

**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 \_\_\_\_\_ (go to Form 2) Yes  X  (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.)

a) **Inventory Source:** Wilderness Inventory and Situation Evaluation. PP&L 1978.

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** Christmas Valley East/OR-010-27, PP&L Unit OR-010-01-11 (Vaughn Well)

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** N/A

d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Lakeview District/Lakeview 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/acreage and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
BLM	12,200	Y	NO	N/A	N/A

*Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table): The previous inventory evaluated 12,200 acres of BLM lands in 1978 and concluded that the area obviously and clearly did not have potential for wilderness. The unit was only marginally natural because the flat topography and lack of adequate vegetative screening allowed for the dominating human impacts adjacent to the unit to be seen from within the unit. Additionally, outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation was not present at the time.*

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

a. **Unit Number/Name:** Christmas Valley East/OR-015-027

**(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?** Yes  X  No \_\_\_\_\_

Boundary Determination: In 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011 the BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes. Using 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 2010.

This unit is shaped roughly like a triangle. On the north and northwest, the unit is bounded by a combination of private land and Unnumbered Route #3. On the east, the unit is bounded by 6194-00 (Burma Road). On the southwest and south, the unit is bounded by a combination of the PG&E 500KV power line ROW and Unnumbered Route #5. At approximately 5,519 acres, this unit meets the size criteria. (See Map 2, road analysis forms, photos, and photo logs 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*, which is contained in the wilderness inventory file.

**DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:**

The inventory unit is comprised of approximately 5,078 acres of BLM administered land and is located about 12 miles east of Christmas Valley, Oregon. The terrain consists primarily of broad sand flats which are populated by sage, greasewood, and rabbit brush. The major human activities within the unit are dominated by off-road vehicle activities primarily associated with OHV recreation with agricultural activities occurring just outside the unit to the west.

**(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X

The density of human disturbances within the unit is relatively low. Primitive motorized routes exist within the unit totaling about 0.65 miles. The primitive motorized route mileage consists of one route, located in the northeast corner of the unit and is considered to be substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor. The unit contains an undeveloped 650 acre private inholding which is located near the southwest corner. Overall, the human impacts within the unit are substantially unnoticeable.

This unit is heavily impacted by major outside impacts. In the south, the unit is bounded by the PG&E 500KV power line which can be observed from any point in the unit. To the northeast of

the unit (approximately 0.25 miles) is the 500KV BPA power line, which although not in the unit and not a unit boundary, can also be viewed from any point inside the unit. Lastly, agricultural lands exist to the immediate west and activities on those lands can be observed from the southwest corner of the unit.

Although the density of human impacts within the unit are relatively low, the visibility, scale, and proximity of major outside impacts (most notably the 500KV power lines) constitute a substantial impact on the unit's natural character.

For the reasons specified above and based on a review of all of the available information including BLM photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the ID team concluded that due to the pervasive and omnipresent nature of the major outside human impacts, the unit as a whole is not in a natural condition primarily affected by the forces of nature

**(3) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for solitude?**    Yes \_\_\_\_\_    No \_\_\_\_\_    N/A   X  

Opportunities for solitude were not evaluated because the unit did not meet the naturalness criteria.

**(4) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?**  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_    No \_\_\_\_\_    N/A   X  

The opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation within this unit were not evaluated because the unit did not meet the naturalness criteria.

**(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?**    Yes \_\_\_\_\_    No \_\_\_\_\_    N/A   X  

Supplemental values were not evaluated because the unit did not meet naturalness criteria.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: Christmas Valley East/OR-015-027

**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**    **N/A**
  
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values?       **Yes**    **No**    **N/A**

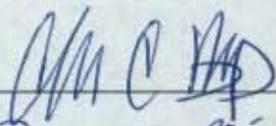
**Conclusion (Check One):**

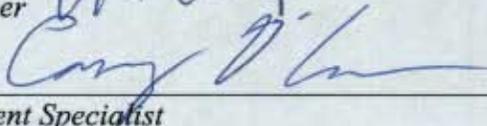
     **The area- or a portion of the area- has wilderness character:**  
*(items 1, 2 and 3 must be checked "yes").*

     **The area does not have wilderness character:** *(any of items 1, 2 and 3 are checked "no").*

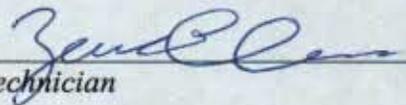
Christmas Valley & South Sand Dunes  
Christmas Valley & East Sand Dunes

**ID Team Members:**

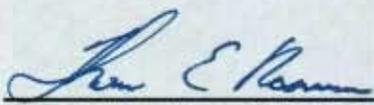
Chris Bishop  Date: 7/7/2011  
Recreation Planner

Casey O'Connor  Date: 7/7/2011  
Range Management Specialist

Edward Hennagin  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

Zach Adams  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

**Approved by:**

 7/7/2011  
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager 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.*

Year 2011

Inventory Unit Number/Name: Fandango North/OR-010-046

**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 \_\_\_\_\_ (go to Form 2) Yes  X  (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.)

a) Inventory Source: Wilderness Inventory and Situation Evaluation, PP&L 1978.

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Fandango Canyon/OR-010-46, PP&L Unit OR-010-04-15

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

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Lakeview District/Lakeview 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/acreage and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
BLM	14,000	Y	NO	NO	N/A

*Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table): The previous inventory evaluated 14,000 acres of BLM lands in 1978 and concluded that the area obviously and clearly did not have potential for wilderness. It was determined that the unit was natural, with stock water developments and a few ways as the only evidence of man’s activities within the unit. It was also determined that the opportunities for solitude were not present due to the topography and lack of screening. The opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation at the time was listed as hunting, hiking, horseback riding, and dry camping, none were deemed as outstanding.*

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

a. **Unit Number/Name:** Fandango North /OR-015-046

**(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?** Yes  X  No \_\_\_\_\_

Boundary Determination: In 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011 the BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes. Using 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 2010.

