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

Year: **2009** Inventory Unit Number/Name: **2-20, Drinkwater**

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-Initial Inventory, Oregon and Washington, August, 1979**

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): **Drinkwater, 2-20**

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): **Final Decision-Initial Inventory, August, 1979**

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

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Inventory Source: **Wilderness Review-Initial Inventory, August, 1979, Pages 26-27**

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
2-20, Drinkwater	6,510	Y	N	N	NA

FORM 2 - DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: **2-20, Drinkwater**

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Current Unit Acres: **6,044** Yes **X** No _____

Citizen Information Received: No citizen information for this unit was received.

ID-team Meetings: An ID-team consisting of BLM staff from the Burns District met on January 29, 2009, to evaluate this unit. The ID-team was provided with BLM's current and past maps and past photographs and other inventory descriptions. The ID-team consisted of wilderness, range and planning staff. Wildlife, archaeology, geology and forestry staff were also consulted. Additionally, with the southeast corner of the unit being within Vale BLM District, inter-district coordination was conducted as needed.

BLM's Boundary Road Determination Process: BLM completed a route analysis for the boundary roads identified for the unit. Prior to, and during the ID-team meeting, District staff were contacted and provided information about current uses of routes by BLM personnel, grazing permittees, and other publics.

Boundary changes since 1979: Two boundary changes have been made since the original inventory. A small acreage was added on the southwest corner of the unit and a block of land has been deleted on the northeast corner when the Juntura Cut-off Road was realigned, paved and improved to allow truck-hauling of diatomaceous earth from Eagle-Picher Mine to Vale, Oregon.

Current Unit Boundaries: (See BLM Unit Character Map): No boundary roads were driven as they are high-standard, paved routes.

N. boundary: Private and State lands
No Photos
E. boundary: Juntura Cut-off Road (CNTY 303 Road);
ONDA Photos: None
BLM Photos: None
S. boundary: U. S. Highway 20
ONDA Photos: None
BLM Photos: None
W. boundary: Private land;
ONDA Photos: None
BLM Photos: None

Interior Boundary Roads: Two interior routes, one accessing two reservoirs in the western portion of the unit and another to a well and large bottomless tank were

identified as interior boundary roads. The reservoirs road was bladed in 2007 and the well/tank road was constructed and is maintained to allow trucking of water for livestock to pastures which have no water sources. Other interior routes are unmaintained routes which BLM does not intend to maintain in the future.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes __X__ No _____ N/A_____

1979 Unit Description: The unit is located two miles east of the small rural community of Drewsey. The 1979 inventory report noted the unit, which was not intensively inventoried, was an area of rolling hills and some plateaus with sagebrush and juniper vegetation. Developments were fences and stock water reservoirs. A mining claim for diatomaceous earth is located in the south central area of the unit. The works of man were substantially unnoticeable because of the location of these developments. The unit was found to have naturalness.

Current Condition Description: The central portion of the unit is a small, high, plateau which drops off sharply on the east to the paved County Road 303, on the south to U. S. Highway 20 in Kingsbury Gulch and on the west to private lands in Drewsey Valley. A small parcel of land in the unit's southeast corner is within the BLM Vale District. It is located in Kingsbury Gulch where the Juntura Cutoff Road meets U. S. Highway 20.

The current Drinkwater Unit contains less area than the original. A well and stock water trough with access road is now located in the east-central section of the unit. There are three small reservoirs with three fenced pastures of the River Allotment and small portions of two other pastures within this unit. The primary use is livestock grazing. The unit currently has the following developments **(See Unit Character Map)**:

Fences: 20.4 miles
Reservoirs: 3
Wells: 1
Trough: 1
Cattleguards: 1
Boundary roads: 14.1 miles
Non-boundary roads: 3.3 miles
Mineral material sites: 12.6 acres

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

Yes _____ No __X__ N/A_____

1979 Unit Description: It is clear that the unit does not possess wilderness characteristics. The rolling sagebrush and scattered juniper covered hills in this area gently slope to a flat top plateau in the center of the unit. Views from most points within the unit are unrestricted. Therefore, due to the general lack of topographic or vegetative

screening, this area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation and should not be intensively inventoried.

Current Condition Description: The ID-team was in agreement with the original unit findings. Since it is such a small area and directly affected by sights and sounds of vehicle use on boundary roads, the unit does not have outstanding opportunities for solitude.

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

Yes ____ No __X__ N/A____

1979 Unit Description: Some opportunities for deer and antelope hunting and trapping were present but were not outstanding.
Current Condition Description: The ID-team found that the recreation opportunities identified above are likely still present. Their diversity and quality are not unlike that which can be found on public lands in the much of eastern Oregon in the Northern Great Basin region. They are not unique and do not present characteristics either individually or collectively that would result in these recreation activities being outstanding within the unit.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes ____ No __X__ N/A____

1979 Unit Description: None identified.

Current Condition Description: None identified.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: **Drinkwater, 2-20**

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? ___ Yes _X_ 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: David E. Vickstrom, Wilderness Specialist

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory; 2020, Drinkwater

Team Members:

Willie Street, Range Specialist, Burns District — 1-20-2010 Date

Bill Andersen, Range Specialist, Burns District — 1-20-10 Date

Bill Lutjens, Management Specialist, Vale District — 2/8/10 Date

Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist, Vale District — 2/18/10 Date

