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

Year: **2008** Inventory Unit Number/Name: **West Warm Springs Unit 14**

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 Inventory – OR/WA Final Intensive Inventory Decisions (November 1980), Pages 137-138

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Weed Lake Unit 2-60

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): November 1980 Map

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Burns District – Three Rivers 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 and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

Inventory Source: **Wilderness Inventory – OR/WA Final Intensive Inventory Decisions (November 1980), Pages 137-138**

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
2-60	19,520	N	N	N	N

FORM 2 - DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: **West Warm Springs Unit 14**

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Current Unit Acres: 23,389 Yes X No _____

[State the BLM acreage of the unit. Describe the boundaries of the unit (roads, property lines, etc.) If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check "Yes" and describe the exception. If more than one inventory unit is involved, list the acreage in each and evaluate each unit/subunit separately. Complete the analysis for (1), (2), (3),(4) and (5) for each unit or sub-unit. If you check "No" above, check "N/A" (Not Applicable) in the remaining boxes below, and you need not provide additional evaluation for the unit or subunit. Use additional space as necessary].

Description of the Current Conditions: (Include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation features and summary of major human uses/activities).

Citizen Information Received: On September 19, 2007 the BLM received a citizen proposal from the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) for the 462,828-acre Buzzard Creek proposed 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 which were considered as part of the wilderness inventory maintenance process for this BLM Unit. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in July of 2004 and June of 2005. They identified the Buzzard Creek proposed WSA as having no routes which meet their definition of a boundary road and included state land within their proposal.

As part of BLM's boundary determination process, it was determined that several of ONDA's "ways" are still boundary roads. It is BLM's finding that ONDA's Buzzard Creek proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is made of several smaller units that are similar, though not exactly the same, as those units identified by the 1979 and 1980 wilderness inventory effort.

Boundary changes since 1980: The boundaries for Unit 14 appear similar to those identified (See Unit Boundary Map 2) for Unit 2-60 except that the route that defines the southern boundary appears further north, however this maybe just a map registration difference. Two parcels that were nonfederal land have since become BLM land adding to the acreage of the unit.

Current Unit Boundaries:

See Unit Character Map for Photo Point (Pt.) Locations

N: Road 8209-0-00 - matches ONDA Unit Boundary

E: Road 8208-0-00 (ONDA Photo Pts. FL-18 – right, FL-19 SSW, FP-31 S, FP-34 S, FP-38 S, FP-27 N, FP-28 NW, FP-40 E, FP-42 W, FP-43 SSW-left, FP-49 S, FP-51 N, FL-20 NNW appears to be right based on direction, not left as stated in photo log) while there is limited vegetation in the roadway, this road is still in a useable condition and gets relatively regular use.

S: Unnamed Road that was recently bladed, likely 2005 before ONDA photos were taken (ONDA Photo Pts. FP-52 N, FL-30 E)

W: Road 8209-0-00 (ONDA Photo Pts. FL-26 SE, FL-27 S) this road was recently bladed likely in 2005 after ONDA photos taken.

Other boundaries: There is also a private inholding with an adjacent developed powerline right-of-way.

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

The ID-team confirmed that based on their knowledge of the area and reviewing ONDA's information the BLM information gathered as part of the unit boundary determination process, that these routes do meet boundary road criteria.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?
Yes _____ No __X__ N/A_____

1980 Unit Description: The unit is located approximately 25 miles northwest of the community of Frenchglen. The 1980 Inventory Report described this unit being basically flat in the northeast corner, but rising to a plateau in the central portion of the unit through a series of ridges and gently rolling topography. The remainder of the unit to the south consists of gently rolling hills and flat land. The vegetation is predominantly sagebrush and grass, with rabbitbrush being common in the flat land to the northeast. Several miles of ways, fencing and other types of developments were identified and the cumulative impact was found to make the imprint of humans substantially noticeable and the unit is not natural.

Current Condition Description: The ID-team reviewed landscape related photos provided by ONDA. The primary human uses in the unit and the surrounding area are associated with livestock grazing and recreation by the public. Since the inventory, there has been additional fencing (two miles) that still has not been input into GIS. Fire lines bladed during wildfire suppression efforts in 2006 are still present, though they

have not been mapped. The unit has also had some recent seedings (1,150 acres) drilled with non-native crested wheatgrass in the northern part of the unit in 2005 which have the appearance of an unnatural feature. The unit currently has the following developments **(See Unit Character Map)**:

- 36.6 miles of interior routes (non-boundary roads)
- 21 miles of fencing which includes fencing not reflected on map
- 3 miles of pipeline
- 1 well and 1 aboveground water tank
- 6 gates
- 10 reservoirs and 1 waterhole

The ID-team concurred with the 1980 inventory finding that the cumulative impacts of the current developments make the imprint of humans substantially noticeable and the unit is still not natural. This finding is not consistent with ONDA's proposal for their Buzzard Creek Unit, which they found to be natural as a whole, however much of ONDA's finding of naturalness was due to developments and treatments being substantially unnoticeable across their entire Buzzard Creek Unit.

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A__X____

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A___X___

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A__X____

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: **West Warm Springs Unit 14**

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? ___Yes __X__No

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.

