

Wilderness Characteristics Evaluation

Interdisciplinary Team Signature Sheet

The following interdisciplinary (ID) team reviewed the citizen's wilderness proposal. The review included field inventory and an analysis of the routes within the proposed area, as well as an evaluation of the wilderness characteristics within the proposed area. This signature sheet documents the available BLM ID Team members that participated in this wilderness evaluation process along with the member's agreement with the conclusions reached in the road analysis forms and wilderness character forms completed for the area. These forms are contained in this wilderness inventory file.

Proposed WSA: Moonlight Butte

Team Members:

Todd Forbes Todd Forbes Date: 5/28/09
Associate Field Manager for Wildlife, Fisheries, Riparian, Hydrology, Wilderness, Recreation, and Cultural

Theresa Romasko Theresa Romasko Date: 5/27/2009
Associate Field Manager for Range, Fuels, Weeds, Botany, and Special Forest Products

Glenn Lorton Glenn Lorton Date: 5/27/2009
Wildlife Biologist

Paul Whitman Paul Whitman Date: 5/27/2009
Planning and Environmental Coordinator

Casey O'Conner Casey O'Conner Date: 5/27/2009
Range Management Specialist

Breanna Sabin-O'Conner Breanna Sabin-O'Conner Date: 5/27/2009
Recreation Technician

Year: 2009

Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-06/Little Benjamin Lake

FORM 1

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

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

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

a) Inventory Source: Wilderness Inventory: Oregon and Washington Final Intensive Inventory Decisions, November 1980

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Little Benjamin Lake/1-6

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

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	13,080	N	N	N	N
Private	640				

FORM 2

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

Unit Number/Name: OR-015-06/Little Benjamin Lake

(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 62,328-acre Moonlight Butte proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data with their route and photo point data; all of these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this BLM Unit. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in April and May of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which they felt met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see Map, p. 156 of ONDA 2005).

Boundary Determination and Consideration of Citizen Information: In April 2008, BLM staff reviewed ONDA's proposal. In the summer of 2008, members of the BLM staff conducted additional field inventory of the area to update the wilderness inventory for this area and to gather additional information to supplement ONDA's wilderness proposal. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary and interior routes and a re-evaluation of wilderness characteristics within the area. Using both ONDA and BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed road analyses on the main routes within the proposed area.

The results of the route analysis are documented in the road analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. The BLM ID team determined that several of the routes that ONDA identified as primitive "ways" are, in fact, boundary roads. For this reason, the BLM found the Moonlight Butte proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller units (Map 1) that are fairly similar to units identified during the 1980 inventory.

The following evaluation focuses on the potential wilderness character within the Little Benjamin Lake inventory unit. The boundaries for this unit are BLM Road 6121-00 on the northeast, BLM Road 6141-D0 on the southeast, BLM Road 6141-00 on the south, and County Road 5-12B and a power line right-of-way on the west. This unit currently contains approximately 10,900 acres BLM-administered lands and 640 acres of private in-holdings (Map 2).

Following this boundary determination, the BLM ID team subsequently evaluated the wilderness characteristics within this unit. The results are contained in the following section. Additional background on the process that the BLM ID team followed during

Opportunities for solitude in the south half have not changed since 1980. In addition, several outdoor youth therapy schools are currently operating in the surrounding region using roads in the area for campsite access, increasing the likelihood of encountering others in the area.

For these reasons, the ID team concluded that opportunities for solitude have not changed substantially since 1980 and is not outstanding.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

1980 Unit Description: The unit was determined to offer some limited opportunities for hiking and horseback riding in 1980, but these opportunities were not found to be outstanding, in part due to the unit's small size.

Current Condition Description: In 2005, ONDA identified wildlife viewing, camping, and hunting near ephemeral lakes, as well as hiking and horseback riding as recreation opportunities within the larger Moonlight Butte proposal. All of these primitive recreation opportunities are potentially available within the unit.

The *Lakeview RMP/ROD* (Map R-7) shows that off-highway vehicle (OHV) use is limited to existing roads and trails within the unit. This designation limits motorized vehicle use to boundary roads and the 6.3 miles of existing primitive motorized routes inside the unit. However, it does not eliminate motorized vehicle use within the area. The noise level associated with motorized activity may diminish the potential for a visitor to have a primitive (non-motorized) and unconfined recreation experience.

Spelunking (cave exploring) is another recreation opportunity that is available as there are two lava tube caves within a small portion of the unit. These caves may qualify as significant caves, as defined under the Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988¹, due to the known presence of biological resources and recreational use.

In the wilderness evaluation context, the presence of these caves, and their potential to be designated as significant caves, does not automatically meet the definition of an outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation opportunity. These caves provide a limited primitive recreation opportunity on a very small portion of the unit. In addition, there are many other similar lava tube caves on BLM-administered lands in northern Lake County which provide a similar cave exploring experience.

The recreation opportunities available within the unit are similar to those available throughout much of the surrounding Lakeview Resource Area. The unit does not offer any single outstanding primitive and unconfined recreational opportunity, nor does it offer an outstanding diversity of recreational opportunities.

this evaluation is contained in the document, *Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Process for the Lakeview Resource Area, BLM*, and the ID team meeting notes contained in the wilderness inventory file.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS

This unit is located about 19 miles northeast of Christmas Valley in north central Lake County.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes No

1980 Unit Description: In 1980, this unit was described as having low rolling hills in the south with sagebrush and juniper cover. The northern section was described as flatter, with sagebrush and scattered juniper and several shallow lakebeds. The unit contained several lakebed water developments on the north and east which were determined to be substantially noticeable for considerable distances because of the flat topography. The power line along the western side of the unit was determined to be visible above the tops of the juniper and was very noticeable from a considerable distance in all directions. Four miles of fence were located in the south of the unit. The unit was not found to meet the naturalness criteria in 1980 because the works of man were substantially noticeable.

Current Condition Description: The unit currently has 8 constructed waterholes scattered around perimeter of the unit, about 1.7 miles of fence in the southwest corner, and 6.3 miles of interior primitive motorized routes (Map 2). The 640 acres of private in-holdings are currently not developed. Juniper density has increased across the unit since 1980. Most of the unit is covered by low and medium densities of juniper cover (Map 3). However, the power line along the western side of the unit is still visible above the tops of the juniper in some locations.

Since most of the existing human disturbances are located near the perimeter of the unit, the ID team concluded that the unit is predominantly natural.

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

Yes No N/A

1980 Unit Description: The unit was determined not to have an outstanding opportunity for solitude in 1980 due to its narrow shape, limited topographic screening, and difficulty in avoiding the presence of others within the unit.

Current Condition Description: The unit's topography has not changed since 1980. Much of the unit is relatively flat. Interior routes providing motorized access to portions of the interior of the unit have increased since 1980. Juniper density and vegetative screening have increased somewhat in the north half of the unit since 1980 (Map 3).

Approved by:



Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager

5/28/09

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.

