

FORM 1

**DOCUMENTATION OF BLM WILDERNESS INVENTORY
FINDINGS ON RECORD**

Year: 2009 Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-126/Coleman Valley and CA-020-1010/Macy Flat

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: Oregon and Washington Final Intensive Inventory Decisions November 1980 and the Final Intensive Inventory, Public Lands Administered by BLM California Outside the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness, December 1979.

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** ColemanValley/1-126 and Macy Flat/CA-020-1010

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	36,700	OR:N/ NV:Y	N	N	Unknown
Private	1,600				

FORM 2

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

a. Unit Number/Name: **OR-010-126/Coleman Valley and CA-020-1010/Macy Flat**

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Yes X No

Citizen Information Received: In 2005, the BLM received a citizen proposal from the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) for the 35,985-acre Coleman Rim proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included a narrative report, a map, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data with their route and photo point data. All of these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this area. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in September of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see pages 47-55 of ONDA, 2005).

Boundary Determination and Consideration of Citizen Information: In 2003 and 2009, BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories, as well as, gather additional information to supplement the citizen inventory information described above. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes and some of the interior routes. Using both ONDA and BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed an analysis of the motorized routes within the area in November of 2009.

The results of the route analysis are documented in the road analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. On the east, the unit is bounded by BLM Roads 6102-C0, 6102-D0, 6102-E0, 6102-00, and private lands in Oregon. In Nevada, the unit is bounded by the Macy Flat Road on the southeast. On the southwest, the unit is bounded by State Highway 34A. On the west, the unit is bounded by County Road 3-15, and BLM Roads 7102-00, 6182-A0, 6182-00, and an unnumbered route in Oregon. On the north, the unit is bounded by the Highway 140 right-of-way boundary. In addition, BLM Roads 6142-00, and short portions of 7102-00 and 6182-A0 extend into the northwestern interior of the unit and represent "cherry-stem" boundary roads (see Maps 1 and 2, road analysis forms, photos, photo logs, and BLM ID team minutes in the wilderness inventory file for additional supporting information regarding these boundary determinations).

The inventory unit currently contains about 29,924 acres of BLM-administered land and about 320 acres of private land inholdings located in 3 small blocks in the southern portion of the unit (Map 2).

Following the unit boundary determination, a BLM ID team, representing both the Lakeview and Surprise Field Offices, reviewed the citizen inventory information,

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 inter-disciplinary, inter-office 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 8 miles southeast of Adel, Oregon (Map 1). The unit is roughly moon-shaped and is about 13 miles long by 6 miles wide (Map 2). The unit is about 7,000 acres smaller than the one evaluated in 1980. About two-thirds of the unit lies in southern Oregon on lands administered by the Lakeview Resource Area, BLM. About one-third of the area lies in northern Nevada on lands administered by the Surprise Field Office, BLM. The western portion of the unit contains the flat bottom of Coleman Valley. The middle portion of the unit contains a significant portion of Coleman Rim, a steep fault-scarp formation. The eastern third of the unit consists of flat to low rolling topography and includes Macy Flat.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No N/A

1980 Unit Description: The previous inventory described the vegetation in the area as primarily sagebrush with juniper and aspen stands in the higher elevations. At that time, the unit contained an estimated 33 miles of constructed roads and primitive motorized routes, and several small reservoirs. The Oregon portion of the unit was found to lack natural character, whereas the Nevada portion was found to be primarily affected by the forces of nature.

Current Condition Description: The current unit boundary is smaller and no longer includes the constructed roads found within the unit in 1980 (Map 2). The previous description of vegetation failed to note several vegetation treatment projects had been completed along the western and eastern edges of the unit between 1963 and 1974. These included brush control using chaining and herbicide spraying followed by seeding with crested wheatgrass and other non-native species. These treatments were implemented primarily to improve livestock forage in the surrounding area. The old air landing strip located adjacent to County Road 3-15 was used to implement these projects. Many of these historic vegetation treatment project areas have had some reinvasion by native shrubs and grasses and appear natural today to the casual observer.

