WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY

APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION

OR08-OR05-1 Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness Additions

Evaluation of Current Conditions:

1) Document and review any existing BLM wilderness characteristics inventory findings on file regarding the presence or absence of individual wilderness characteristics, using Form 1, below.

2) Consider relevant information regarding current conditions available in the office. Identify and describe any changes to the existing inventory information. Use interdisciplinary team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc. and document the findings on Form 2, below. Document current conditions regarding wilderness characteristics, as opposed to potential future conditions.

   Conduct field reviews as necessary to verify information and to ascertain current conditions. Reach conclusions on current conditions including boundaries, size of areas and presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. Fully explain the basis for each conclusion on Form 2, including any critical differences between BLM and citizen information.

   Document the findings regarding current conditions for each inventoried area. Describe how the present conditions are similar to, or have changed from, the conditions documented in the original wilderness characteristics inventory. Document the findings on Form 2 for each inventory area. Cite to or attach data considered, including photographs, maps, GIS layers, field trip notes, project files, etc.

FORM 1

Documentation of BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings from Previous Inventory on Record

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

No ☐ (Go to Form 2) **Yes** ☒ (If yes, and if more than one area is within the area, list the unique identifiers for those areas.):

a) **Inventory Source:** Computer generated from old BLM policy and all applicable BLM inventory files

Salem District Wilderness Characteristic Inventory, Western Oregon Plan Revision Draft Environmental Impact Statement – September 2006

Western Oregon Plan Revision Record of Decision (2008) – RESCINDED

b) **Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s): OR080-OR05-1 Salmon-Huckleberry Additions**

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s): OR080-OR05-1**

d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Salem District, Cascades Resource Area**

2. **BLM Inventory Findings on Record:**

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory area is associated with the area, list each area and answer each question individually for each inventory area):

Inventory Source: Denotes all applicable BLM Inventory files, printed maps, or published BLM Decisions documents with information pertaining to this unit.

Unique Identifier	Sufficient Size? Yes/No (acres)	Naturalness? Yes/No	Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No	Supplemental Values? Yes/No
OR08-OR05-1 Salmon-Huckleberry Additions	Yes (636 acres)	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier OR08-OR05-1 Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness Additions

Total Acreage: 640 acres
Boulder Creek sub-unit: 506 acres
Eagle Creek sub-unit: 14 acres
Salmon River sub-units: 120 acres

(If the inventory area consists of subunits, list the acreage of each and evaluate each separately).

1) **Is the area of sufficient size?** (If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check "Yes" and describe the exception in the space provided below),

Yes ☒ No ☐

Note: If "No" is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.

Description (describe the boundaries of the area--wilderness inventory roads, property lines, etc.): There are three sub-units within this inventory unit. All sub-units are separate from one another but contiguous with the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness, a 62,455 Wilderness area administered by the Mount Hood National Forest, Zigzag Ranger District. The area was designated by the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984 and subsequently expanded by the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009.

A fourth sub-unit at the headwaters of Alder Creek was found to have wilderness characteristics in the 2006 inventory. However, BLM policy in Manual 6310 now excludes this unit from consideration due to the sufficient size criteria. It is not directly contiguous to designated wilderness and therefore is dropped from this inventory.

Boulder Creek

Refer to this inventory unit's associated Map 1 for the location of the Boulder Creek subunit, located in T2S R6E, section 35. The boundaries are based on a proposal submitted by the public but have been revised based on available GIS information, new policy direction and field verification.

The subunit's boundaries are formed by a combination of previous forest management (which have a direct bearing on naturalness) and ownership boundaries. To the west, north and northeast, subunit boundaries are determined by the extent of previous timber harvest which creates a distinct boundary between younger, plantation-like stands and older, unmanaged forest. The eastern boundary is determined by the edge of BLM-administered land, with adjoining property under the ownership of Clackamas County. The southern boundary of the subunit is the

section line between section 35 and T3S R6E section 2 and the edge of the Salmon Huckleberry Wilderness.

The entirety of section 35 is BLM-administered Oregon and California Revested lands.

Salmon River

This subunit is located in 1/4SW 1/4NW of T3S R7E, section 8. The subunit's boundaries are formed entirely by ownership boundaries. To the west and south is USFS-administered Wilderness. Forested private property lies to the north and east.