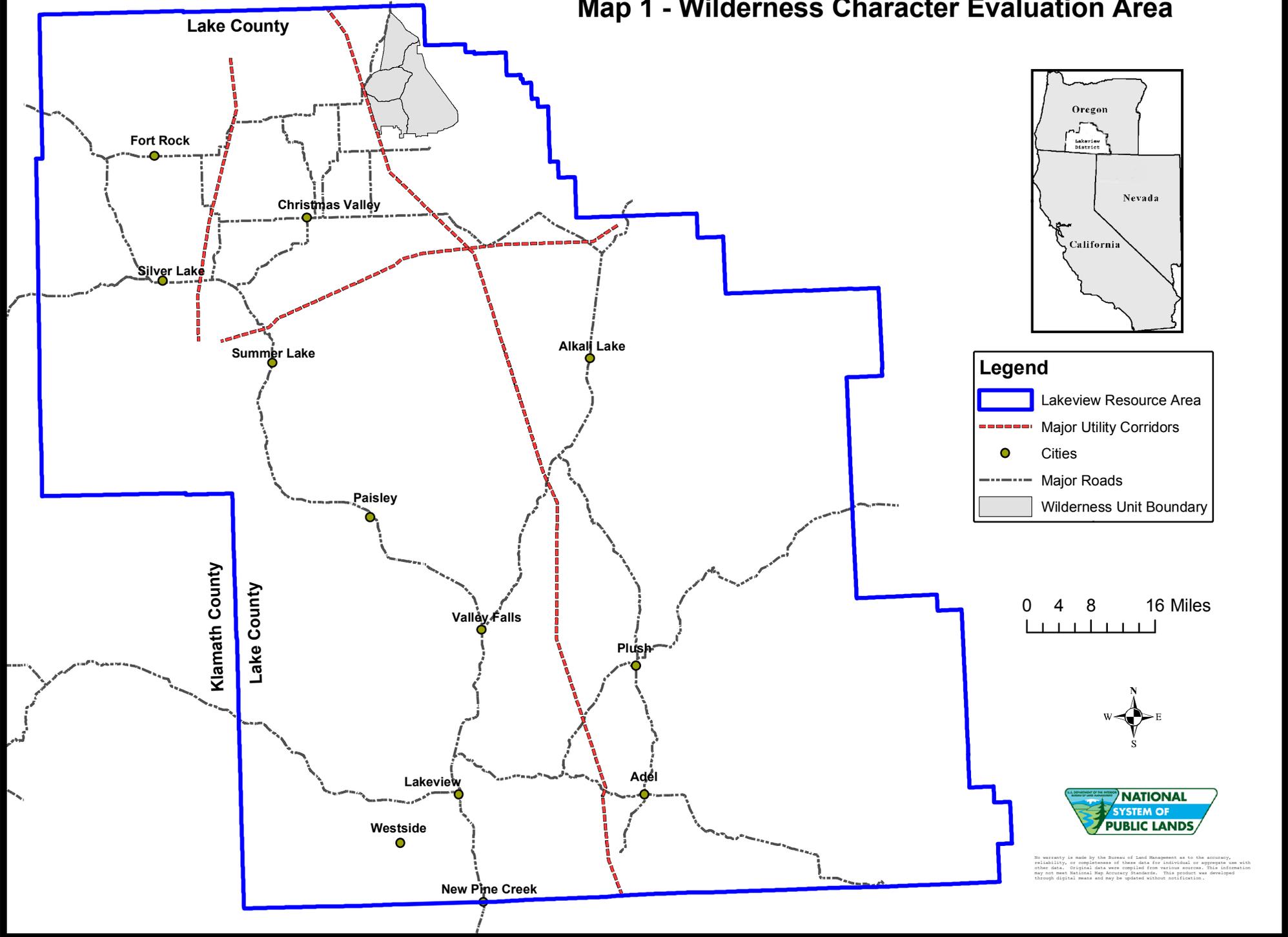
Definitions

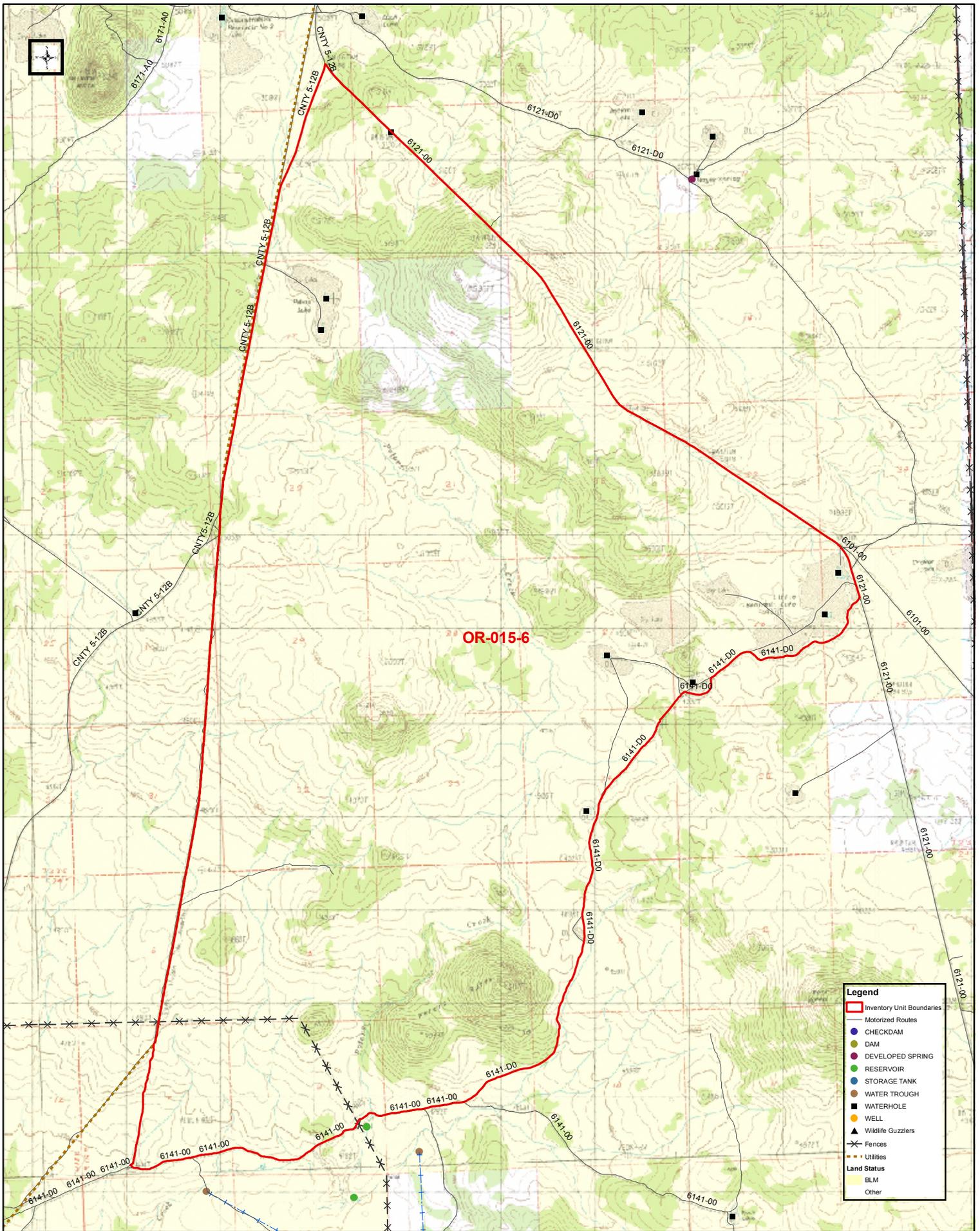
¹Significant Cave - Under the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988, the BLM is required to identify and protect *significant caves*, to the extent practical.

A *cave* is defined as any naturally occurring void, cavity, recess, or system of interconnected passages beneath the surface of the earth or within a cliff or ledge, including any *cave resource* therein, and which is large enough to permit a person to enter, whether the entrance is excavated or naturally formed (see 43 CFR Part 37).

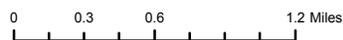
A *cave resource* means any materials or substances occurring in caves on Federal lands, including, but not limited to biotic, cultural, mineralogic, palentologic, and hydrologic resources. In addition to these resource values, the evaluation criteria include consideration of recreational and educational/scientific values (see 43 CFR Part 37).