The northwest corner contains about half of the 4,700 acres Spanish Lakes Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). This area was designated to manage for two Oregon Natural Heritage Program plant cell (community) needs:

- 1) Black greasewood-shadscale/bunchgrass playa margin vegetation
- 2) Bare playa with poverty weed

A number of additional human disturbances have been documented within the unit during the current inventory. The unit currently contains 16 reservoirs, 3 waterholes, 9 developed springs with troughs, 2 pipelines (totaling 1.3 miles in length) with troughs, 25.5 miles of fence, 29.9 miles of primitive, motorized routes, 3 abandoned mine sites, and a reclaiming air landing strip. These developments are scattered across the unit (Map 2). Most of these man-made developments are substantially noticeable within close proximity (one-quarter mile), but are less noticeable from further distances.

A number of vegetative treatments have been completed in the area since 1980. These include the prescribed Jackass Burn (followed by seeding with non-native species) totaling about 1,405 acres, the Hillcamp prescribed fire (natural revegetation) totaling about 2,200 acres, and the Hillcamp and Coleman juniper treatment projects totaling about 2,882 acres within the unit (Map 2). Some of these treatment areas overlap one another.

The Coleman juniper treatments that have been completed more recently were conducted specifically to improve bighorn sheep habitat and watershed health by removing invasive juniper. In the short-term, treated areas may have a negative effect on the visual natural appearance (due the presence of stumps, piles, and burned vegetation) and may appear to the casual observer as unnatural immediately following treatment in a given area. However, within just a couple of years after burning, the grass/sagebrush vegetation recovers in the treated area, and the visual effects to the casual observer are much less noticeable. These treatment have been implemented over multiple years and are in various stages of natural revegetation.

Most of the vegetation treatment projects in Oregon have resulted in improved ground cover and are moving sagebrush/grassland habitats towards a more historic or natural range of variability.

Due to the removal of many constructed roads from the northeast portion of the historic unit boundary and recent habitat/watershed restoration activities described above, the Lakeview ID team found the natural quality in the Oregon portion of the unit has improved since 1980 and currently meets the naturalness criteria. The Surprise ID team found that the natural character in the Nevada portion of the unit has not changed substantially since 1980 and still meets the naturalness criteria. For these reasons, the ID teams concluded that the unit as a whole meets this criteria.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

1980 Unit Description: During the previous inventory there were minor areas identified near the rim on the western side of the unit which could provide some opportunity for

solitude. However, the gently rolling or flat areas across the rest of the unit, with little tall vegetative cover, were found to present poor opportunities to avoid the presence of others in the unit. Overall, the unit was not found to offer outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Current Condition Description: In 2005, ONDA’s inventory identified the area’s “wide array of topography” and juniper cover as providing screening that is sufficient to create an outstanding opportunity for solitude (page 48).

The unit is long and narrow and though relatively similar in shape to the historic unit evaluated in 1980, the total size of the current unit has been reduced by about 7,000 acres.

Coleman Rim is a substantial topographic feature that runs in a north-south direction and splits the unit into two distinct halves with respect to solitude opportunities. This geologic feature currently provides some topographic screening between the east and west sides of the unit. However, the western and northern portions of the unit are relatively flat, exposed, and in close proximity to major roads, which limits ability to avoid the presence of others. Further, a person standing on top or on the western face of the rim can readily view the presence of others on the bottom of Coleman Valley to the west. The eastern half has some limited topographic and tall vegetative screening. Although the amount of total screening provided by invasive juniper may have initially increased since 1980, it has been reduced in the northern portion of the unit in recent years due to juniper treatment and prescribed fire projects. Some pockets of tall vegetative screening remain from scattered stands of aspen and untreated old-growth juniper.

The Lakeview RMP/ROD (Map R-7) shows most of the Oregon portion of the unit is open to off-highway vehicle (OHV) use. Vehicle use in the Spanish Lakes ACEC is limited to designated roads and trails. The Surprise RMP/ROD states that OHV use in the Nevada portion of this unit is limited to designated roads and trails. A number of primitive motorized routes extend into the interior of the unit from all sides (Map 2). These open, motorized routes and existing OHV designations increase the likelihood of encountering others within the unit, or hearing noise intrusions from motorized vehicles within the unit, particularly during the fall hunting/trapping seasons.

For these reasons, the Lakeview and Surprise ID teams found that the solitude opportunities across the unit as a whole have not improved substantially since the previous inventory was completed in 1980 and are not outstanding.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

1980 Unit Description: During the previous inventory, the unit was found to offer some limited opportunities for hiking, but overall the unit did not provide any outstanding opportunities for primitive or unconfined recreation.

