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

Year: **2010** Inventory Unit Number/Name: **Buzzard Ridge**

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

a) Inventory Source: **The area that has been inventoried was part of a unit in 1977 that was numbered OR-020-01-03. It was recommended and approved at that time that the area did not warrant intensive inventory due to the size, crested wheatgrass seedings and amount of private land.**

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

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

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): **Burns District – Three Rivers Resource Area .**

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Inventory Source:

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

FORM 2 - DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: **Buzzard Ridge**

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Current Unit Acres: **8,369** Yes **X** No ___

Description of the Current Conditions:

Interdisciplinary (ID) Team Meeting: An ID-team consisting of BLM staff from the Burns District met on August 27, 2008 to evaluate this unit. The team was provided with current BLM maps and photographs, and past maps, photographs and description of the area. The team consisted of wilderness, recreation, range and fisheries staff. Forestry, wildlife, archaeology and staff were also consulted.

Current Unit Boundaries (See BLM's Unit Character Map): Wilderness inventory information was updated and routes forming boundaries were driven during field review. A route analysis was completed for each boundary road. The unit's boundary roads have been mechanically maintained, improved in the past, and will continue to be maintained as needed to allow vehicle passage for public land users.

Vehicle use will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. The grazing permittees use the routes to manage livestock operations, including releasing and gathering of cattle, distributing salt and mineral blocks and checking and maintaining range developments. BLM personnel utilize the routes for monitoring and checking range condition and developments as well as inventorying, monitoring and managing wildlife, archaeological and botanical resources, recreational values/use and wildfire suppression. Most public use is associated with antelope hunting in late summer and early fall, deer and elk hunting in the fall and wood cutting during the summer months.

N. boundary: PP&L 500KV Transmission Line Access Road.
ONDA Photo Points: None
BLM Photo Points-PL-1-NW,SE, PL-2W,E,SW
E. boundary: Warm Springs-Stinkingwater Access Road 6278-0-00
ONDA Photo Point: None
BLM Photo Points: SWWS-5E,S,N,W
S. boundary: Warm Springs-Stinkingwater Access Road 6278-0-00
BLM Photo Points: SWWS-3N,E,S,W, SWWS-4-N,E,W
ONDA Photo Point: None
W. boundary: Griffen Basin Road and Private Land
ONDA Photo Point: None
BLM Photo Points-GB-1N,S, GB-2N, GB-3S

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes **X** No ___ N/A___

Current Condition Description (See Unit Character Map): The unit currently has a small number of developments within the boundary. There is one fence running the

length of Buzzard Ridge from north to south. Two livestock reservoirs are present-one on the east side and one on the west. A small spring development is located on the east side. Three moderate size juniper clear-cuts are located along the east facing slope of Buzzard Ridge. These range improvements are generally unnoticeable except the juniper cuttings and the reservoir in the middle of Red Flat.

The large 500 KV power line that follows along the northern portion of the unit is the most noticeable man-made feature in the area. Vegetation is sagebrush with large tracts of juniper growing over most of the ridges and slopes, and grasses covering the open valleys. The area is generally natural in appearance.

Below is a summary of developments and vegetative treatments:

Fences: 6.3 miles
Cattleguards: 0 (two on the boundary)
Reservoirs: 2
Springs: 1
Waterholes: 0
Seedings: 0 acres
Tree cutting areas: 253 acres
Interior non-boundary routes: 13 miles

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

Yes ___ No _X___ N/A___

There are large open flats in the west half of the unit, with two small drainages on the north end (Hog Creek and Newell Creek). These two streams are intermittent and offer little varied topography. Views and sounds are far reaching. The east portion of the unit below Buzzard Ridge has 4 small buttes that provide some screening but offer little outstanding opportunity for solitude due the proximity to the Warm Springs-Stinkingwater access road and the high elevation of Buzzard Ridge where one could look down into the buttes area.

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

The primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities include hunting, hiking, site-seeing, horseback riding and camping, but they are not outstanding as much of the unit can be accessed by numerous routes that traverse the unit.

Yes ___ No _X___ N/A___

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Redband trout can be found in the lower reaches of Little Stinkingwater creek and wild horses are sometimes present in the eastern half of the area.