The entirety of this subunit is BLM-administered Public Domain land.

Eagle Creek

Refer to this inventory unit's associated Map 1 for the location of the Eagle Creek subunit in the southeast corner of T3S 5E Section 13. The boundaries are based on a proposal submitted by the public in 2006 but have been revised based on available GIS information, new policy direction and field verification.

The subunits boundaries are defined by the extent of previous timber harvest, roads and land ownership boundaries. The southern boundary is determined by BLM Road 3-5E-13. The western and northern boundaries are determined by previous timber harvest. The eastern boundary is defined by the boundary of BLM ownership at the eastern edge of section 13; the adjacent section is managed by the Mount Hood National Forest.

The public land in section 13 is BLM-administered Oregon and California Revested lands.

2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Note: If "No" is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.

Description (include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation, and summary of major human uses/activities):

In landscape character and vegetation, all three sub-units are virtually indistinguishable from the contiguous Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness. Direct observation, stand history records and forest inventory GIS data indicate the unit has never been subject to forest management activities, and no obvious signs of cutting or yarding are visible. No noticeable human developments were observed (such as skid roads or logging or utility corridors) and none are known at the time of inventory. However, the rapid growth rate of vegetation in the inventory unit's may have obscured or obliterated signs of human activity. Considering the terrain and lack of human developments, the entire unit appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

Boulder Creek

This subunit includes steep, dissected stream drainages that flow into Boulder Creek, a tributary of the Salmon River. The higher elevation portions contain small areas of flatter terrain and a small knoll with an elevation of 3100'. Elevations range from this point down to 1700' on the unit's eastern boundary. The unit slopes topographically from west to east as it drains into Boulder Creek.

Approximately 336 acres in section 35 is designated as part of the Mount Hood Congressional Reserve Area. These stands consist of mid to late mature seral stage Douglas-fir and western hemlock with a component of red alder in the riparian areas and the northwest corner of the section. The stands range in age from approximately 80 to 150 years. There are no records of any previous harvest or timber management activities. Approximately 126 acres of the 336 acres are listed as "withdrawn" from timber harvest, likely due to steep and rocky ground.

Approximately 170 acres are currently designated as Connectivity, as part of the Matrix Land Use Allocation (LUA) in our Resource Management Plan (RMP). These stands are mid to late mature seral stage Douglas-fir and western hemlock ranging in age from approximately 140-150 years. 64 acres are mapped as "withdrawn". There are no records of any previous harvest or timber management activities.

110 acres of forested stands in the Connectivity LUA and could be considered for timber harvest according to our current management plan. It was determined that anywhere from 50-70 acres of this timber could be easily accessed with approximately .25 to .5 miles of temporary road construction coming off of 2-6E-30.0 that borders the western edge of the proposed wilderness addition in section 35.

Salmon River #1 and #2

The subunit in section 8 (Salmon River #1) is an 80 acre parcel that includes a single steep, dissected stream drainage emptying directly into the Salmon River. Elevations range from 2690' to 2080'. The subunit slopes topographically from west to east as it drains into the Salmon River.

The subunit in section 9 (Salmon River #2) is a 40 acre parcel that forms the lower slopes of a steep dissected ridge. The subunit slopes topographically from east to west as it drains into the Salmon River.

Approximately 110-120 acres in sections 8 and 9 are currently located in the Mount Hood Congressional Reserve Area. These stands are around 120 years of age, and consist primarily of Douglas-fir. There are no records of any previous timber management activities. Approximately 17 acres are mapped as "withdrawn" from timber harvest. There is currently no road access to the BLM ownership in these sections. The congressional reserve prohibits future timber harvest.

Eagle Creek

The subunit features moderate slopes with elevations ranging from 2420' to 2020'. The subunit slopes topographically north to south as it drains into Eagle Creek, a tributary of the Clackamas River.

There is approximately 14 acres of BLM ownership in section 13 that is proposed for addition to the Salmon Huckleberry Wilderness area. This land is currently classified as part of our General Forest Management Area LUA. All 14 acres is considered productive forest land, with no currently mapped withdrawn areas. There are two distinct stands in this potential addition; 12 acres is a two-storied conifer stand of primarily Douglas-fir with an average age of 120, with an understory of western hemlock approximately 50 years old. There is a 3 acre portion of Riparian Reserve in the southwest corner of the unit that is a mixed stand of Douglas-fir and red alder.