On the west, the unit is bounded by BLM 6104-00 (Sheep Rock Road). On the north, the unit is bounded by private lands. On the south, the unit is bounded by PG&E 500 KV power lines. On the east the unit is bounded by BLM 6104-G (Vaughn Well Road). At approximately 14,402 acres, this unit meets the size criteria. (See Map 2, road analysis forms, photos, and photo logs in the wilderness inventory file for additional supporting information regarding these boundary determinations).

Following the unit boundary determination, a BLM ID team conducted an inter-disciplinary 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 can be found in the document, *Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Process for the Lakeview Resource Area, BLM*, contained in the in the wilderness inventory file.

**DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:**

The inventory unit is comprised of approximately 14,402 acres of BLM administered land and is located about 7 miles southeast of Christmas Valley, Oregon. The terrain consists primarily of gently rolling north-sloping hills broken by a series of low to high rims, which are populated by isolated pockets of juniper and small desert shrubs. The human activities within the unit are primarily associated with grazing management and fall hunting.

**(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?** Yes  X  No \_\_\_\_\_

The density of human disturbances within the unit is relatively low. Primitive motorized routes exist within the unit totaling about 8 miles, and approximately 9.6 miles of pasture division fence. Additionally, there are 2 waterholes and two reservoirs within the unit.

The primitive motorized routes within the unit are located near the perimeter. The pasture fence runs north-south through the western one third of the unit and the water developments are located near the east-west boundaries (see Map 2). There is an area of approximately 6,500 acres at the center of the unit that contains no man-made disturbances.

For the reasons specified above and based on a review of all of the available information including BLM photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the ID team concluded that although the unit contains man-made disturbances, they are considered to be minor and not easily noticeable to the average visitor moving through the unit. As a whole the unit is in natural condition.

**(3) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for solitude?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No   X   N/A \_\_\_\_\_

This unit is comprised of rolling hills which are broken by high rims on the east and west boundaries with lower rims in the center. These rims generally run north-south throughout the unit and constitute an overall north-facing slope toward the valley below. The vegetation is mainly comprised of small desert shrubs with a few isolated stands of juniper located in the southwestern portion of the unit (see Map 3).

Agricultural land is located to the north and east of the unit. Activities on this land can be heard and observed from most places in the northern half of the unit. The PG&E power lines form the southern unit boundary (about 2.1 miles) and can be seen from at least the southern one third of the unit.

For the reasons specified above and based on a review of all of the available information including BLM photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the ID team concluded that although some topographic screening exists in the draws between rims, it is very limited. Considering the lack of vegetative screening, north sloping terrain, and omnipresence and pervasiveness of man-made disturbances, the unit does not offer any outstanding opportunities for solitude.

**(4) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No   X   N/A \_\_\_\_\_

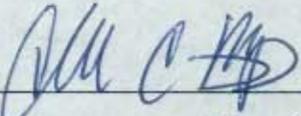
The previous inventory in 1978 listed numerous primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities. They were as follows; hiking, horseback riding, dry camping, and mule deer hunting. These opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation still exist today. However, based on a review of all of the available information including BLM photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the ID team concluded that none of these opportunities are outstanding.

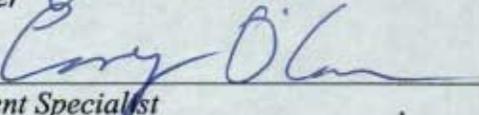
**(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ N/A   X  

Supplemental values were not evaluated because the unit did not meet naturalness criteria.

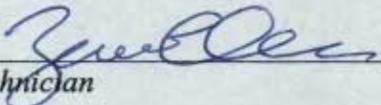


**ID Team Members:**

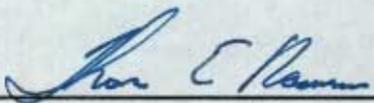
Chris Bishop  Date: 7/7/2011  
Recreation Planner

Casey O'Connor  Date: 7/7/2011  
Range Management Specialist

Edward Hennagin  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

Zach Adams  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

**Approved by:**

 7/7/2011  
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager Date

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Year 2011 Inventory Unit Number/Name: Fossil Lake /OR-015-023

**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 \_\_\_\_\_ (go to Form 2) Yes   X   (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.)

a) **Inventory Source:** Wilderness Inventory and Situation Evaluation. PP&L 1978.

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** Fossil Lake/OR-1-23 & PP&L 010-10-10

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** N/A

d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Lakeview District/Lakeview 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/acreage and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

Unit#/Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
BLM	7,700	N	N/A	N/A	N/A

*Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table): The previous inventory evaluated 7,700 acres of BLM lands in 1978 and concluded that the area obviously and clearly did not have potential for wilderness. It is assumed that the finding was based primarily on the visibility of the 500KV BPA power lines to the immediate east which are substantially noticeable from within most of the unit.*

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

**a. Unit Number/Name:** Fossil Lake /OR-015-023

**(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?** Yes  X  No \_\_\_\_\_

Boundary Determination: In 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011 the BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes. Using 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 2010.

