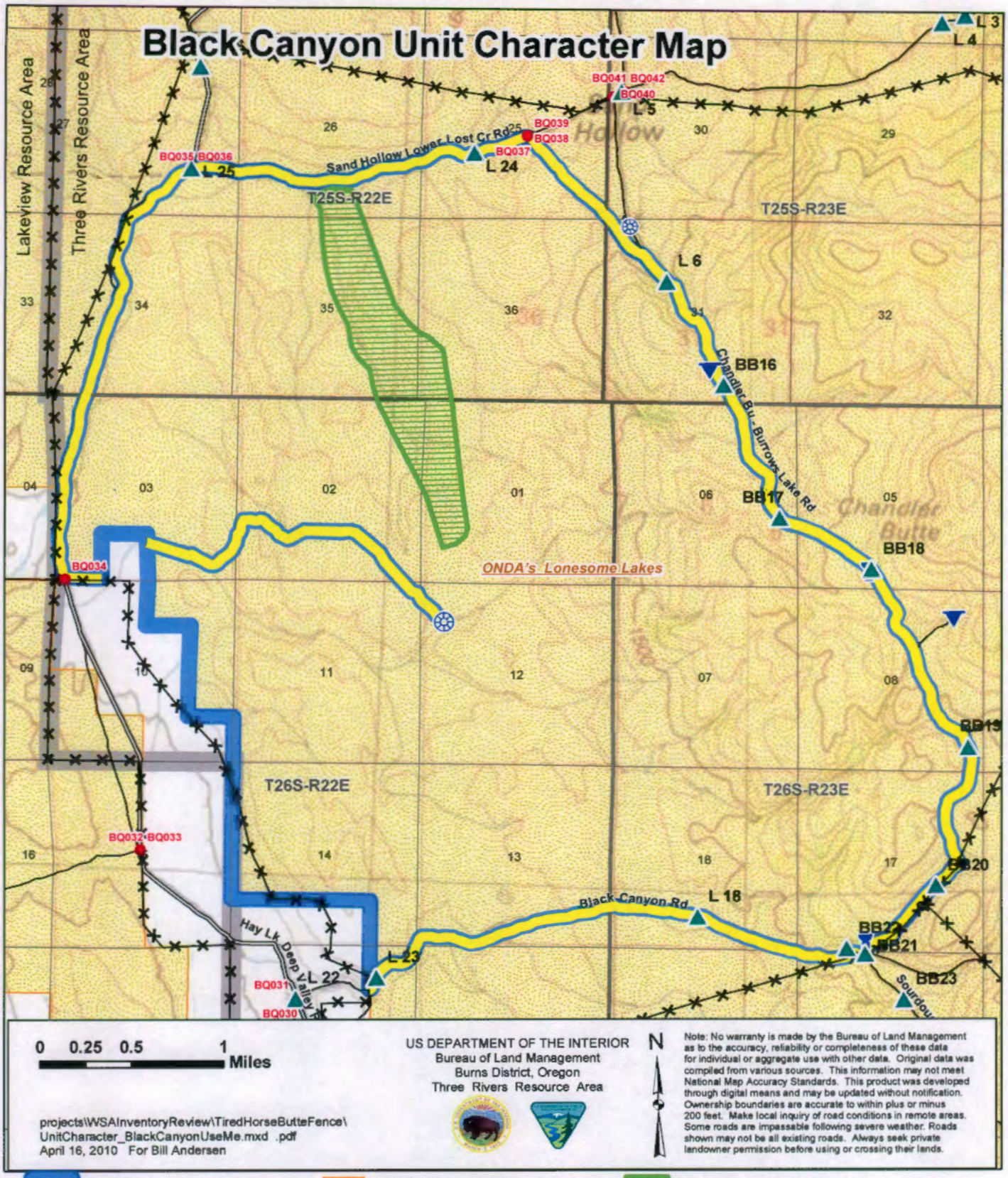
Scott Thomas, Archaeologist – Burns District — Date: 4/27/2010

Eric Haakenson, Wilderness Specialist – Burns District — Date: 4/27/2010

Approved by:

Three Rivers Field Manager – Burns District — Date: 5/4/10

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 1610.5-2.02


Black Canyon Unit Character Map
Lakeview Resource Area
Three Rivers Resource Area
T25S-R22E
T25S-R23E
T26S-R22E
T26S-R23E
Sand Hollow Lower Lost Cr Rd
Chandler Bu - Burrows Lake Rd
Black Canyon Rd
Hay Lk Deep Valley
ONDA's Lonesome Lakes
BQ034
BQ035 BQ036
BQ037
BQ038
BQ039
BQ040
BQ041 BQ042
BQ030
BQ031
BQ032 BQ033
L 3
L 4
L 5
L 6
L 18
L 22
L 23
L 24
L 25
BB16
BB17
BB18
BB19
BB20
BB21
BB22
BB23
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
Burns District, Oregon
Three Rivers Resource Area
N
Note: No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data was compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification. Ownership boundaries are accurate to within plus or minus 200 feet. Make local inquiry of road conditions in remote areas. Some roads are impassable following severe weather. Roads shown may not be all existing roads. Always seek private landowner permission before using or crossing their lands.
projects\WSAInventoryReview\TiredHorseButteFence\UnitCharacter_BlackCanyonUseMe.mxd .pdf
April 16, 2010 For Bill Andersen
Black Canyon 9,632 Acres
Guzzler 2
Reservoir 1
Well 1
BLM Photo Points
ONDA Photo Points
ONDA Proposed WSA Units
Fence 1.3 Miles
Paved Road
Non-Paved Improved Road
Primitive Road Surface
Boundary Roads 26.2 Miles
Brush Beat 375 Acres
Land Administration
Bureau of Land Management
Private (White)
State