Current Condition Description: In 2005, ONDA's inventory identified hiking, sight-seeing, backpacking, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, and hunting as primitive recreation opportunities available within the area.

The BLM ID teams identified opportunities for camping, hunting, trapping, and photography, in addition to the limited hiking opportunities identified in 1980. Further, the ID teams agree that some of the other recreation opportunities identified by ONDA may be present in the unit.

However, as noted above, there are a number of existing open primitive motorized routes (Map 2) which promote motorized recreational use and provide motorized access to substantial portions of the interior of the unit. This reduces the probability of being able to have a primitive (non-motorized) recreational experience within the unit.

The unit does not provide a single unique or unusual primitive recreational opportunity, nor does it provide a unique diversity of primitive recreation opportunities. The recreation opportunities provided within the unit are similar to those available on surrounding BLM-administered lands.

For these reasons, the Lakeview and Surprise ID teams concluded that recreation opportunities have not changed substantially within the unit since 1980 and are not outstanding.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No _____ NA X

1980 Unit Description: During the previous inventory, archeological values were identified as a potential supplemental value.

Description: : In 2005, ONDA's inventory identified botanical and wildlife values, including sagegrouse habitat as supplemental values present within the unit. Since the unit did not meet all of the minimum wilderness criteria, the BLM ID teams did not evaluate supplemental values further.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Coleman Valley/OR-015-126 and Macy Flat/CA-020-1010

Summary

Results of Analysis:

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? Yes No
2. Does the area appear to be natural? Yes No
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion (*Check One*):

- The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.
- The area does not have wilderness character.

Lakeview ID Team Members (Name and Title)

Paul Whitman
Paul Whitman
Planning & Environmental Coordinator

11/16/2009
Date

Todd Forbes
Todd Forbes
Associate Field Manager Natural Resources

11/16/09
Date

Les Boothe
Les Boothe
Range Management Specialist

11/16/2009
Date

Glenn Lorton
Glenn Lorton
Wildlife Biologist

11/18/09
Date

Breanna O'Connor
Breanna O'Connor
Recreation Technician

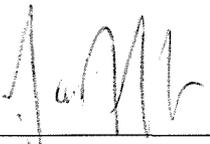
11/19/09
Date

Approved by:

Tom Rasmussen
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager
Lakeview Resource Area

11/19/09
Date

Surprise ID Team Members (Name and Title)



Garth Jeffers
Fire Management Officer

11/18/09

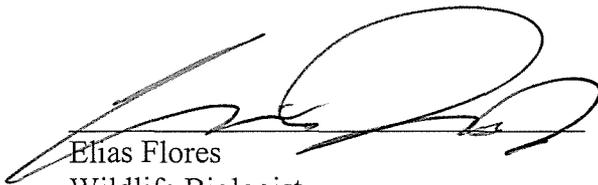
Date



Jerry Bonham
Range Technician

11-18-09

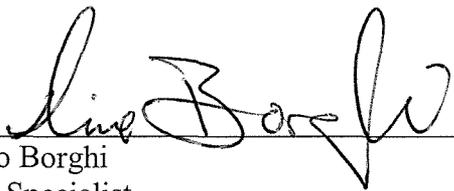
Date



Elias Flores
Wildlife Biologist

18 Nov. 2009

Date



Dino Borghi
GIS Specialist

11/18/2009

Date

Approved by:



Shane DeForest, Field Manager
Surprise Field Office

11-18-09

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.

FORM 1

**DOCUMENTATION OF BLM WILDERNESS INVENTORY
FINDINGS ON RECORD**

Year: 2009 Inventory Unit Number/Name: Unnumbered/Coleman Valley NE, Piute Creek, Bighole Reservoir, Claudia Reservoir, Festuca Reservoir, Antelope Flat, and Coleman Seeding North

1. Is there existing BLM wilderness inventory information on all or part of this area?

No Yes (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.):

a) **Inventory Source:** Wilderness Inventory: Oregon and Washington Final Intensive Inventory Decisions November 1980 and the Final Intensive Inventory, Public Lands Administered by BLM California Outside the California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness, December 1979.