On the east, the unit is bounded by the Bonneville Power Administration ROW and the Backscatter access road (Unnumbered #1 in area route analysis). On the south the unit is bounded by a combination of private lands and Lake County Road 5-14 (Christmas Valley Highway). On the north, the unit is bounded by a combination of private lands and BLM Unnumbered Route #2. On the east the unit is bounded by private land. At approximately 5,050 acres, this unit meets the size criteria. (See Map 2, road analysis forms, photos, and photo logs 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 in the document, *Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Process for the Lakeview Resource Area, BLM* , which is contained in the in the wilderness inventory file.

**DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:**

The inventory unit is comprised of approximately 5,052 acres of BLM administered land and is located about 10 miles east of Christmas Valley, Oregon. The terrain consists primarily of broad sand flats and small rolling dunes which are populated by sage, greasewood, and rabbit brush. The major human activities within the unit are dominated by off-road vehicle activities primarily associated with OHV recreation with agricultural activities occurring just outside the unit to the west.

**(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?** Yes \_\_\_\_ No  X

Primitive motorized routes exist within the unit totaling about 0.33 miles, with an additional 3.6 miles of reclaiming routes, and approximately 0.5 miles of pasture division fence. The reclaiming route, although several miles long, would be substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor, and even less noticeable as time goes by. The half-mile of pasture fence is also substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

This unit is surrounded on three sides by major outside human impacts. On the north, south, and east, the unit is immediately adjacent to major power distribution lines which provided power to the former Backscatter Air Defense Radar Site located just a half mile to the east. The 500KV BPA power line is also adjacent with this unit to the northeast. The BPA power line can be seen from most of the unit and due to its orientation, dominates at least 180 degrees of the units view shed. The former Backscatter Air Defense Radar Site also contains large buildings which can be viewed from most points within the eastern half of the unit.

For the reasons specified above and based on a review of all of the available information including BLM photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the ID team concluded that due to the scale and close proximity of these major outside human impacts, the unit as a whole is not in a natural condition.

**(3) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for solitude?**    Yes \_\_\_\_\_    No \_\_\_\_\_    N/A   X  

Opportunities for solitude were not evaluated because the unit did not meet the naturalness criteria.

**(4) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?**  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_    No \_\_\_\_\_    N/A   X  

The opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation within this unit were not evaluated because the unit did not meet the naturalness criteria.

**(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ N/A   X  

Supplemental values were not evaluated because the unit did not meet naturalness criteria.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: Fossil Lake /OR-015-023

**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**    **N/A**
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values?         **Yes**    **No**    **N/A**

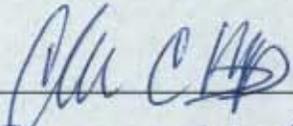
**Conclusion (Check One):**

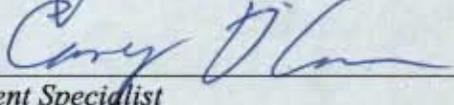
     **The area- or a portion of the area- has wilderness character:**  
*(items 1, 2 and 3 must be checked "yes").*

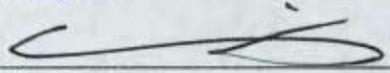
     **The area does not have wilderness character:** *(any of items 1, 2 and 3 are checked "no").*

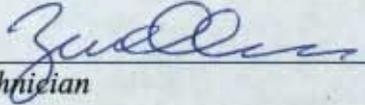
Christmas Valley & South Sandhills  
Fossil Lake

**ID Team Members:**

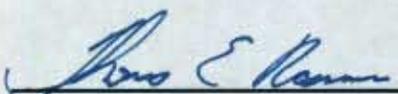
Chris Bishop  Date: 7/7/2011  
Recreation Planner

Casey O'Connor  Date: 7/8/2011  
Range Management Specialist

Edward Hennagin  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

Zach Adams  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

**Approved by:**

  
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager

7/7/2011  
Date

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**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   (go to Form 2)    Yes \_\_\_\_\_ (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.)

a) Inventory Source: N/A

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

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

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Lakeview District/Lakeview 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/acreage and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

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

*Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table):*

This unit was not evaluated during the last inventory process, presumably because it did not meet the minimum size requirement.

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

a. **Unit Number/Name:** South Sand Dunes/OR-015-209

**(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?** Yes  X  No \_\_\_\_\_

Boundary Determination: In 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011 the BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes. Using 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 2010.

On the west, the unit is bounded by the Bonneville Power Administration ROW. On the south the unit is bounded by a combination of private lands and GSA land which contains the former Backscatter Air Defense Radar Facility. On the east, the unit is bounded by a combination of private lands and 6141-A0 (proposed 6151-BB). On the north, the unit is contiguous with the Sand Dunes WSA, (see Map 2, road analysis forms, photos, and photo logs contained in the wilderness inventory file for additional supporting information regarding these boundary determinations).

At approximately 4,474 acres, this unit does not meet the size criteria. However, it does meet one of the exceptions to the size criteria; namely that it is contiguous with the BLM's Sand Dunes WSA (OR-010-24) located to the immediate north. Additionally, 1,788 acres of the Lost Forest-Sand Dunes-Fossil Lake ACEC lies within the northern portion of the unit.

Additional background on the process that the BLM ID team followed during this evaluation is in document, *Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Process for the Lakeview Resource Area, BLM*, which is contained in the wilderness inventory file.

**DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:**

The inventory unit is comprised of approximately 4,474 acres of BLM administered land and is located about 8 miles northeast of Christmas Valley, Oregon. The terrain consists primarily of broad sand flats and small rolling dunes which are populated by sage, greasewood, and rabbit brush. The low rolling topography was formed when sand built up low hills or hummocks around vegetation. The major human activities in the area are dominated by off-road vehicle activities primarily associated with sand dunes OHV recreation.

