

Year 2011

Inventory Unit Number/Name: Northwest Resource Area 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 \_\_\_\_\_ (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:** U.S. Department of the Interior. Bureau of Land Management. Wilderness Review. Initial Inventory. Oregon and Washington. Final Decision on Public Lands Obviously Lacking Wilderness Characteristics. (August 1979. Page 15)

**b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s):** Unit OR-1-1

**c) Map Name(s)/Number(s):** U.S. Department of the Interior. Bureau of Land Management. Oregon. Initial Inventory. Final Decisions. (August 1979)

**d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Lakeview District/Lakeview Interagency Office

**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 # OR-1-1	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
BLM	9,900	N	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

This unit is located approximately 18 miles north of Silver Lake, Oregon. At 9,900 acres, this unit met the minimum size requirement in 1979 and was evaluated for wilderness characteristics. This unit is comprised of rolling hills and broken lava flows which were at the time populated primarily with big sagebrush. Human developments within the unit were identified as; extensive vehicle trails, water developments, and a crested wheatgrass seeding on the south. The listed human developments within the unit were at the time

substantially noticeable and the area did not appear to have primarily been affected by the forces of nature. For those reasons Unit OR-1-1 did not meet the minimum naturalness criteria and was eliminated from further review in 1979.

**Note:** Historic Inventory Unit OR-1-1 does not currently meet the minimum size criteria because it has been divided up into units smaller than 5,000 acres, none of which meet any exceptions the size requirement. Wilderness character within the remainder of the area was not documented during the previous inventory presumably because there were no other inventory units that met the size criteria at that time.

## FORM 2

### DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

a. **Unit Number/Name:** Northwest Resource Area Inventory Units<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 south, the units are bounded by a combination of private lands, Lake County Roads, and a short segment of State Highway 31. On the north, the units are bounded by a combination of private lands, Devils Garden Lava Bed WSA, and the Fremont-Winema National Forest. On the east, the units are bounded by Devils Garden Lava Bed WSA and private lands. On the west, the units are bounded primarily by the Deschutes National Forest. See Map 2, route analysis forms, photos, photo logs, and BLM ID team minutes in the wilderness inventory file for additional supporting information regarding these boundary determinations).

There are a total of 32 inventory units within the Northwest Resource Inventory Area. None of the inventory units within this area currently meet the minimum size criteria. The average size of these units is 1768 acres. They range in size from 40 acres to 4,920 acres and do not meet any exception to the size requirement.

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

#### DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

The 32 small inventory units in the Northwest Resource Inventory Area are comprised of approximately 56,596 acres of BLM administered land located about 18 miles north of Silver Lake, Oregon (Map 1). The terrain consists of rolling hills and broken lava flows. Vegetation consists primarily of big sagebrush, scattered juniper, and isolated stands of ponderosa pine near the Fremont-Winema National Forest boundary. Major human activities in the area include hunting, ranching, woodcutting, 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 values were not evaluated within these units because the units failed to meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: Northwest Resource Area Inventory Units<5,000 Acres

**Summary Results of Analysis:**

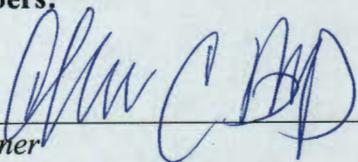
- 1. Does the area meet the size requirements?      \_\_\_ Yes **X No**
- 2. Does the area appear to be natural?              \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No **X N/A**
- 3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and  
unconfined type of recreation?                      \_\_\_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

**Conclusion (Check One):**

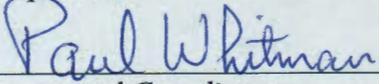
       **The area- or a portion of the area- has wilderness character:**  
*(items 1, 2 and 3 must be checked "yes").*

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

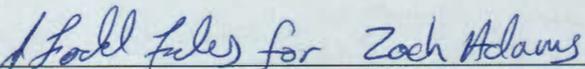
**ID Team Members:**

Chris Bishop  Date: 3/7/2011  
Recreation Planner

Tessa Teems  Date: 3/7/11  
Range Management Specialist

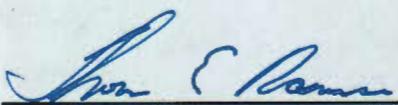
Paul Whitman  Date: 3/7/2011  
Planning and Environmental Coordinator