Map 1 - Wilderness Character Evaluation Area

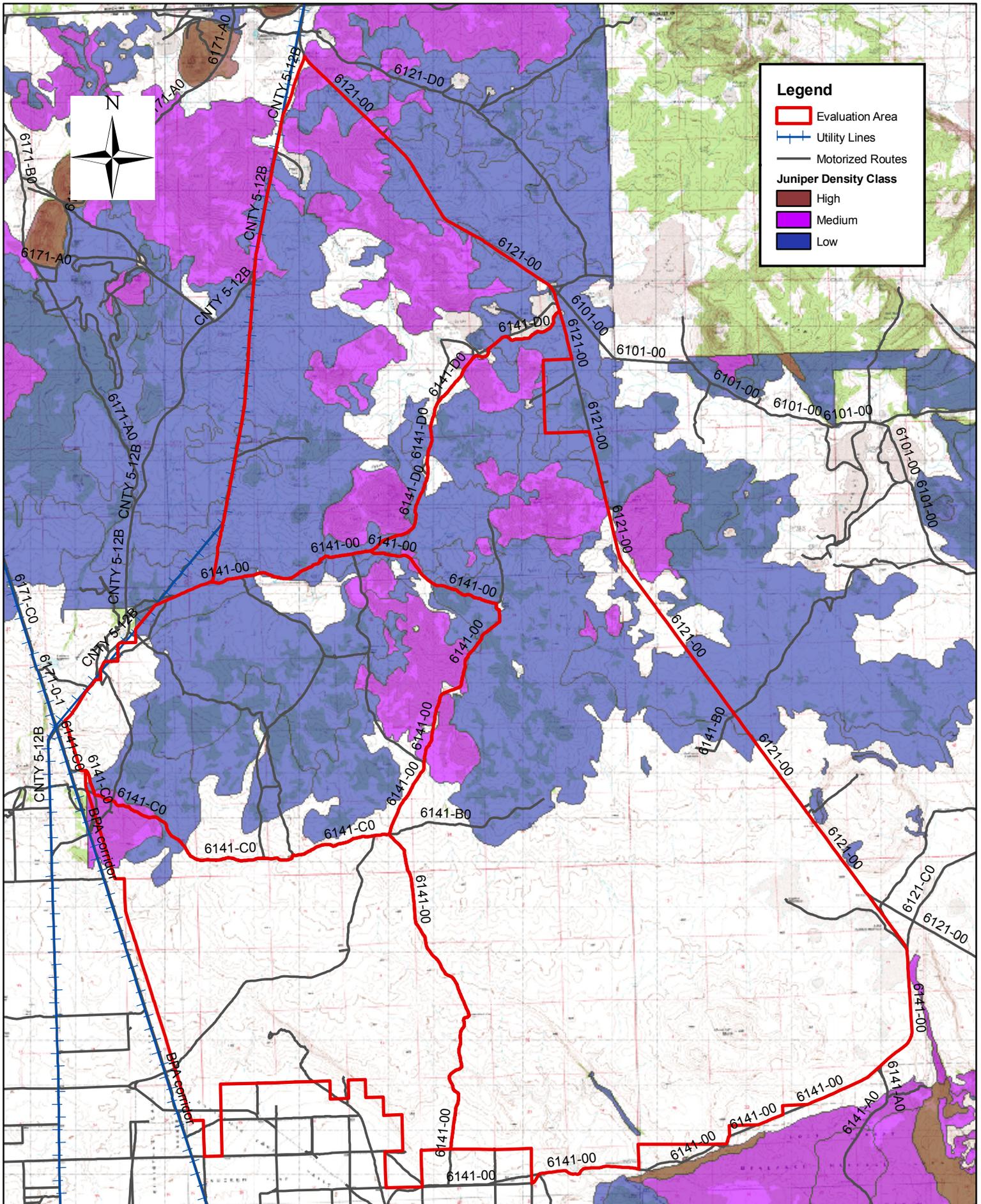




Map 2 - Wilderness Character Evaluation - Little Benjamin Lake (Unit OR-015-6)



As necessary to comply with the Bureau of Land Management's policy on the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data, the user should be aware that the data are provided as-is and are not intended to be used for navigation or other purposes. The user should be aware that the data are provided as-is and are not intended to be used for navigation or other purposes. The user should be aware that the data are provided as-is and are not intended to be used for navigation or other purposes.



0.9 0.45 0 0.9 Miles

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.

Map 3 - Vegetative Screening based on Juniper Density Classes

Year: 2009

Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-07/Painter Ranch

FORM 1

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

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

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

a) **Inventory Source:** Wilderness Review – Initial Inventory. Final Decision on Public Lands Obviously Lacking Wilderness Characteristics and Announcement of Public Lands to be Intensively Inventoried for Wilderness Characteristics: Oregon and Washington, August 1979

b) **Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** Painter Ranch/1-7

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** None

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 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	8,000	N	N	N	N
Private	160				

FORM 2

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

a. Unit Number/Name: OR-015-07/Painter Ranch

(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 62,328-acre Moonlight Butte proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data with their route and photo point data; all of these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this BLM Unit. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in April and May of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which they felt met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see Map, p. 156 of ONDA 2005).

Boundary Determination and Consideration of Citizen Information: In April 2008, BLM staff reviewed ONDA's proposal. In the summer of 2008, members of the BLM staff conducted additional field inventory of the area to update the wilderness inventory for this area and to gather additional information to supplement ONDA's wilderness proposal. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary and interior routes and a re-evaluation of wilderness characteristics within the area. Using both ONDA and BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed road analyses on the main routes within the proposed area.

The results of the route analysis are documented in the road analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. The BLM ID team determined that several of the routes that ONDA identified as primitive "ways" are, in fact, boundary roads. For this reason, the BLM found the Moonlight Butte proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller units (Map 1) that are fairly similar to units identified during the 1980 inventory. The following evaluation focuses on the potential wilderness character within the Painter Ranch inventory unit.

The boundaries for this unit are BLM Road 6141-B0 on the east, BLM Road 6141-00, County Road 5-12B, and private land on the north, the BPA power line right-of-way boundary and BLM Road 6141-C0 on the west, and BLM Road 6141-C0 on the south. This unit currently contains approximately 10,555 acres BLM-administered lands and 640 acres of private in-holdings (Map 2).

Following this boundary determination, the BLM ID team subsequently evaluated the wilderness characteristics within this unit. 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 contained in the wilderness inventory file.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

1979 Unit Description: This unit is located roughly 17.5 miles northeast of Christmas Valley, Oregon. The landscape was described as gently rolling uplands covered with juniper, sagebrush, rabbitbrush, and perennial grasses. The 1979 inventory documented stock water developments in the unit accessed by primitive motorized ways. In addition, a 500-Kv power line operated by BPA was noted within the unit on the western side. A 75-Kv power line was also noted along the northwest border of the unit.

Though the original unit boundary contained over 8,000 acres, the boundary was further refined during the analysis to remove the BPA power line and lands to the west from the unit boundary. This boundary change ultimately reduced the unit to less than 5,000 acres and the unit was dropped from further consideration.

Current Condition Description: The unit, as currently defined, contains additional acreage along the eastern boundary. The overall landscape condition has not changed much since the 1979 inventory. The vegetation communities are similar. However, about 42 acres along the south boundary burned in a wildfire in 1987 and was allowed re-vegetate naturally. In addition, juniper density has increased across the unit since 1979. Most of the unit is covered by low density class of juniper cover, including pockets of old-growth (Map 3). The unit currently contains 2 waterholes, 3 reservoirs, and 2 water troughs (where water is hauled in), 12.2 miles of pasture division fencing, 5 miles of water pipelines and at least 8 associated water troughs, 18.5 miles of primitive, motorized routes within the interior of the unit, and 640 acres of private lands containing additional livestock water developments (1 mile of pipeline, 1 well, 1 water storage tank, and associated troughs). The power lines are located outside of the unit boundary, but remain visible within portions of the unit (Map 2).

Even though juniper is present across most of the unit and provides some screening, the ID team determined that the large number of existing man-made developments distributed throughout the unit would be difficult to avoid and were substantially noticeable within close proximity. The ID team noted that the unit was not found to be natural in 1979 and additional human developments have been constructed since 1979. For this reason, the ID team concluded that the natural quality of the unit had declined further since 1979 and was not predominantly natural.

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

1979 Unit Description: The unit was determined to be too small for outstanding opportunities for solitude because of the impact from the power lines and the human activity associated with their maintenance.

Current Condition Description: Opportunities for solitude were not evaluated as the unit was determined to be in an unnatural condition and, therefore, does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

1979 Unit Description: Unit does not provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Current Condition Description: Opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation were not evaluated as the unit was determined to be in an unnatural condition and, therefore, does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No _____ NA X

Description: Supplemental values were not evaluated as the unit was determined to be in an unnatural condition and, therefore, does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Painter Ranch/OR-015-07

Results of Analysis:

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

Conclusion (Check One):

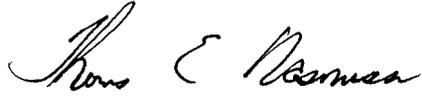
The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.

The area does not have wilderness character.

