

Year: 2009

Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-58A/Breezy; OR-015-58B/Breezy East; OR-015-0000/Breezy North; and OR-015-0000/Breezy Northwest

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

a) Inventory Sources: Wilderness Inventory: Oregon and Washington Final Intensive Inventory Decisions November 1980.

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Breezy/OR-010-58

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): U.S. Department of the Interior: Bureau of Land Management Oregon: Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decisions November, 1980.

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Lakeview District, Lakeview Resource Area, Lakeview, Oregon

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):

Ownership	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
BLM	6,240	N	N	N	N
Private	0				

FORM 2

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

a. Unit Number/Name: OR-015-58A/Breezy; OR-015-58B/Breezy East; OR-015-0000/Breezy North; and OR-015-0000/Breezy Northwest

(1) **Is the unit of sufficient size?** Yes 2 No 2

Boundary Determination: In 2008-2009, the BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories, respectively. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes. Using BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, the BLM completed an analysis of the main motorized routes within the area in 2009.

The results of the route analysis are documented in the road analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. On the north, the unit is bounded by the Highway 140 right-of-way boundary (200 feet from centerline). On the south, the unit is bounded by the USFWS Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge boundary. On the west, the unit is bounded by a combination of USFWS and State lands. The original unit is further subdivided by several interior boundary roads. A portion of one of these unnumbered routes extends up the face of Guano Rim and though only the northern portion was determined to meet the road boundary definition, the ID team used the entire route as a unit boundary because it eliminated a small (263 acres), long, narrow, unmanageable finger from the unit and created a definable boundary on the ground. The Doherty Slide Hang Gliding Access Road forms a short cherry-stem boundary extending into the western portion of the unit (see Maps 1 and 2, road analysis forms, photos, photo log, and BLM ID team minutes in the wilderness inventory file for additional supporting information regarding these boundary determinations).

Based on the boundary determinations described above, the 1980 inventory unit currently consists of four smaller units (Breezy, Breezy North, Breezy East, and Breezy Northwest) varying in size from 263 to 4,156 acres of BLM-administered land (Map 2). None of the four units meet the minimum size criteria on their own merit. However, two of the units (Breezy and Breezy East) are immediately north of, and adjacent to the USFWS' Round Mountain WSA located on the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge. For this reason, these two units were determined to meet the exception to the size criteria. The other two units (Breezy Northwest and Breezy North) were not evaluated further.

Following the boundary determination, a BLM ID team examined the previous inventory information contained in the BLM's wilderness inventory files and published inventory documents, and its own recent field inventory information, and then conducted an interdisciplinary 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 ID team meeting notes and the document, *Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Process for the*

Lakeview Resource Area, BLM. Both documents are contained in the wilderness inventory file.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

The inventory unit is located about 23 miles southeast of Adel, Oregon, and is just north of the Oregon-Nevada border (Map 1). The area is L-shaped and is generally less than a mile wide (Map 2). Guano Rim and Guano Valley are located along the western portion of the area. A portion of Stateline Canyon is located in the center of the area. The bottom of Guano Valley and the eastern two-thirds of the area consist of a sagebrush covered flat.

Adjacent to the Breezy area lies the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Round Mountain and Horse Heaven wilderness units immediately to the south on the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge in northern Nevada. The USFWS recommended combining those 2 units into a single 33,100-acre Round Mountain WSA in 1974 and is currently managing this area for wilderness character.

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

1980 Unit Description: The previous inventory described the original larger unit as having one way located on the southwest below Doherty Slide and another way located on the Oregon side of an existing fence along the State boundary. At that time the fence line was visible from the majority of the unit. The unit was determined to be dominated by the imprints of man's work due to the unit's small size, narrow shape, and proximity of the (highway) boundary road to the fence. The unit did not meet the naturalness criteria.

The USFWS Round Mountain WSA immediately to the south was found to contain some man-made intrusions in 1974 including "jeep trails", fencing, mining prospect sites, and water developments, but overall the area met the naturalness criteria.

Current Condition Description: Within the Breezy area topography and vegetation have not changed substantially since 1980. However, the fence along the Oregon-Nevada border has either been removed or is falling down and no longer has a substantial negative effect on natural quality.