**(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?** Yes  X  No \_\_\_\_\_

This unit did not meet the size requirement during the last inventory process. However, the adjacent Sand Dunes WSA unit (OR-010-24) was found to meet the naturalness criteria in 1980.

Primitive motorized routes exist within the unit totaling about 4.25 miles, with an additional 1.0 mile of reclaiming routes, and 1.5 miles of closed routes. Approximately 1.2 miles of pasture division fence, and another 1.1 miles of power distribution lines exists within the unit. All of the man-made disturbances listed above are located primarily throughout the western half of the unit.

Unit OR-015-209 encompasses nearly half of the GSA land which contains the former Backscatter Air Defense Facility (see Map 2). A tall wooded security fence exists around the perimeter of the GSA land with approximately 7 miles of this fence being immediately adjacent to the unit. Also, three large tan warehouses, and other facilities exist on the GSA land. Finally, the 500KV BPA power lines are adjacent to the unit on the west.

The density of human disturbances within the unit as a whole is high. The 500KV BPA power lines and the three tan warehouses can be noticed by the casual observer from most places within the unit and up to several miles away in some places. In the north of the unit however, as the distance from the former Backscatter facility increases, the man-made disturbances such as the tall wooden perimeter fence, and other linear disturbances are less obvious to the casual observer.

For the reasons specified above and based on a review of all of the available information including BLM photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the ID team concluded that the unit as a whole, and when considered as being contiguous with the WSA is only marginally natural.

**(3) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for solitude?**    Yes   X                        No \_\_\_\_\_                      N/A \_\_\_\_\_

The previous inventory did not include information on the opportunities for solitude within this unit because it did not meet the minimum size criteria. However, the adjacent Sand Dunes WSA (OR-010-24) was found to have portions of the area which contained outstanding opportunities for solitude in 1980, most notably, the large sand dunes which allowed for visitors to avoid the sights and sounds of others within the area. The Sand Dunes WSA was noted as having only marginal opportunities for solitude in the low-lying sand flats to the west of the large dunes.

The Lakeview RMP/ROD (Map SMA-9A) shows that approximately 1,100 acres of this unit is part of the Sand Dunes OHV Recreation area and is open to unrestricted off-highway vehicle (OHV) use with the remainder area of the unit limited to existing roads and trails. The northern portion of the unit, with the unrestricted OHV designation increases the likelihood of encountering the sights and sounds of others within the unit, especially during the late spring, summer, and early fall.

The northern portion of the unit would marginally enhance the solitude opportunities of the adjacent WSA. However, considering the gentle terrain, lack of adequate screening, and proximity to OHV use in the open dunes to the north (Map 3), it would be difficult to find solitude in the unit as a whole. For the reasons specified above and based on a review of all of the available information including BLM photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the ID team

concluded that the northern half of the unit minimally enhances the outstanding opportunity for solitude within the adjacent Sand Dunes WSA.

**(4) Does the unit (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No   X   N/A \_\_\_\_\_

The previous inventory did not include information on the opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation within this unit, because it did not meet the minimum size criteria. The much larger Sand Dunes WSA (OR-010-24) to the north was found in 1980 to provide limited opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation such as hiking, photography, and paleontological studies, but none were deemed to be outstanding due in part to blowing sand.

The current unit forms an irregular shape due to GSA land boundaries which extend into the interior of the unit. The GSA boundary fencing that extends into the unit creates a substantial barrier to traversing the unit through its widest points and would have to be circumnavigated to move around on foot or horseback within the unit. On its own merit, the unit lacks adequate size (4,474) to provide an outstanding opportunity for unconfined types of recreation.

Existing open primitive motorized routes (Map 2: Road and Photo Analysis), easily traversable terrain, and the open OHV designation promotes motorized recreational access in the northern 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the unit. This reduces the probability of being able to have an outstanding primitive (non-motorized) recreational experience.

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 ID team concluded that opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation within the unit, even when considered in connection with the adjacent WSA, are not outstanding.

**(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No   X   Unknown \_\_\_\_\_

The previous inventory did not include information on supplemental values within this unit because it did not meet the minimum size criteria. However, the Lost Forest-Sand Dunes-Fossil Lake ACEC was identified as having paleontological sites. These sites are located in and around Fossil Lake which is within close proximity to the unit.

Based on the available information gathered through field inventory, photos, and adjacent WSA findings, the ID team concluded that although no supplemental values are currently documented within the unit, the unit may contain areas of paleontological value.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: South Sand Dunes/OR-015-209

**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    Unknown

**Conclusion (Check One):**

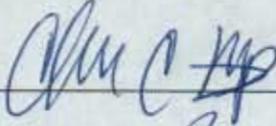
**The area- or a portion of the area- has wilderness character:**  
*(items 1, 2 and 3 must be checked "yes").*

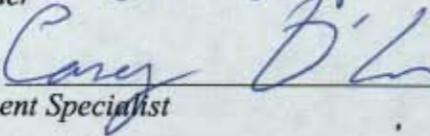
**Note:** The northern portion of the unit only minimally contributes to or enhances the wilderness characteristics present on the adjacent Sand Dunes WSA.