Edward Hennagin  Date: 3-7-2011  
Cartographic Technician

Zach Adams  (Hold files for Zach Adams) Date: 3-7-2011  
Cartographic Technician

Theresa Romasko  Date: 3/7/2011  
Associate Field Manager for Botany and Range

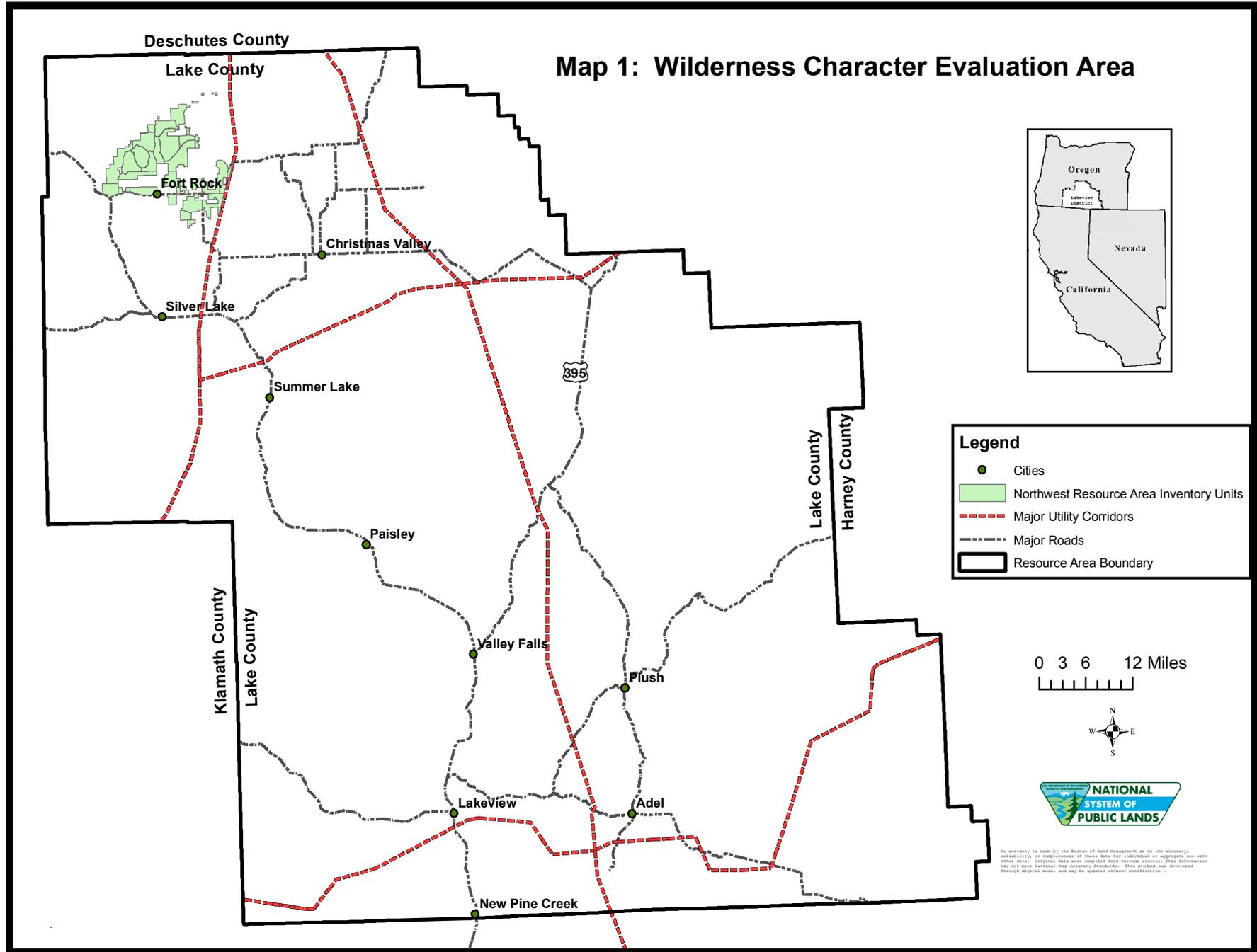
**Approved by:**

  
Tom Rasmussen, Field Manager

3/8/2011  
Date

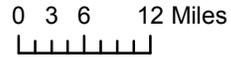
*This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.*