Two existing gravel pits are located in the area immediately south of Highway 140. For purposes of this inventory, these two pits have been excluded from the unit boundaries and do not have a substantial impact natural character within the interior of the Breezy and Breezy East units.

There is currently one constructed waterhole in each of the two inventory units located just to the south of Highway 140. There is also one wildlife guzzler located in the southwest corner of the Breezy unit. Currently, there are approximately 3 miles of primitive motorized routes located within the two units (Map 2). These existing man-

made developments/disturbances are substantially noticeable within close proximity (approximately one-quarter mile), but are less noticeable from further distances.

Though the total man-made disturbances documented within the area may have increased slightly since 1980 and detract somewhat from the natural quality, the ID team determined that, overall, the area within the two units currently is in a predominantly natural condition, where the imprints of man are substantially unnoticeable. Further, the minor amount of man-made disturbances in these 2 units does not detract from the existing natural character of the adjacent Round Mountain WSA to the south.

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

Yes _____ No 2 N/A 2

1980 Unit Description: During the previous inventory, the larger unit was characterized as being extremely narrow in shape, having flat terrain, and a lack of screening. The entire unit was visible from points along the northern boundary (ie. Highway 140).

The USFWS did not evaluate solitude opportunities per se within the Round Mountain WSA, but did conclude that overall, the area met the wilderness criteria and recommended the WSA for wilderness designation.

Current Condition Description: The topography and vegetation within the Breezy and Breezy East units has not changed substantially since 1980. Much of the two units consist of broad expanses of relatively flat terrain and no tall vegetative screening (see Map 3, photos, and photo log). Highway 140 just to the north of both units remains visible from large portions of the units and noise from passing vehicles readily intrudes into the interior of the units.

The ID team determined that solitude opportunities in the area have not changed substantially since 1980. The two units are too close to a major road, too small and narrow, and too exposed to offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude standing on their own merits.

It is unclear exactly how the USFWS evaluated solitude opportunities during their previous inventory (completed in 1974). Photos of the north part of the Round Mountain WSA show vast expanses of flat terrain and low sagebrush, providing very limited screening or ability to avoid the presence of others in the area. If their solitude finding was based on the relatively large size of the WSA (33,100 acres), then adding additional acreage from the Breezy and Breezy East inventory units could provide some minimal enhancement to the existing solitude opportunities found in the adjacent Round Mountain WSA.

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes 2 No _____ N/A 2

1980 Unit Description: During the previous inventory, the larger unit was described having some opportunity for hunting, but overall the opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation was not outstanding.

The USFWS did not evaluate primitive recreation opportunities per se within the Round Mountain WSA, but did conclude that overall, the area met the wilderness criteria and recommended the WSA for wilderness designation.

Current Condition Description: The ID team found that the area within the two units still offers some opportunities for hunting. The team did not find any other existing primitive or unconfined recreation opportunities within the units. Standing on its own merits, these opportunities are similar to those available throughout much of the surrounding BLM-administered lands. However, when considered in conjunction with the adjacent Round Mountain WSA, there may be some enhancement to the existing primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities such as hunting, hiking, and camping likely found there.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values? Yes 2 No NA 2

1980 Unit Description: In the previous inventory, the adjacent proposed wilderness area on the Sheldon Wildlife Refuge was the only supplemental value noted.

The USFWS did not evaluate supplemental values per se within the Round Mountain WSA, but did note the presence of sagegrouse habitat and antelope kidding areas in the eastern portion of the WSA.

Description: The ID team noted the presence of bighorn sheep habitat, sagegrouse winter habitat, and possibly archaeological resources as potential supplemental values currently present in the Breezy and Breezy East inventory units.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-015-58A/Breezy; OR-015-58B/Breezy East; OR-015-0000/Breezy North; and OR-015-0000/Breezy Northwest

Results of Analysis:

1. Does the area meet the size requirements or any of the exceptions to the size requirements? 2 Yes 2 No
2. Does the area appear to be natural? 2 Yes No 2 NA
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined types of recreation? 2 Yes No 2 NA

4. Does the area have supplemental values? 2 Yes No 2 NA

Conclusion (*Check One*):

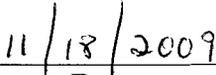
 X The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.

 The area does not have wilderness character.