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** ColemanValley/1-126 and Macy Flat/CA-020-1010

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	36,700	OR:N/ NV:Y	N	N	Unknown
Private	1,600				

FORM 2

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

a. Unit Number/Name: **Unnumbered/Coleman Valley NE, Piute Creek, Bighole Reservoir, Claudia Reservoir, Festuca Reservoir, Antelope Flat, and Coleman Seeding North**

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Yes _____ No X

Citizen Information Received: In 2005, the BLM received a citizen proposal from the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) for the 35,985-acre Coleman Rim proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included a narrative report, a map, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data with their route and photo point data. All of these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this area. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in September of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see pages 47-55 of ONDA, 2005).

Boundary Determination and Consideration of Citizen Information: In 2003 and 2009, BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories, as well as, gather additional information to supplement the citizen inventory information described above. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes and some of the interior routes. Using both ONDA and BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed an analysis of the motorized routes within the area in November of 2009.

The BLM ID team determined that a number of internal routes identified in ONDA's inventory as primitive ways are actually constructed routes meeting the definition of wilderness inventory boundary roads. The northeast portion of the inventory area is made up of several small inventory units that were split out from the larger Coleman Valley-Macy Flat inventory unit based on road and private land boundaries. The larger Coleman Valley-Macy Flat inventory unit is evaluated separately.

The results of the route analysis are documented in the road analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. On the east, the units are bounded by state land boundaries. On the west, the units are bounded by BLM Roads 6102-C0, 6102-D0, 6102-E0, 6102-00, and private lands. On the north, the units are bounded by the Highway 140 right-of-way boundary. The area is further sub-divided by BLM Roads 6102-00, 6102-A0, 6102-B0, 6102-F0, and an unnumbered road. Based on these boundary determinations, a total of seven separate inventory units were defined ranging

from 667 to 2,635 acres of BLM-administered land. An eighth unit totaling about 1,401 acres was defined to the west in Coleman Valley. It is bounded by County Road 3-15 on the west, BLM Road 7102-00 on the south, an unnumbered road on the east, BLM Road 6182-A0 on the north, and BLM Road 6182-00 on the northwest.

Refer to Maps 1 and 2, road analysis forms, photos, photo logs, and BLM ID team minutes in the wilderness inventory file for additional supporting information regarding these boundary determinations. Additional background on the process that the BLM ID team followed during this evaluation is contained in the document, *Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Process for the Lakeview Resource Area, BLM* in the wilderness inventory file.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS: The inventory units are located about 10 miles southeast of Adel, Oregon (Map 1). The topography in the area consists of flat to low rolling hills.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

1980 Unit Description: The previous inventory described the vegetation in the larger Coleman Valley-Macy Flat area as primarily sagebrush with juniper and aspen stands in the higher elevations. At that time, the unit contained an estimated 33 miles of constructed roads and primitive motorized routes, and several small reservoirs. The Oregon portion of the unit was found to lack natural character, whereas the Nevada portion was found to be primarily affected by the forces of nature.

Current Condition Description: The current natural character within the 8 inventory units was not evaluated since these areas did not meet the minimum size criteria.

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

1980 Unit Description: During the previous inventory there were minor areas identified near the rim of the western side of the larger Coleman Valley-Macy Flat unit which could provide some opportunity for solitude. However, the gently rolling or flat areas across the rest of the unit, with little tall vegetative cover, were found to present poor opportunities to avoid the presence of others in the unit. Overall, the unit was not found to offer outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Current Condition Description: The current solitude opportunities within the 8 inventory units were not evaluated since these areas did not meet the minimum size criteria.

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

1980 Unit Description: During the previous inventory, the much larger Coleman Valley-Macy Flat unit was found to offer some limited opportunities for hiking, but overall the unit did not provide any outstanding opportunities for primitive or unconfined recreation.

Current Condition Description: The current primitive recreation opportunities within the 8 inventory units were not evaluated since these areas did not meet the minimum size criteria.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No _____ NA X

1980 Unit Description: During the previous inventory, archeological values were identified as a potential supplemental value.

Description: Supplemental values within the 8 inventory units were not evaluated since these areas did not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Coleman Valley NE, Piute Creek, Bighole Reservoir, Claudia Reservoir, Festuca Reservoir, Antelope Flat, and Coleman Seeding North/Unnumbered

Summary

Results of Analysis:

1. Does the area meet the size requirements? ___Yes XNo
2. Does the area appear to be natural? ___Yes ___No XNA
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? ___Yes ___No XNA
4. Does the area have supplemental values? ___Yes ___No XNA

Conclusion (*Check One*):

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

X The area does not have wilderness character.