___X__The area does not have wilderness character.

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Team Members:

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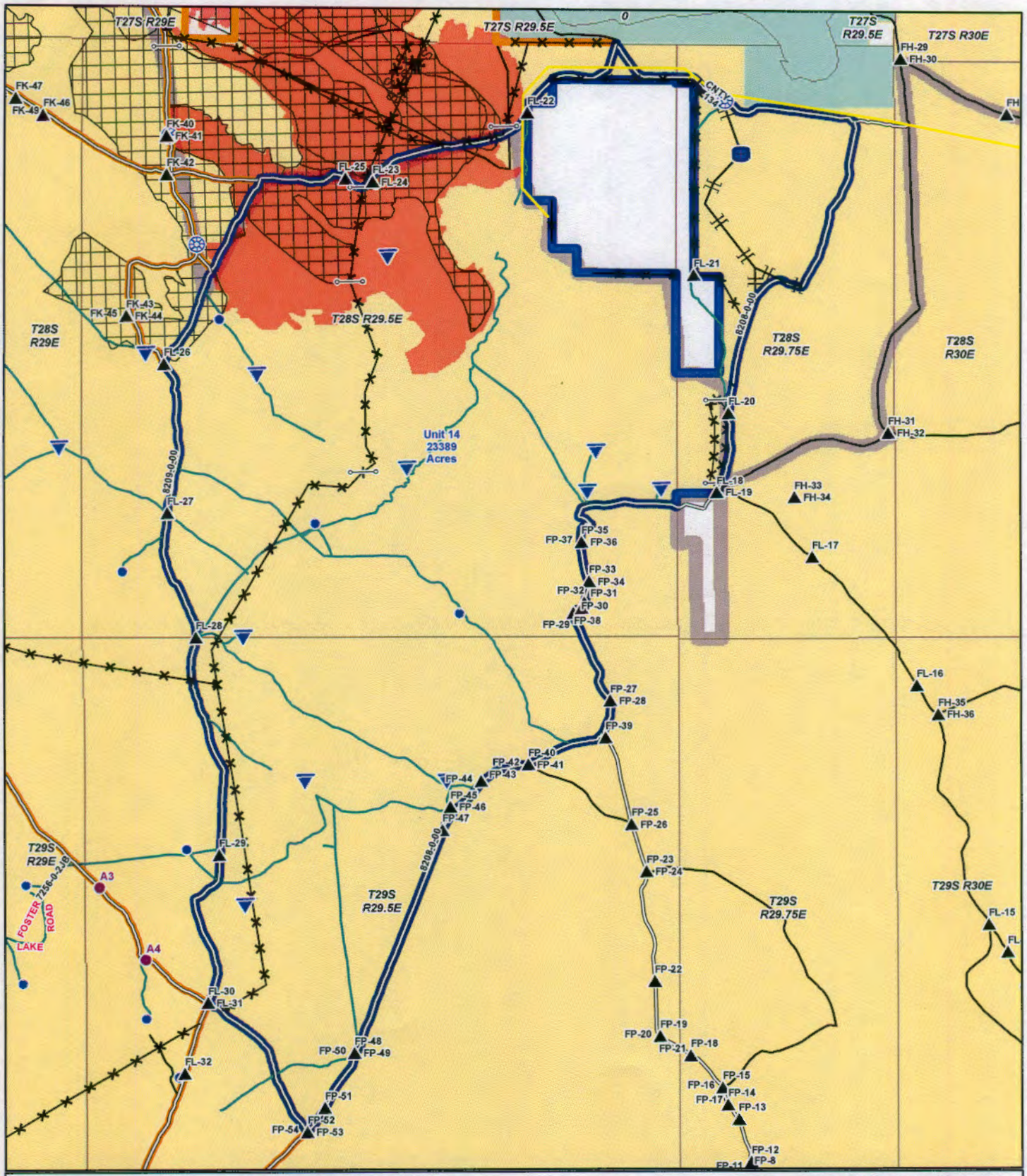
Approved by:

Joan M. Suther, Three Rivers Field Manager – Burns District — Date 8/31/08

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



West Warm Springs Wilderness Character Unit Map ~ 14

- Unit
- Adjacent Units
- BLM Photo Points
- ONDA Photo Points
- ONDA Unit Buzzard Creek
- Burns District Boundary
- Mineral Materials Sites
- CATTLE GUARD
- CORRAL
- GATE
- RESERVOIR
- STUDY PLOT
- TANK
- WATERHOLE
- WELL
- Major Roads
- BRUSHBEAT
- DIKE
- DRIFT FENCE
- FENCE
- PIPELINE
- SNOW FENCE
- Powerline
- Unit Boundary Roads
- Interior Primative Roads
- BRUSHBEAT
- EXCLOSURE FENCE
- SEEDING
- Wildfires 2002 to Present

Land Administration

- Bureau of Land Management
- BLM Wilderness Study Area
- State
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife
- No. Great Basin Exp. Range
- Private

0 0.4 0.8 1.6 Miles

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.

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

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January 11, 2007
All legend elements may not appear on this map.

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