ID Team Members (Name and Title)



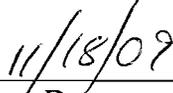
Paul Whitman
Planning & Environmental Coordinator



Date



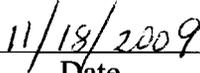
Todd Forbes
Associate Field Manager Natural Resources



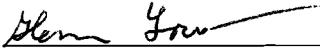
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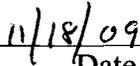
Les Boothe
Range Management Specialist



Date



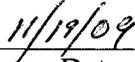
Glenn Lorton
Wildlife Biologist



Date



Breanna O'Connor
Recreation Technician

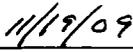


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Approved by:



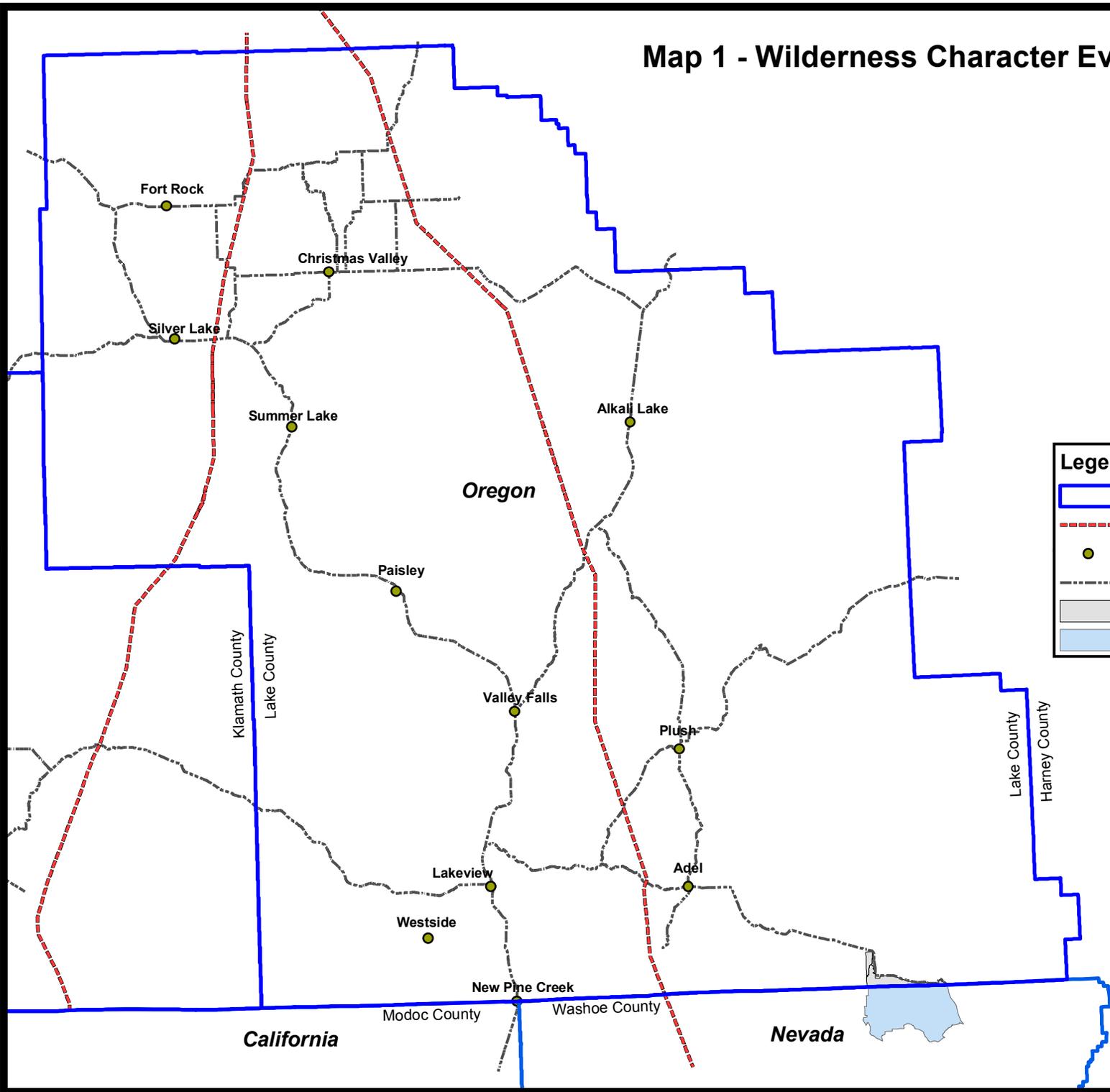
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager
Lakeview Resource Area



Date

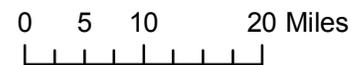
This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.