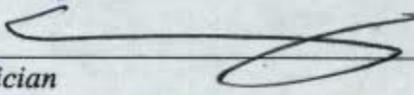
**The area does not have wilderness character:** *(any of items 1, 2 and 3 are checked "no").*

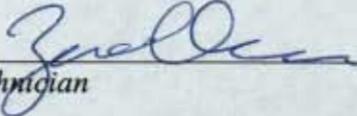
Christmas Lake & South Sand Run  
Christmas Valley &  
South Sand Run

**ID Team Members:**

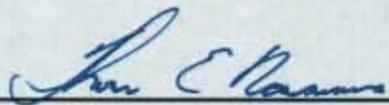
Chris Bishop  Date: 7/7/2011  
Recreation Planner

Casey O'Connor  Date: 7/7/2011  
Range Management Specialist

Edward Hennagin  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

Zach Adams  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

**Approved by:**

  
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager

7/7/2011  
Date

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Year 2011

Inventory Unit Number/Name: Vaughn Well/OR-015-026

**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 \_\_\_\_\_ (go to Form 2) Yes  X  (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.)

a) **Inventory Source:** Wilderness Inventory and Situation Evaluation. PP&L 1978.

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** Vaughn Well/OR-1-26 & PP&L 010-01-11

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** N/A

d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Lakeview District/Lakeview 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/acreage and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

Unit#/Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
BLM	5,400	Y	NO	N/A	N/A

*Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table): The previous inventory evaluated 5,400 acres of BLM lands in 1978 and concluded that the area obviously and clearly did not have potential for wilderness. It is assumed that the unit was natural but due to the flat topography and lack of adequate vegetative screening, outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation was not present at the time.*

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

**a. Unit Number/Name:** Vaughn Well/OR-015-026

**(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?** Yes  X  No \_\_\_\_\_

Boundary Determination: In 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011 the BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes. Using 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 2010.

On the west, the unit is bounded by Unnumbered Route #4. On the north, the unit is bounded by Lake County Road 5-14 (Christmas Valley Highway). On the south, the unit is bounded by Unnumbered Road #3. The northeast corner of the unit is bounded by the 500 KV BPA power line ROW. At approximately 5,519 acres, this unit meets the size criteria. (See Map 2, road analysis forms, photos, and photo logs in the wilderness inventory file for additional supporting information regarding these boundary determinations).

Following the unit boundary determination, a BLM ID team conducted an inter-disciplinary 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 document, *Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Process for the Lakeview Resource Area, BLM*, which is contained in the wilderness inventory file.

**DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:**

The inventory unit is comprised of approximately 5,519 acres of BLM administered land and is located about 12 miles east of Christmas Valley, Oregon. The terrain consists primarily of broad sand flats which are populated by sage, greasewood, and rabbit brush. The major human activities within the unit are dominated by off-road vehicle activities primarily associated with OHV recreation with agricultural activities occurring just outside the unit to the west.

**(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X

The density of human disturbances within the unit is moderate. Primitive motorized routes exist within the unit totaling about 7 miles, and approximately 0.5 miles of pasture division fence. The half-mile of pasture fence is located on the north of the unit near County Road 5-14 (Christmas Valley Highway). (See Map 2)

This unit is heavily impacted by major outside impacts. On the north boundary of the unit exists the Christmas Valley Highway which is a raised two-lane paved highway. The 500KV BPA power line is also adjacent with this unit to the northeast. Just south of the unit (about 2 miles) is the 500KV PG&E power line. The 500KV power lines can be seen from most points in the unit. The former Backscatter Radar Site to the northeast contains large buildings which can be viewed from most points within the eastern half of the unit. Lastly, agricultural lands exist to the immediate west and activities on those lands can be observed from the western one-quarter of the unit.

The primitive motorized routes and pasture fencing are considered to be minor linear disturbances which generally go unnoticed by the casual observer moving through the unit. The highways, and two different runs of power lines, due to the low relief of the terrain, and lack of adequate vegetative screening, can be observed from great distances have been deemed omnipresent and pervasive outside impacts.

For the reasons specified above and based on a review of all of the available information including BLM photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the ID team concluded that the unit as a whole is not in a natural condition which has been primarily affected by the forces of nature.

**(3) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for solitude?**    Yes \_\_\_\_\_    No \_\_\_\_\_    N/A   X  

Opportunities for solitude were not evaluated because the unit did not meet the naturalness criteria.

**(4) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?**  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_    No \_\_\_\_\_    N/A   X  

The opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation within this unit were not evaluated because the unit did not meet the naturalness criteria.

**(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?**    Yes \_\_\_\_\_    No \_\_\_\_\_    N/A   X

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: Vaughn Well/OR-015-026

**Summary Results of Analysis:**

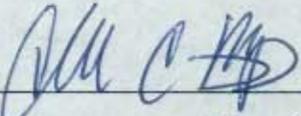
- 1. Does the area meet the size requirements?        X   Yes    \_\_\_ No
- 2. Does the area appear to be natural?            \_\_\_ Yes      X   No
- 3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation?                    \_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_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

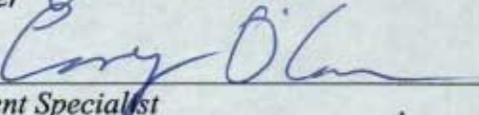
**Conclusion (Check One):**

       **The area- or a portion of the area- has wilderness character:**  
*(items 1, 2 and 3 must be checked "yes").*

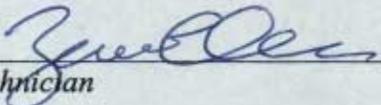
  X   **The area does not have wilderness character:** *(any of items 1, 2 and 3 are checked "no").*

**ID Team Members:**

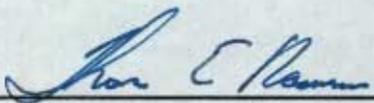
Chris Bishop  Date: 7/7/2011  
Recreation Planner

Casey O'Connor  Date: 7/7/2011  
Range Management Specialist

Edward Hennagin  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

Zach Adams  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

**Approved by:**

  
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager

7/7/2011  
Date

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**Year 2011**

**Inventory Unit Number/Name:**

Christmas Valley and South Sand Dunes Inventory Units<5,000 Acres

**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   (go to Form 2) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.)