Yes __X__ No ____ N/A____

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: **Buzzard Ridge**

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 ____ No __X__

4. Does the area have supplemental values? __X__ Yes ____ No ____

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

Unit Name and Number: **Buzzard Ridge**

Team Members:

Jason Brewer, Wildlife Biologist-Burns District — Date: 5-17-10

Lindsay Davies, Fisheries Biologist – Burns District — Date: 5/17/2010

Rob Sharp, Range Specialist-Burns District — Date: 5/17/2010

Lead Range Specialist – Burns District — Date

Eric Haakenson — Date: 5/17/10

~~Dave Vickstrom~~, Wilderness Specialist – Burns District

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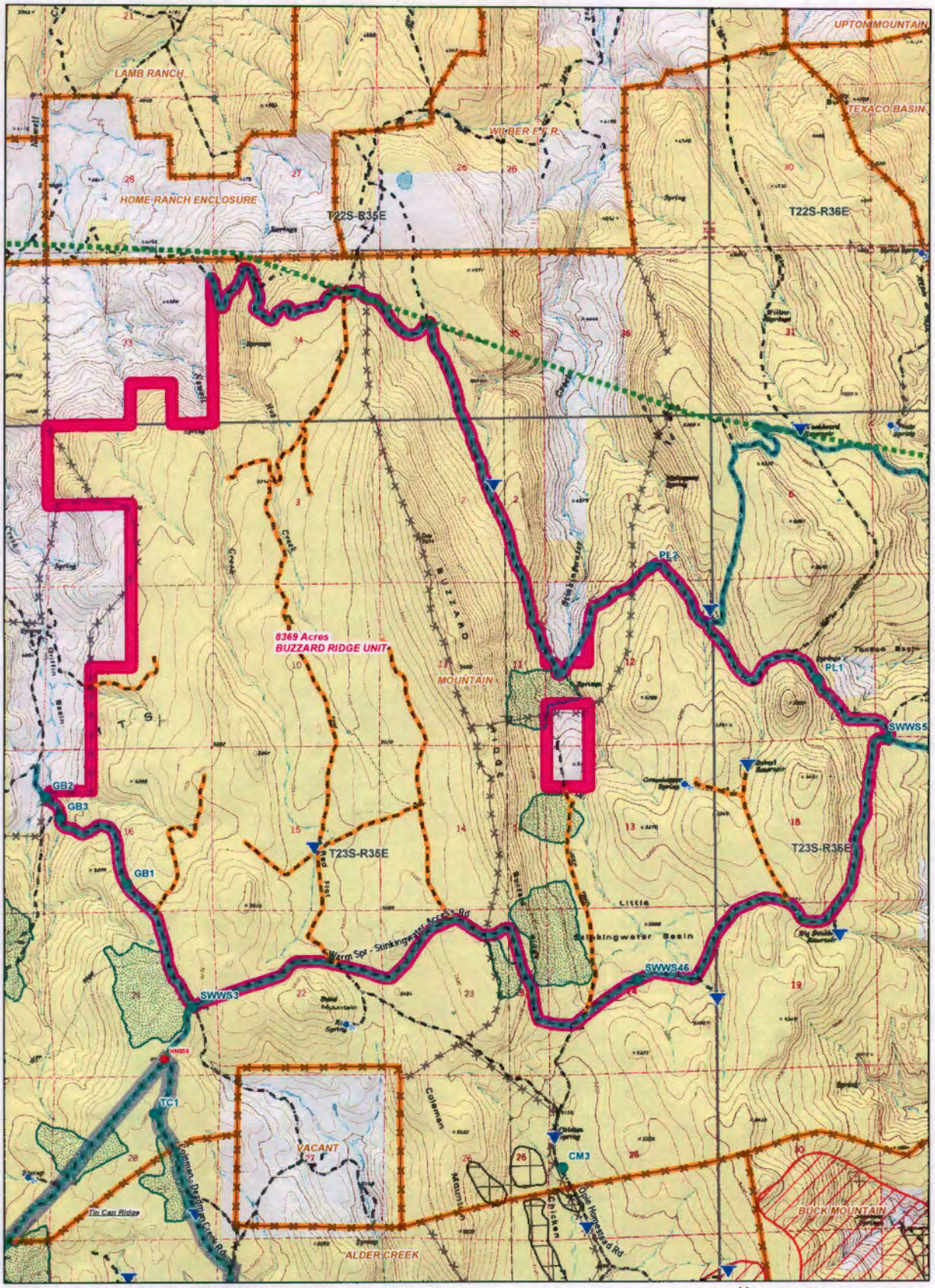
Approved by:

Rick Roy, Three Rivers Field Manager – ~~Burns District~~ — Date: 5/19/10

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



BUZZARD RIDGE UNIT CHARACTER MAP

- BUZZARD RIDGE WIM Unit
- ONDA Proposed WSA
- BLM Photo Points
- ONDA Photo Points
- Unit Boundary Roads
- Non-Boundary Routes
- Cut Units
- FENCE
- RESERVOIR
- SPRING DEVELOPMENT
- Seedings
- Wildfire 2005 to Present
- Allotment
- Major Power Lines
- Primitive or Unknown Road Surface
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private

USGS 24K Topo

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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 and may be updated without notification.

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
Burns District, Oregon
Three Rivers Resource Area

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BUZZARDRIDGEUnitCharacter2010.mxd
June 17, 2010 for Bill Andersen

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