ID Team Members (Name and Title)

Paul Whitman
Paul Whitman
Planning & Environmental Coordinator

11/16/2009
Date

Todd Forbes
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Associate Field Manager Natural Resources

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11/18/09
Date

Breanna O'Connor
Breanna O'Connor
Recreation Technician

11/19/09
Date

Approved by:

Tom Rasmussen
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager
Lakeview Resource Area

11/19/09
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

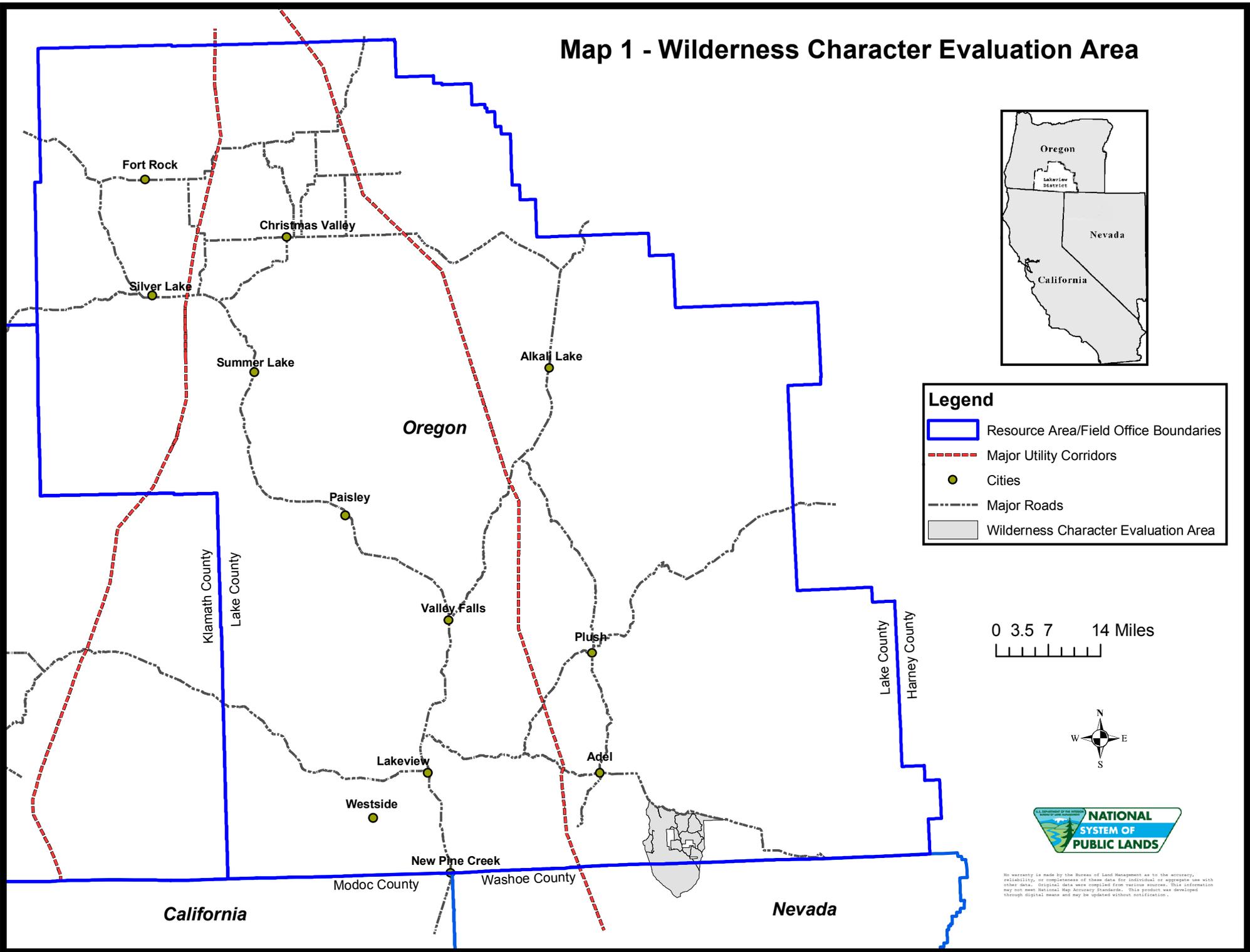


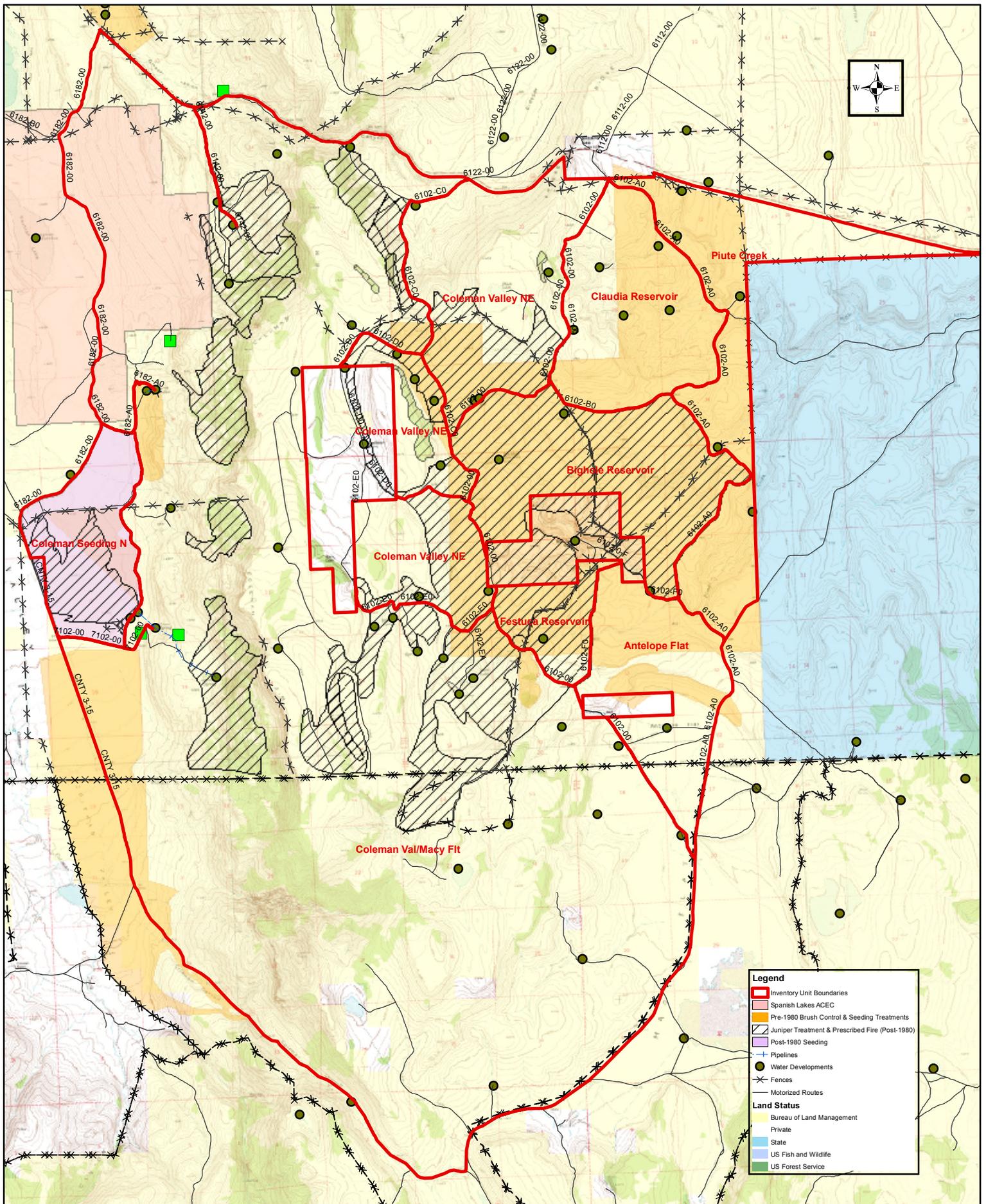
Legend

-  Resource Area/Field Office Boundaries
-  Major Utility Corridors
-  Cities
-  Major Roads
-  Wilderness Character Evaluation Area



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Map 2 - Wilderness Character Inventory - Coleman Valley/Macy Flat Area



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

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