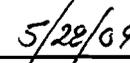
ID Team Members (Names and Titles):

Todd Forbes, Associate Field Manager
Paul Whitman, Planning and Environmental Coordinator
Kim McLean, Outdoor Recreation Planner/Wilderness Specialist
Theresa Romasko, Associate Field Manager
Casey O'Conner, Range Management Specialist
Breanna Sabin-O'Conner, Recreation Technician
Glenn Lorton, Wildlife Biologist

Approved by:



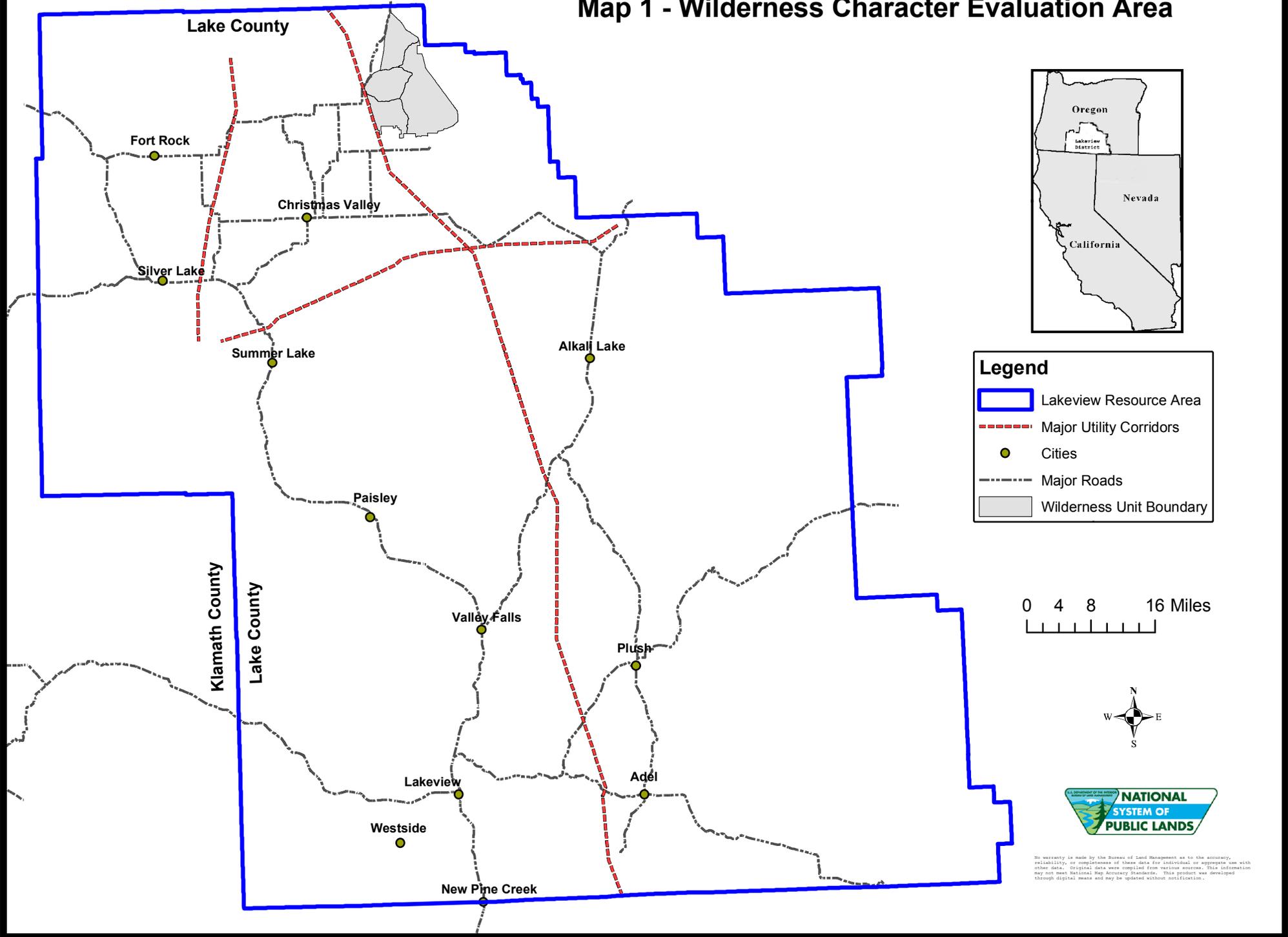
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager

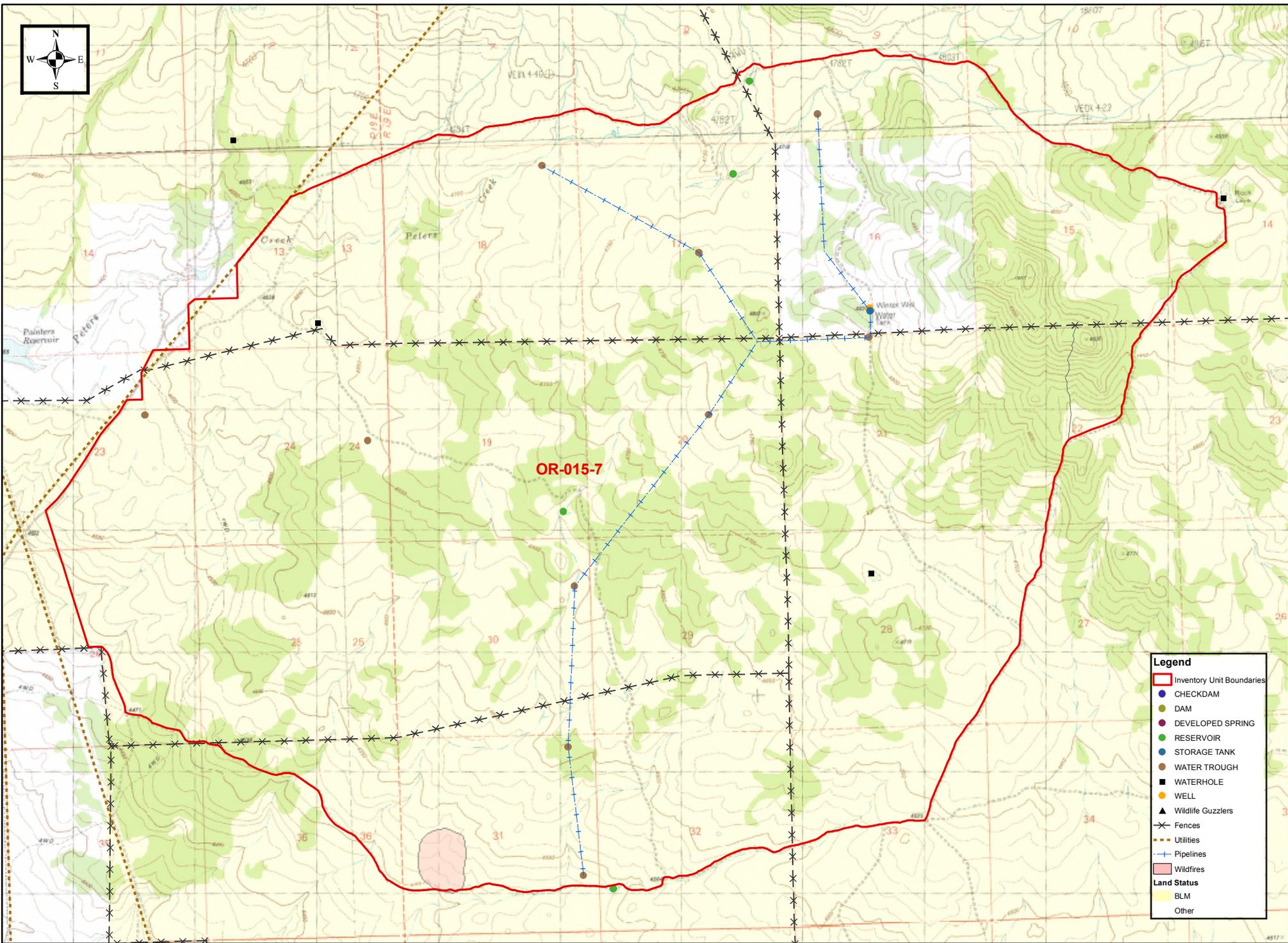


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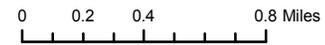
This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.