Eric Haakenson, Wilderness Specialist, Burns District — 01/20/10 Date

Dave Vickstrom, Wilderness Specialist, Burns District — 1-20-2010 Date

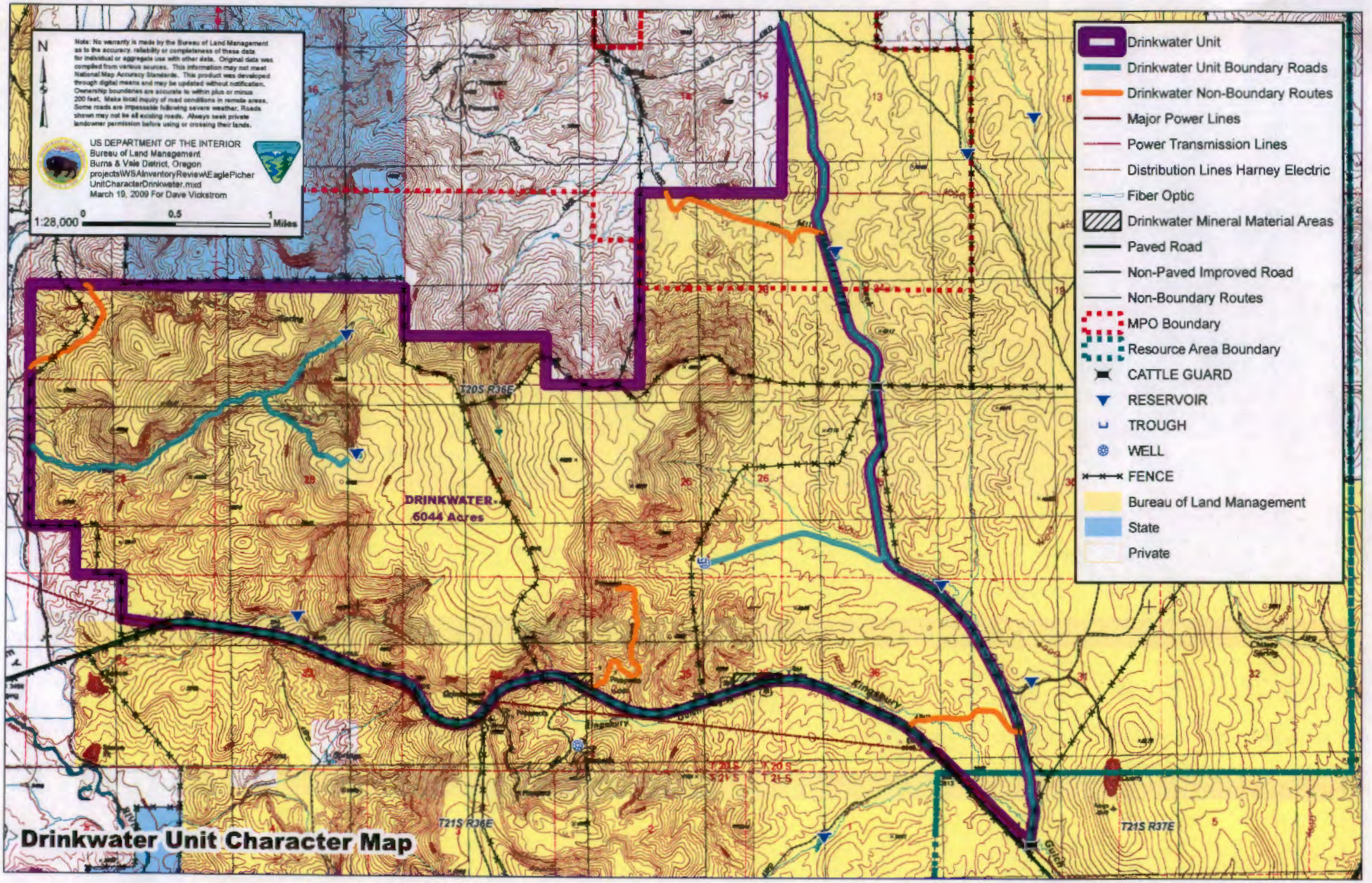
Robert Alward, Consultant-Wilderness, Vale District — 2/5/2010 Date

Approved by:

Rick Roy, Field Manager, Three Rivers Resource Area, Burns District — 1/25/10 Date

Pat Ryan, Field Manager, Malheur Resource Area — 3/8/2010 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 1610.5-2.02.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US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
Burns & Vale District, Oregon
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March 19, 2009 For Dave Vickstrom
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Miles
Drinkwater Unit
Drinkwater Unit Boundary Roads
Drinkwater Non-Boundary Routes
Major Power Lines
Power Transmission Lines
Distribution Lines Harney Electric
Fiber Optic
Drinkwater Mineral Material Areas
Paved Road
Non-Paved Improved Road
Non-Boundary Routes
MPO Boundary
Resource Area Boundary
CATTLE GUARD
RESERVOIR
TROUGH
WELL
FENCE
Bureau of Land Management
State
Private
DRINKWATER
6044 Acres
T20S R36E
T21S R36E
T21S R37E
Drinkwater Unit Character Map