**a) Inventory Source: N/A**

**b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): N/A**

**c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): N/A**

**d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): N/A**

**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/acreage and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

<b>Unit #</b>	<b>Size (historic acres)</b>	<b>Natural Condition? Y/N</b>	<b>Outstanding Solitude? Y/N</b>	<b>Outstanding Primitive &amp; Unconfined Recreation? Y/N</b>	<b>Supplemental Values? Y/N</b>
<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>

*Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table: These units represent all units in the Christmas Valley and South Sand Dunes Area that, as defined by the boundary determination process, are less than 5,000 acres and therefore do not meet the minimum criteria to be evaluated further for wilderness character. None of these units meet any of the exceptions to the size requirement.*

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

**a. Unit Number/Name:** Christmas Valley and South Sand Dunes <5,000 Acres

**(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X

Boundary Determination: In 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011 the BLM conducted field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventories. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary routes. Using 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 February 2011.

On the north, the units are bounded by a combination of private lands and the Sand Dunes WSA. On the west, the units are bounded by a combination of private lands and BLM 6104-00 (Sheep Rock Road). On the east, the units are bounded by a combination of private land, BLM 6194-00 (Burma Road), and proposed BLM 6155-BB (Buffalo Well Road). On the south, the units are bounded primarily the 500KV PG&E power lines. (See Map 2, route analysis forms, photos, and photo logs in the wilderness inventory file for additional supporting information regarding these boundary determinations).

As a result, there are a total of 18 inventory units within the Christmas Valley and South Sand Dunes area. Five of these inventory units met the minimum size criteria and have been evaluated separately, leaving the remainder of 13 units less than 5,000 acres. The average size of these 13 units is 1204 acres. They range in size from 48 acres to 3,504 acres and do not meet any exception to the size requirement.

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*, located in the wilderness inventory file.

**DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:**

The 13 unnumbered inventory units in the Christmas Valley and South Sand Dunes Area are comprised of approximately 15,654 acres of BLM administered land located approximately 15 miles east of Christmas Valley, Oregon. The terrain consists mostly of broad sand flats which are populated primarily by a variety of small desert shrubs with a few isolated pockets of juniper. Major human activities in the area include hunting, ranching, and OHV recreation.

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

The current natural condition of these units was not evaluated because the units failed to meet the minimum size requirement.

**(3) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for solitude?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ N/A X

The current opportunities for solitude within these units were not evaluated because the units failed to meet the minimum size requirement.

**(4) Does the unit** (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ N/A X

The current opportunities for recreation within these units were not evaluated because the units failed to meet the minimum size requirement.

**(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ N/A X

Supplemental value was not evaluated within these units because the units failed to meet the wilderness criteria.

### Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Christmas Valley and South Sand Dunes Units < 5,000 Acres

#### **Summary Results of Analysis:**

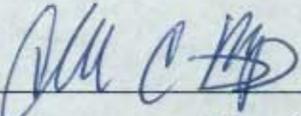
1. Does the area meet the size requirements?      \_\_\_ Yes X No
2. Does the area appear to be natural?              \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No X N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation?      \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No X N/A
4. Does the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

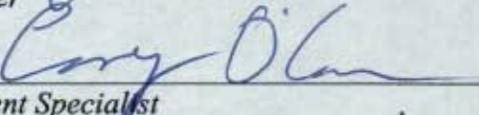
#### **Conclusion (Check One):**

       **The area- or a portion of the area- has wilderness character:**  
(items 1, 2 and 3 must be checked "yes").

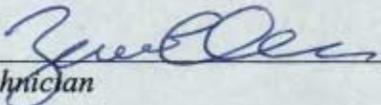
X **The area does not have wilderness character:** (any of items 1, 2 and 3 are checked "no").

**ID Team Members:**

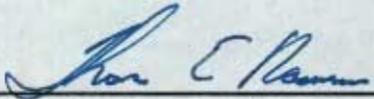
Chris Bishop  Date: 7/7/2011  
Recreation Planner