Map 1 - Wilderness Character Evaluation Area





Map 2 - Wilderness Character Evaluation - Painter Ranch (Unit OR-015-7)



As necessary, the maps in this project will be prepared on an 11x17 inch sheet. The maps will be prepared on a scale of 1 inch = 1 mile. The maps will be prepared on a scale of 1 inch = 1 mile. The maps will be prepared on a scale of 1 inch = 1 mile.

Year: 2009

Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-08/Wardell Well

FORM 1

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

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

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

a) Inventory Source: Wilderness Review – Initial Inventory. Final Decision on Public Lands Obviously Lacking Wilderness Characteristics and Announcement of Public Lands to be Intensively Inventoried for Wilderness Characteristics: Oregon and Washington, August 1979

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Wardell Well/1-8

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): None

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 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	6,750	N	NA	NA	NA
Private	0				

FORM 2

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

Unit Number/Name: OR-015-08 /Wardell Well

(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 62,328-acre Moonlight Butte proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data with their route and photo point data; all of these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this BLM Unit. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in April and May of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which they felt met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see Map, p. 156 of ONDA 2005).

Boundary Determination and Consideration of Citizen Information: In April 2008, BLM staff reviewed ONDA's proposal. In the summer of 2008, members of the BLM staff conducted additional field inventory of the area to update the wilderness inventory for this area and to gather additional information to supplement ONDA's wilderness proposal. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary and interior routes and a re-evaluation of wilderness characteristics within the area. Using both ONDA and BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed road analyses on the main routes within the proposed area.

The results of the route analysis are documented in the road analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. The BLM ID team determined that several of the routes that ONDA identified as primitive "ways" are, in fact, boundary roads. For this reason, the BLM found the Moonlight Butte proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller units (Map 1) that are fairly similar to units identified during the previous inventory.

The following evaluation focuses on the potential wilderness character within the Wardell Well inventory unit. The boundaries for this unit are BLM Road 6141-00 on the east, BLM Road 6141-C0, on the north, the BPA power line right-of-way boundary and private lands on the west, and unnumbered routes and private lands on the south. This unit currently contains approximately 9,823 acres BLM-administered lands (Map 2).

Following this boundary determination, the BLM ID team subsequently evaluated the wilderness characteristics within this unit. 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*, and the ID team meeting notes contained in the wilderness inventory file.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS

The unit is located about 11 miles northeast of Christmas Valley, in north central Lake County, Oregon. All of the public lands within the unit are administered by the BLM. Private lands border the unit on the west and south.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

1979 Unit Description: During the previous inventory, the unit was described as south-sloping flat land covered with sagebrush, rabbitbrush, and a scattering of juniper. A portion of the Wardell Seeding extended into the southeast corner of the unit. Stock-water developments were noted in lakebeds along with an east-west fence line. The unit was determined to be unnatural in 1979 due to the presence of the fence lines, the power line and associated maintenance activities, and new roads in the area.

Though the initial unit boundary contained about 6,750 acres, the boundary was further refined during the analysis to remove the BPA power line easement and private lands on the south from the unit boundary. This boundary change ultimately reduced the unit to less than 5,000 acres and the unit was dropped from further consideration on that basis.

Current Condition Description: Currently, the unit can be characterized as a gently rolling landscape with stands of low and medium density juniper cover on the north perimeter (Map 3). Much of the unit is more open and vegetative cover includes sagebrush, rabbit brush and perennial grasses. About 700 acres burned in a wildfire in 1987 in the west central portion of the unit and was allowed to re-vegetate naturally (Map 3). Vegetation in this area is predominantly perennial grasses and rabbitbrush.

Current human developments include a waterhole in the center of the unit that is accessed by a primitive motorized route that bisects the unit. One reservoir and a well and associated water trough are located along the north and east perimeter of the unit. About 10.4 miles of pasture division fence and 9.5 miles of primitive, motorized routes cross through the central and south portions of the unit. About 683 acres of the Wardell Seeding is still evident in the southeast corner of the unit. These developments are substantially noticeable within close proximity (quarter mile), and are less noticeable from further distances. The power line is located outside of the unit boundary, but remains visible across most of the unit (Map 2).

For these reasons, the ID team concluded that the natural quality within the unit has not improved since 1979 and the unit as a whole does not meet the naturalness criteria.

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

1979 Unit Description: The unit was dropped from further study because it did not meet the size or naturalness criteria. Opportunities for solitude were not evaluated in detail. However, ranching activities and vehicle use on private lands along the south and west boundaries and the power line on the west were identified human activities that intruded into the unit and negatively impacted the opportunities for solitude.

Current Condition Description: Opportunities for solitude were not evaluated as the unit was determined to be in an unnatural condition and, therefore, does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

1979 Unit Description: The unit was dropped from further study because it did not meet the size or naturalness criteria. Opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation were not evaluated in detail. However, ranching activities and vehicle use on private lands along the south and west boundaries and the power line on the west were identified human activities that intruded into the unit and negatively impacted the opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Current Condition Description: Opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation were not evaluated as the unit was determined to be in an unnatural condition and, therefore, does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No _____ NA X

Description: Supplemental values were not evaluated as the unit was determined to be in an unnatural condition and, therefore, does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Wardell Well/OR-015-08

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 NA

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

Conclusion (Check One):

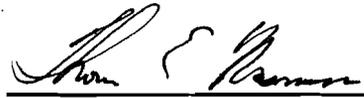
___ The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.

X The area does not have wilderness character.

ID Team Members (Names and Titles):

Todd Forbes, Associate Field Manager
Paul Whitman, Planning and Environmental Coordinator
Kim McLean, Outdoor Recreation Planner/Wilderness Specialist
Theresa Romasko, Associate Field Manager
Casey O'Conner, Range Management Specialist
Breanna Sabin-O'Conner, Recreation Technician
Glenn Lorton, Wildlife Biologist

Approved by:



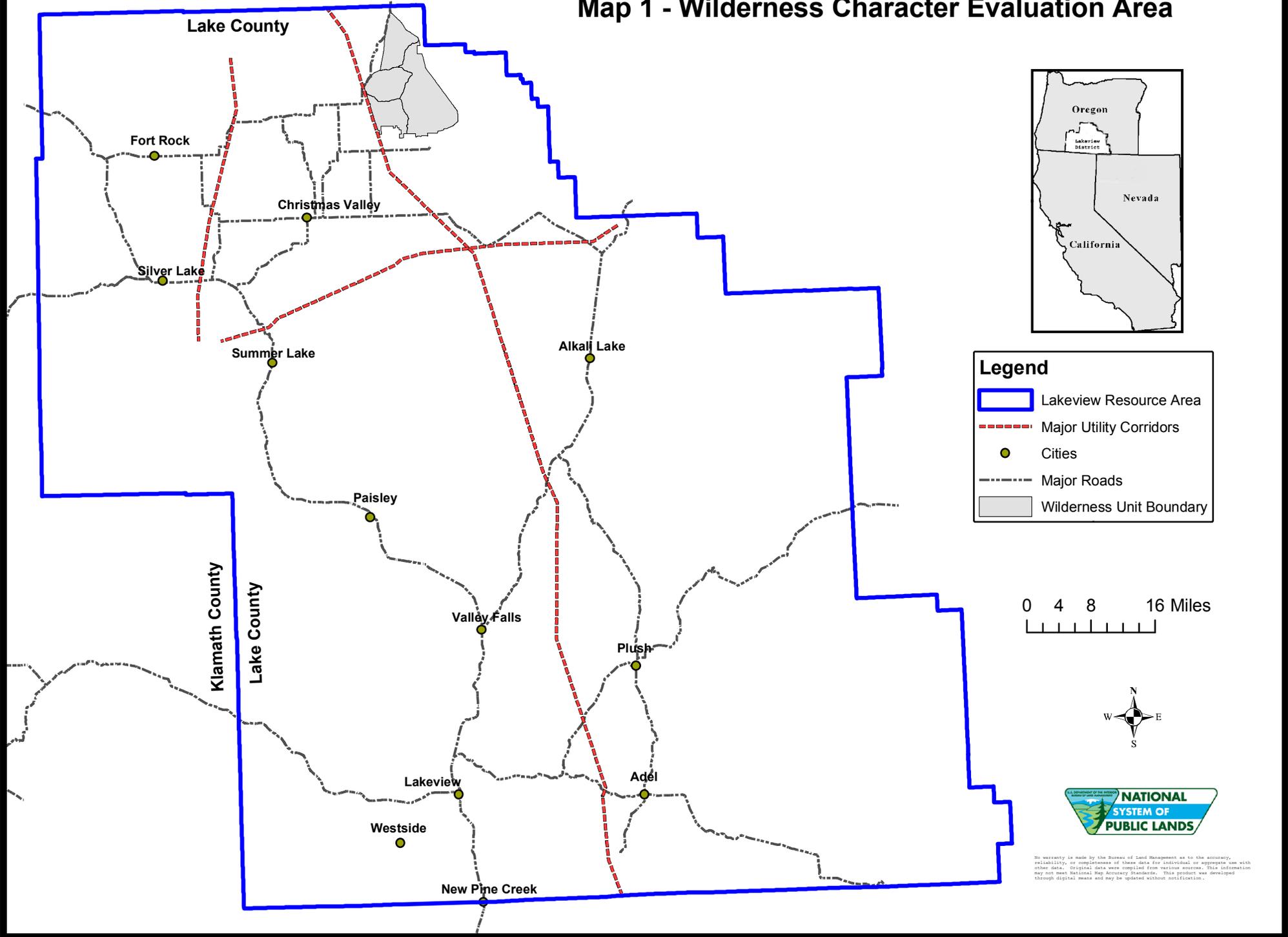
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager

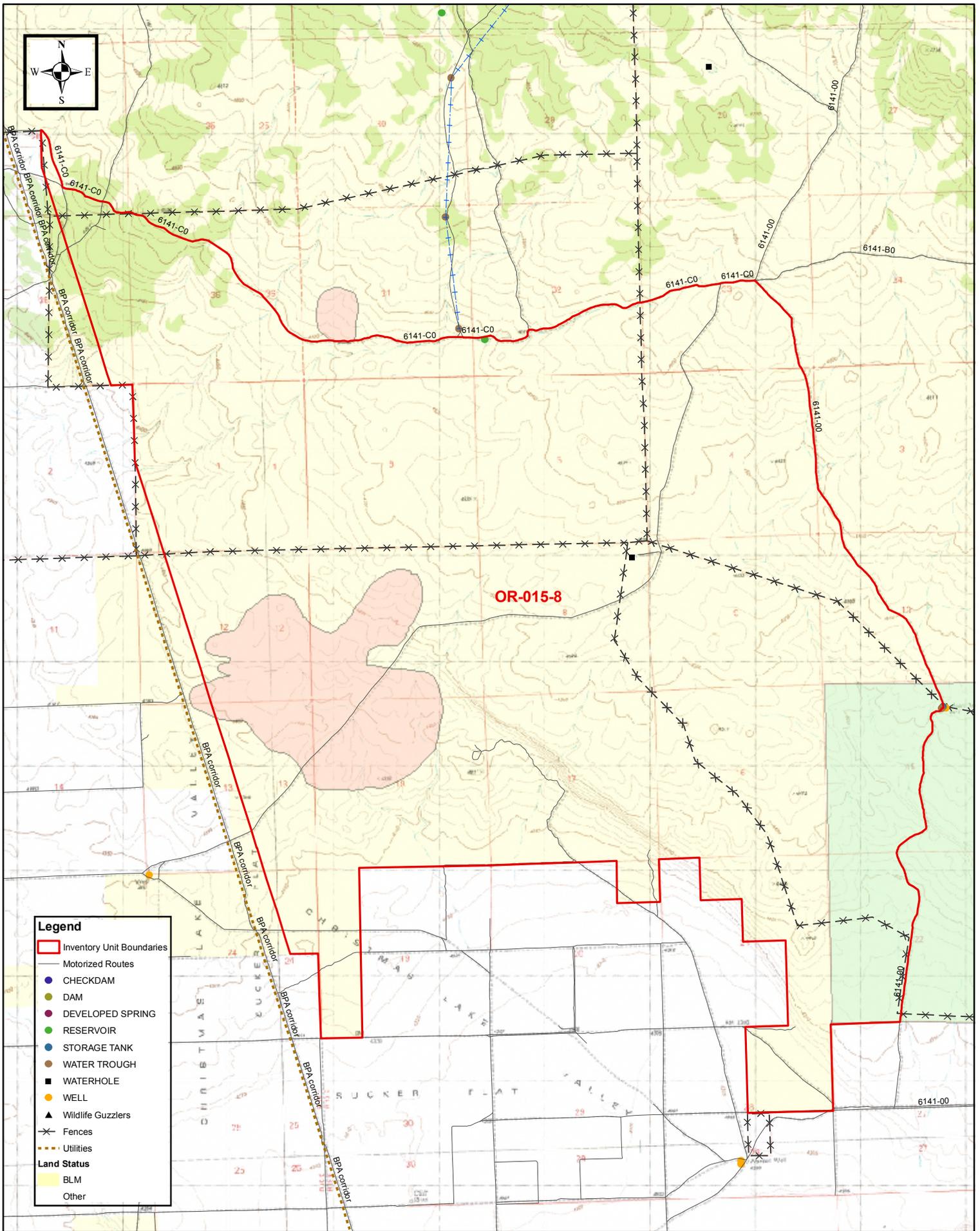
5/28/09

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

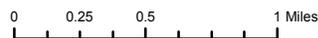




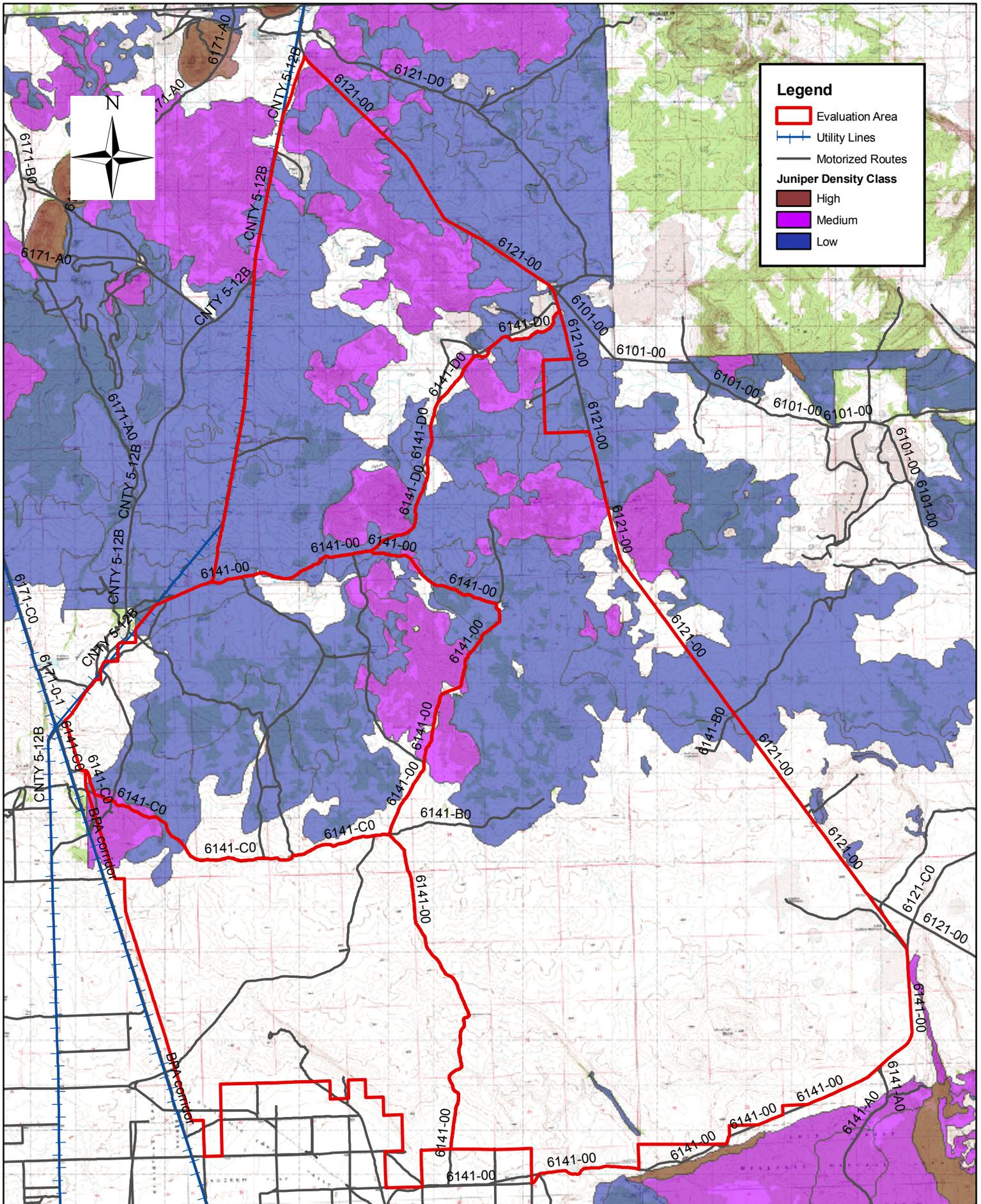
OR-015-8

- Legend**
- Inventory Unit Boundaries
 - Motorized Routes
 - CHECKDAM
 - DAM
 - DEVELOPED SPRING
 - RESERVOIR
 - STORAGE TANK
 - WATER TROUGH
 - WATERHOLE
 - WELL
 - ▲ Wildlife Guzzlers
 - ✕ Fences
 - Utilities
- Land Status**
- BLM
 - Other

Map 2 - Wilderness Character Evaluation - Wardell Well (Unit OR-015-8)



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Legend

- Evaluation Area
- + Utility Lines
- Motorized Routes

Juniper Density Class

- High
- Medium
- Low

0 0.45 0.9 Miles

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Map 3 - Vegetative Screening based on Juniper Density Classes

Year: 2009

Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-09/Bull Lake

FORM 1

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

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

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

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

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Bull Lake/1-9

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

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	32,360	Y	N	N	Y
Private	560				

FORM 2

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

Unit Number/Name: OR-015-09/Bull Lake

(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 62,328-acre Moonlight Butte proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data with their route and photo point data; all of these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this BLM Unit. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in April and May of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which they felt met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see Map, p. 156 of ONDA 2005).

Boundary Determination and Consideration of Citizen Information: In April 2008, BLM staff reviewed ONDA's proposal. In the summer of 2008, members of the BLM staff conducted additional field inventory of the area to update the wilderness inventory for this area and to gather additional information to supplement ONDA's wilderness proposal. This field work included photo documentation of the boundary and interior routes and a re-evaluation of wilderness characteristics within the area. Using both ONDA and BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, a BLM inter-disciplinary (ID) team completed road analyses on the main routes within the proposed area.

The results of the route analysis are documented in the road analysis forms contained in the wilderness evaluation file. The BLM ID team determined that several of the routes that ONDA identified as primitive "ways" are, in fact, boundary roads. For this reason, the BLM found the Moonlight Butte proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller units (Map 1) that are fairly similar to units identified during the 1980 inventory.

The following evaluation focuses on the potential wilderness character within the Bull Lake inventory unit. The boundaries for this unit are BLM Road 6121-00 and private lands on the east, BLM Road 6141-00 on the south, and BLM Roads 6141-00 and 6141-D0 on the west. This unit currently contains approximately 29,794 acres BLM-administered lands and 560 acres of private in-holdings (Map 2).

Following this boundary determination, the BLM ID team subsequently evaluated the wilderness characteristics within this unit. 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, and the ID team meeting notes contained in the wilderness inventory file.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS

This unit is located about 12 miles northeast of Christmas Valley, in north central Lake County, Oregon. There is one private land holding in the center of the unit.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes No N/A

1980 Unit Description: The north half of the unit contains rolling hills with moderate to dense juniper cover. The highest point of the unit is West Butte. The south half of the unit has minor rolling contours and flats and includes several small ephemeral lakebeds. Vegetative cover in the south half was documented as big sagebrush and occasional scattered juniper trees. The southwest corner of the unit contains the Wardell Seeding, a roughly square-shaped drill seeding (crested wheatgrass) project estimated at approximately 3,000 acres.