Map 1 - Wilderness Character Evaluation Area

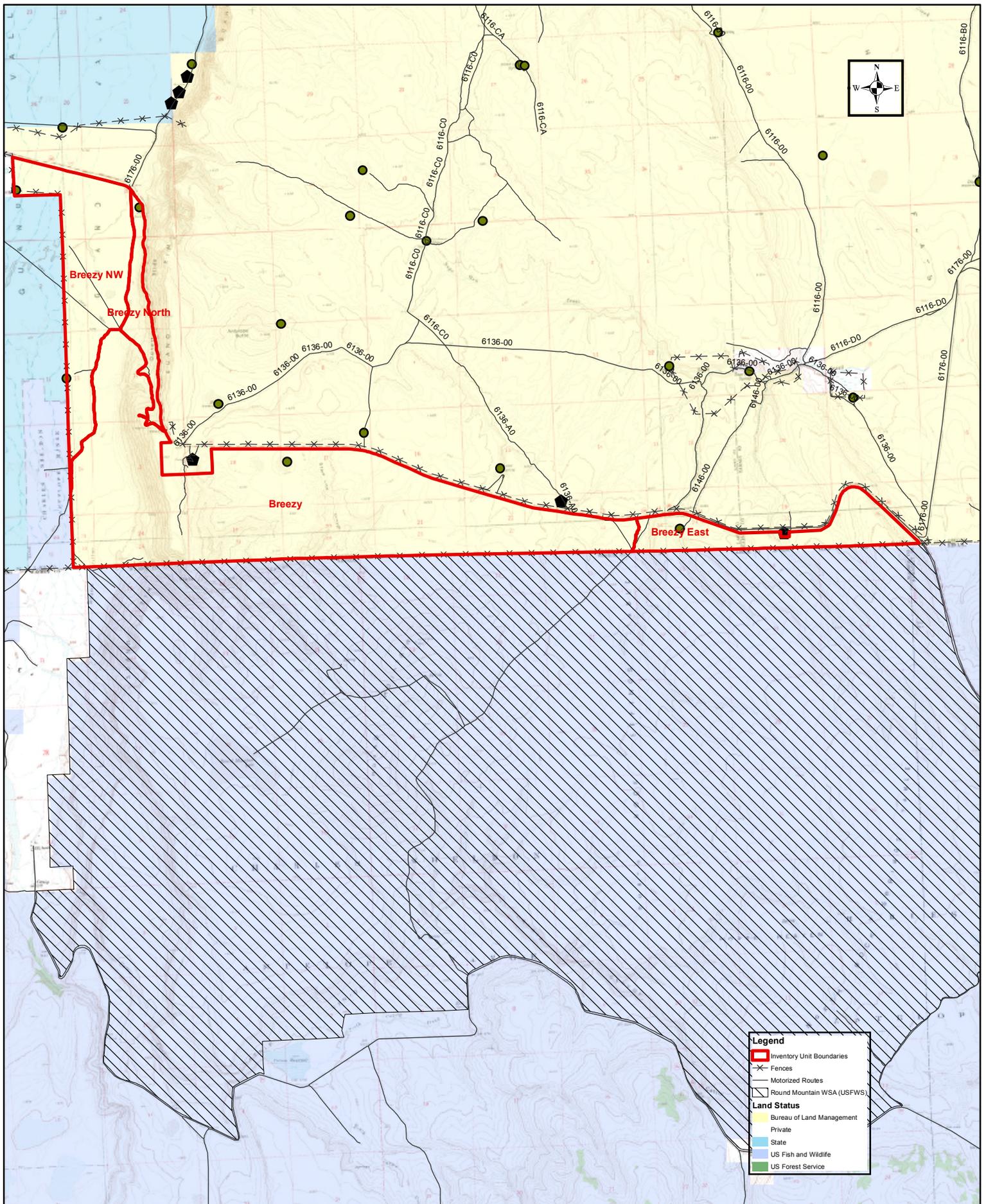


Legend

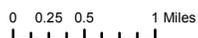
- Resource Area/Field Office Boundaries
- Major Utility Corridors
- Cities
- Major Roads
- Wilderness Character Evaluation Area
- Round Mountain WSA (USFWS)