Casey O'Connor  Date: 7/7/2011  
Range Management Specialist

Edward Hennagin  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

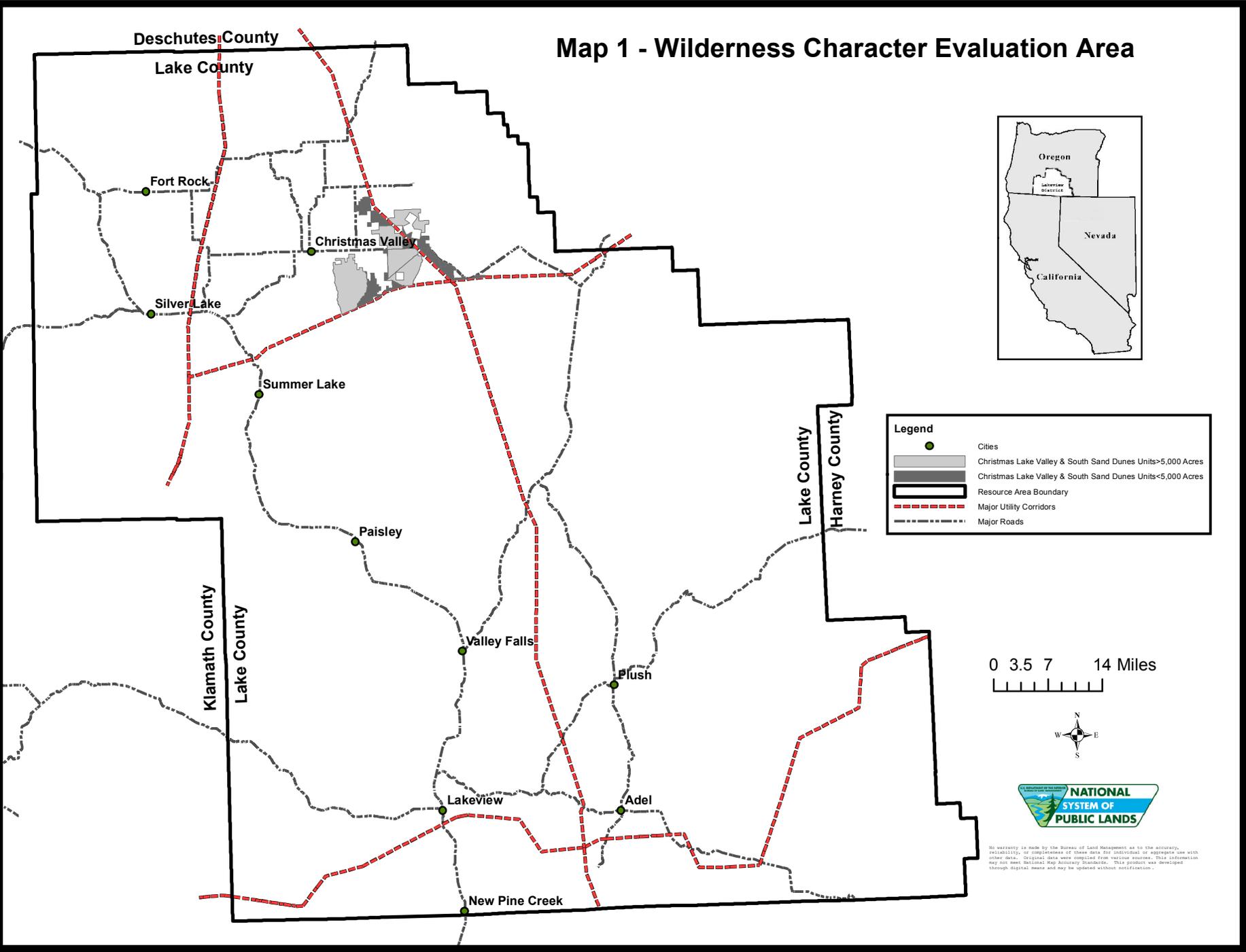
Zach Adams  Date: 7/7/2011  
Cartographic Technician