The previous inventory documented approximately 12 miles of fence line and 10 miles of primitive motorized vehicle ways within the unit. The ways and fences were found not to be substantially noticeable. Four lakebed pits were identified and described as being noticeably visible for a considerable distance. The majority of the unit, with the exception of the seeding, was described as generally natural where the imprints of man were substantially unnoticeable.

Current Condition Description: The unit topography has not changed since the previous inventory was completed. Vegetation has not changed substantially since 1980 though juniper density has increased somewhat within the northern half of the unit. Low and medium density juniper cover occurs in this area (Map 3). The seeding is currently estimated to cover approximately 2,394 acres, of which 1,711 acres falls within the unit boundary. Some sagebrush has invaded the seeding over time.

Current human developments include approximately 7.1 miles of primitive, motorized routes inside the unit. Seven man-made waterholes are scattered around the unit. Approximately 15.6 miles of pasture division fences exist within the unit (Map 2). These developments are substantially noticeable within close proximity (quarter mile), and are less noticeable from further distances. The private in-holdings are currently undeveloped. Overall, the density of man-made developments is low due to the relatively large unit size.

For these reasons, the ID team found that the unit as a whole is in a predominantly natural condition.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

1980 Unit Description: The north end of the unit was identified as providing some opportunity for solitude because of the juniper cover and rolling topography. The southern half of the unit was found to be relatively flat and lacking in tall vegetative screening where one could avoid the presence of others. Overall, the unit did not offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

Current Condition Description: The opportunity for solitude in the north half of the unit has improved slightly due to an increase in overall juniper density which provides some additional vegetative screening. The opportunity for solitude in the south half of the unit has not changed substantially since 1980. The south half is relatively flat and lacks tall vegetative screening. Several permitted youth outdoor therapy school campsites have been designated on the north end of the unit which may be occupied at almost any time of year, thus increasing the likelihood of encountering others within the unit

For these reasons, the ID team concluded that opportunities for solitude within the unit have not changed substantially since 1980. Overall, the unit does not offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

1980 Unit Description: The previous inventory found the unit offered some potential for hiking, wildlife observation, and hunting, but these opportunities were not outstanding.

Current Condition Description: In 2005, ONDA identified wildlife viewing, camping, and hunting near ephemeral lakes, as well as hiking and horseback riding as recreation opportunities within the larger Moonlight Butte proposal. All of these primitive recreation opportunities are potentially available within the unit.

The *Lakeview RMP/ROD* (Map R-7) shows that off-highway vehicle (OHV) use is limited to existing roads and trails within the unit. This designation limits motorized vehicle use to boundary roads and the 7.1 miles of existing primitive motorized routes inside the unit. However, it does not eliminate motorized vehicle use within the area. The noise level associated with motorized activity may diminish the potential for a visitor to have a primitive (non-motorized) and unconfined recreation experience.

The recreation opportunities available within the unit are similar to those available throughout much of the surrounding Lakeview Resource Area. The unit does not offer any single outstanding primitive and unconfined recreational opportunity, nor does it offer an outstanding diversity of recreational opportunities.

For these reasons, the ID team found the primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities within the unit are not outstanding.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No _____ NA X

Description: Supplemental values were not evaluated as the unit does not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation and, therefore, does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Bull Lake/OR-015-09

Results of Analysis:

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

Conclusion (Check One):

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

X The area does not have wilderness character.