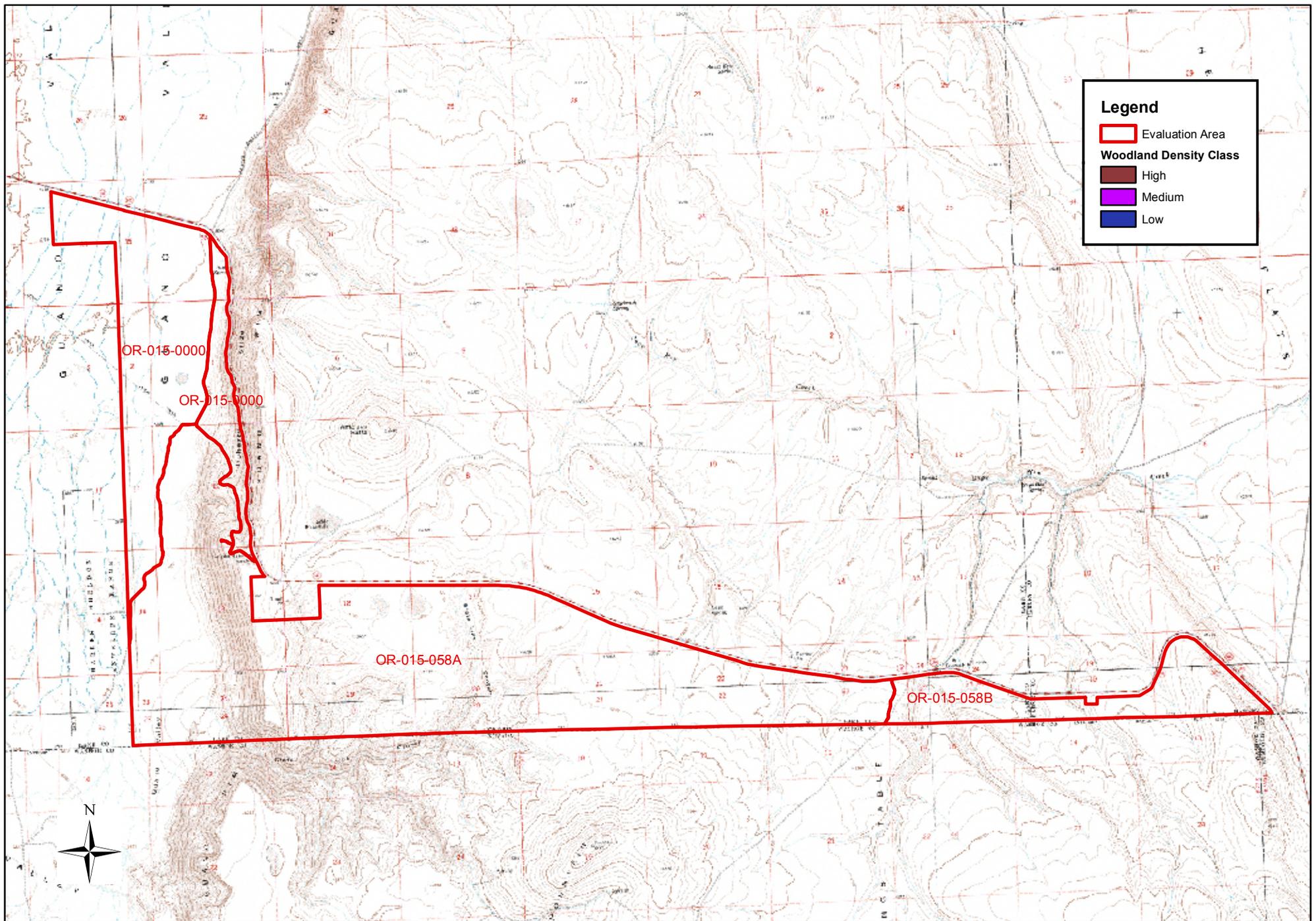
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Map 2 - Wilderness Character Inventory - Breezy Area



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Map 3 - Vegetative Screening Based on Woodland Density Classes