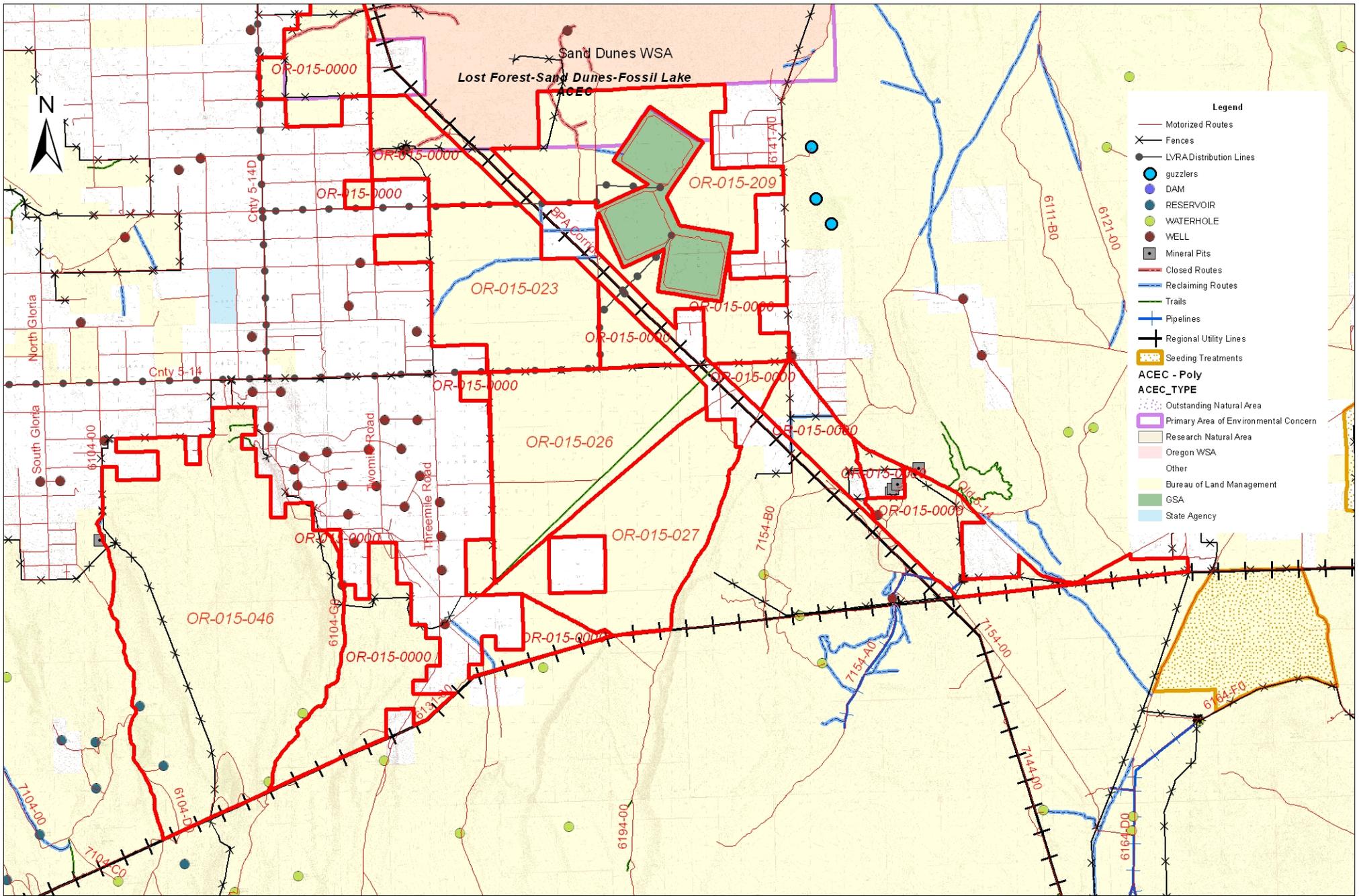
**Approved by:**

 7/7/2011  
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager Date

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# Map 1 - Wilderness Character Evaluation Area





Map 2 - Wilderness Character Evaluation of Christmas Lake Valley and South Sand Dunes Area

0 0.45 0.9 1.8 2.7  
Miles

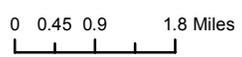
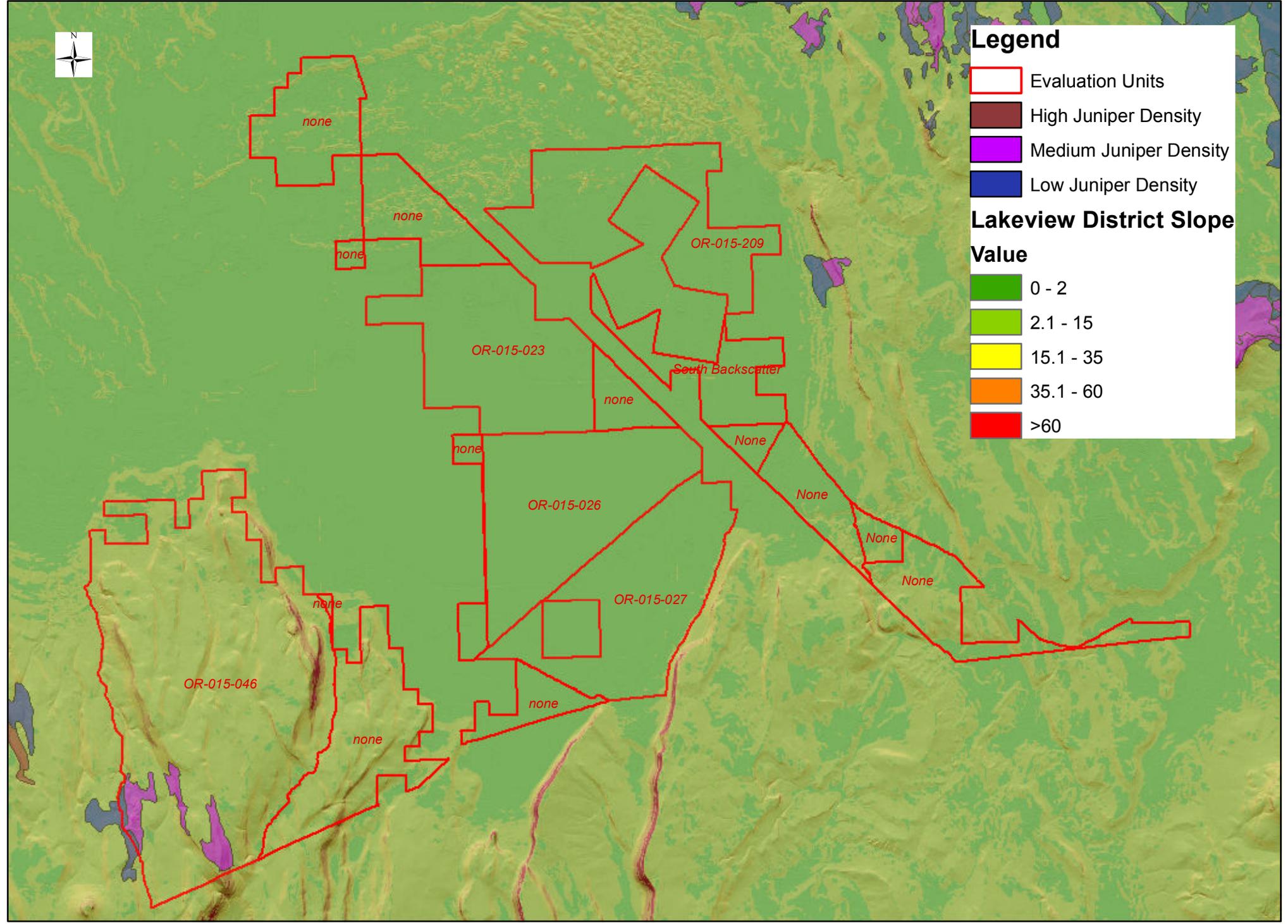


**Legend**

- Evaluation Units
- High Juniper Density
- Medium Juniper Density
- Low Juniper Density

**Lakeview District Slope Value**

- 0 - 2
- 2.1 - 15
- 15.1 - 35
- 35.1 - 60
- >60



Map 3 - Screening in Christmas Lake Valley and South Sand Dunes Area

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