ID Team Members (Names and Titles):

Todd Forbes, Associate Field Manager
Paul Whitman, Planning and Environmental Coordinator
Kim McLean, Outdoor Recreation Planner/Wilderness Specialist
Theresa Romasko, Associate Field Manager
Casey O’Conner, Range Management Specialist
Breanna Sabin-O’Conner, Recreation Technician
Glenn Lorton, Wildlife Biologist

Approved by:



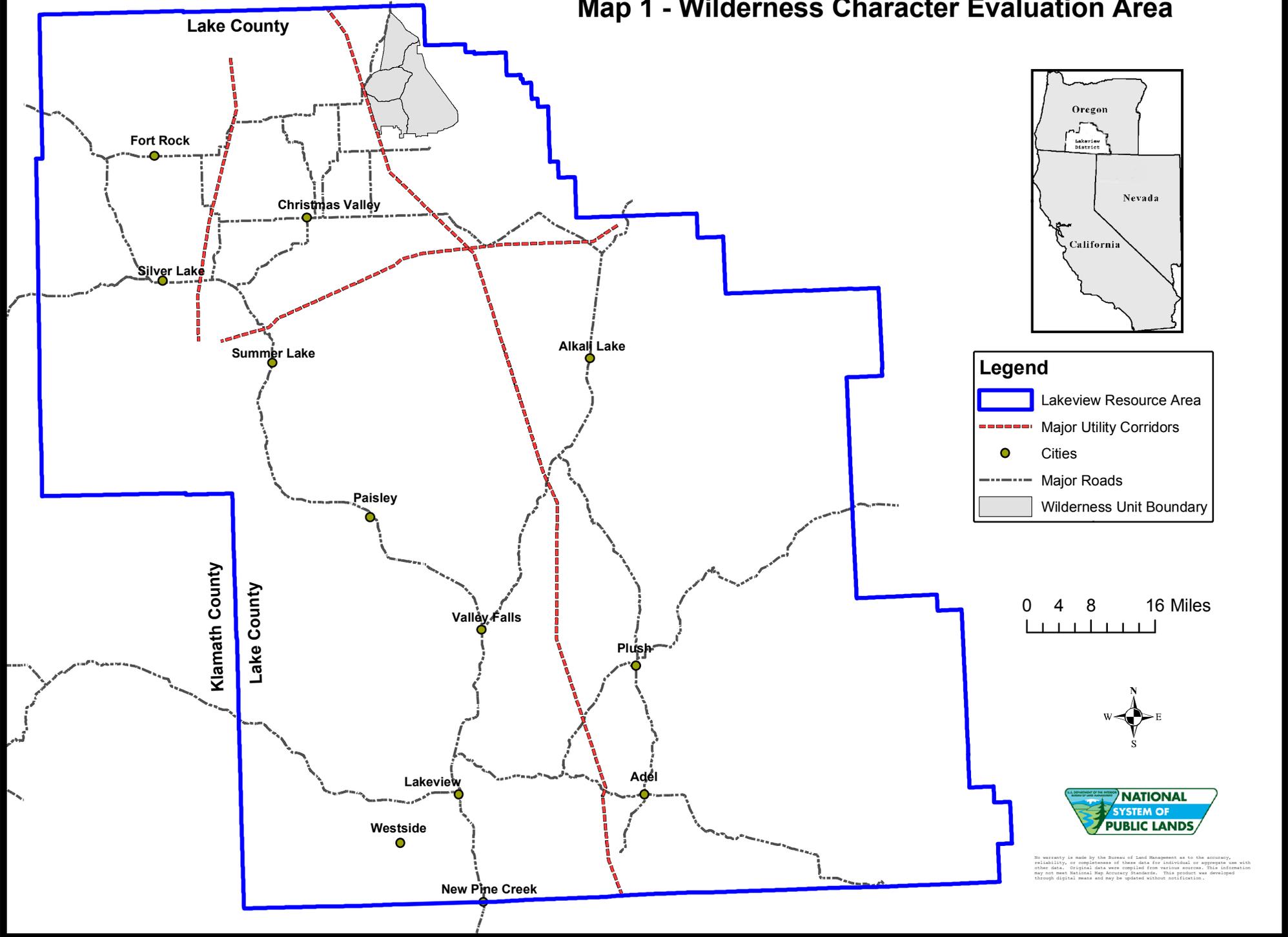
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager

5/28/09

Date

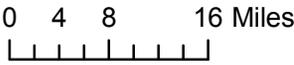
This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.

Map 1 - Wilderness Character Evaluation Area

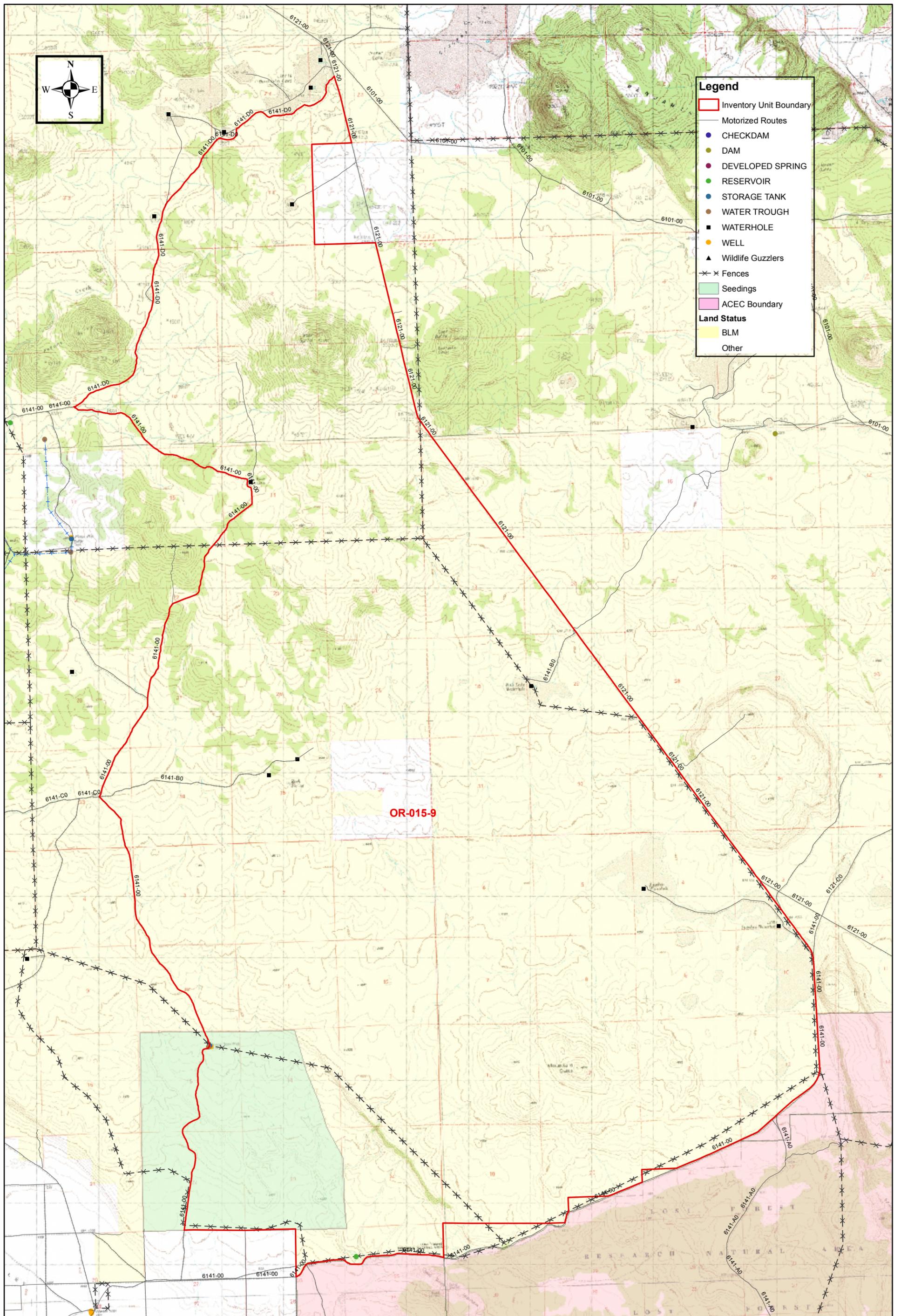


Legend

- Lakeview Resource Area
- Major Utility Corridors
- Cities
- Major Roads
- Wilderness Unit Boundary



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Legend

- Inventory Unit Boundary
- Motorized Routes
- CHECKDAM
- DAM
- DEVELOPED SPRING
- RESERVOIR
- STORAGE TANK
- WATER TROUGH
- WATERHOLE
- WELL
- ▲ Wildlife Guzzlers
- Fences
- Seedings
- ACEC Boundary

Land Status

- BLM
- Other

Map 2 - Wilderness Character Evaluation - Bull Lake (Unit OR-015-09)



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