# Map 1: Wilderness Character Evaluation Area

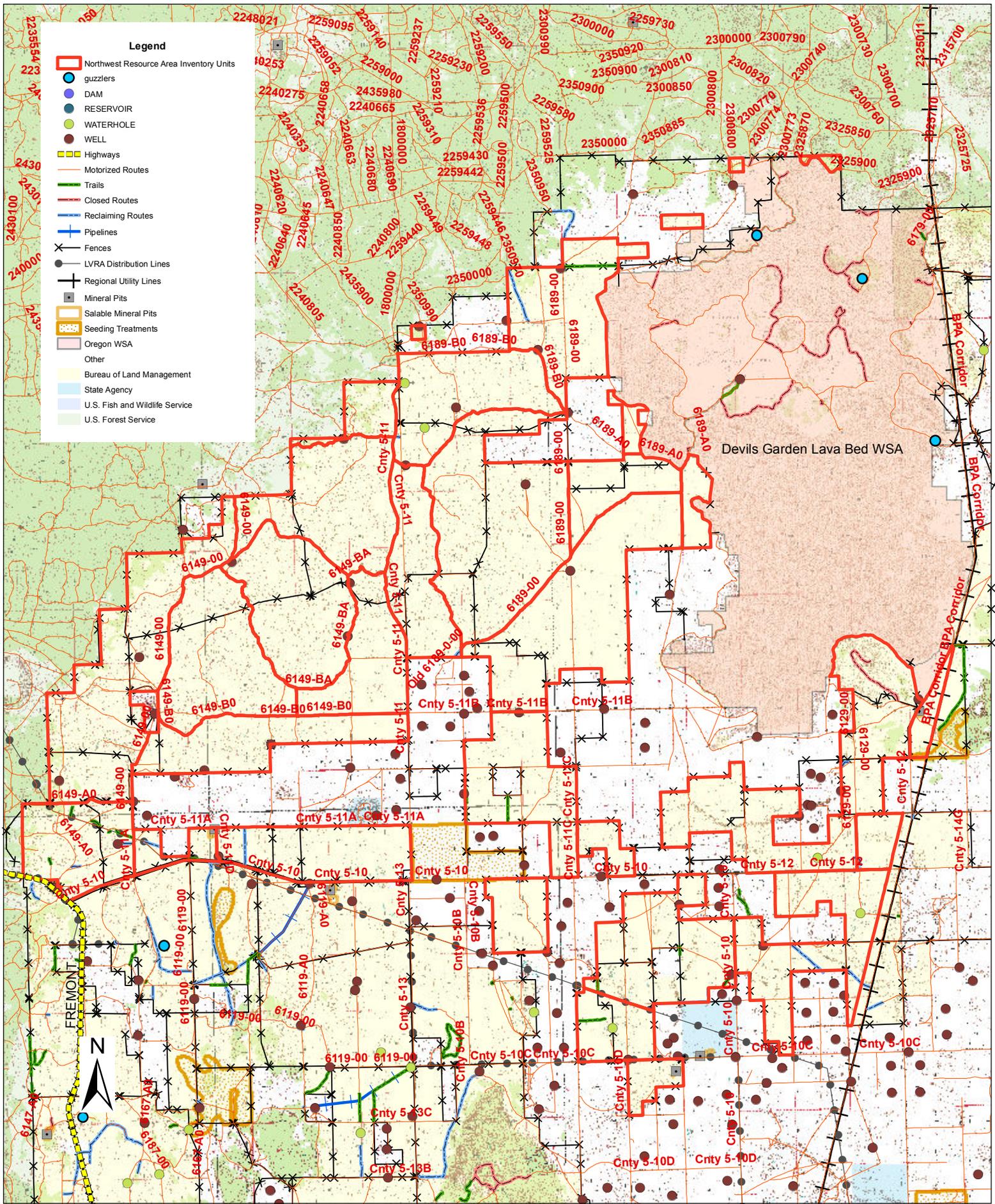


**Legend**

- Cities
- Northwest Resource Area Inventory Units
- Major Utility Corridors
- Major Roads
- Resource Area Boundary



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Map 2 - Wilderness Character for the Northwest Resource Area



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