This land is currently classified as part of our General Forest Management Area (GFMA) LUA. This Douglas-fir stand was considered for harvest in 2006, but was dropped from the proposal. Existing roads on private land to the northwest would make it possible to access this stand for future harvest.

3) **Does the area** (or the remainder of the area 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 ☐

Description (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for solitude): Overall, this inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities when taken in conjunction with the adjacent Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness. The existing vegetation within all three sub-units has the size, height and density to contribute substantially to outstanding opportunities for solitude. The vegetation provides visual and auditory screening from the surrounding area. In areas with dense brush, lines of sight can be limited to less than 100 feet.

The moderate to steep topography, dissected by tributaries of the Salmon and Clackamas Rivers, also provides sufficient visual screening between visitors to an extent that provides for a degree of solitude. When considered with the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness, visitors to the unit would likely be unaware of other visitors unless they were directly encountered.

Boulder Creek

The subunit is approximately 1 mile north to south and ¾ a mile east to west. It includes four distinct, steeply sloped and dissected drainages. Road access to some portions of the subunit, especially the areas near Boulder Creek, is very limited considering the terrain and requires strenuous cross-country travel.

The sounds of US Highway 26, approximately 2 miles south and west of the inventory unit, are audible from several locations within the inventory unit. However, these sounds are not omnipresent and do not detract substantially from opportunities for solitude.

The combination of topography, remoteness and vegetation result in this subunit containing outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the adjacent Salmon Huckleberry Wilderness.

Salmon River

This subunit was not visited during this inventory process. Information and conclusions are drawn from GIS analysis, professional judgment and visits to adjacent areas.

The subunit is 0.25 miles north to south and 0.50 miles east to west. Access to the subunit requires cross-country travel either from the ridge top through USFS-administered land or through private property below.

The sounds of US Highway 26, approximately 1 miles south and west of the inventory unit, are likely audible from several locations within this subunit. However, these sounds are not omnipresent and do not detract substantially from opportunities for solitude.

The unit, while small, is contiguous with large, roadless and undeveloped federal lands. It is steep, remote, and relatively inaccessible. It provides opportunity for visitors to escape the sites and sounds of others within the unit. This opportunity is considered outstanding when considered in conjunction with the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness.

Eagle Creek

This subunit was not visited during this inventory process. Information and conclusions are drawn from GIS analysis, professional judgment and visits to adjacent areas.

The subunit is 0.2 miles north to south and 0.1 miles east to west. The. subunit, while small, is contiguous with large, roadless and undeveloped federal lands. The subunit itself provides opportunities for solitude due to vegetation and topography. This opportunity is considered outstanding when considered in conjunction with the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness.

4) **Does the area** (or the remainder of the area 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 ☐

Note: If "No" is checked for both 3 and 4 the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for question 5.

Description (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation): The Salmon Huckleberry Wilderness provides outstanding opportunities for non-motorized primitive recreation. The USFS maintains a substantial trail network that provides access to prominent peaks, major creeks and rivers. The system is valued by day hikers, backpackers and equestrians as well as those participating in nature study, berry picking and photography but receives relatively low levels of visitor use when compared to the nearby Mount

Hood Wilderness. All three sub-units provide outstanding opportunities for these activities when considered in conjunction with the wilderness.

Boulder Creek

The sub-unit contains a portion of the McIntyre Ridge Trail (USFS #782). Prior to 2005, BLM Road #2-6E-35 served as the trailhead to this trail. As of 2012, BLM Rd #2-6E-35 is now gated and a new trailhead to the McIntyre Ridge Trail has been developed by the Mount Hood National Forest. Even within this restricted vehicular access to the inventory subunit, the trail provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. These opportunities include hiking, horseback riding, backpacking, berry picking, photography, hunting and nature study. The McIntyre Ridge hike is described in numerous guidebooks as a convenient wilderness trip from the Portland metropolitan area.

Salmon River

This sub-unit contains no recreational trails or other facilities. Access to this subunit involves overland travel from roads at the bottom of the Salmon River valley. It is expected that virtually no recreation use or public access takes place in either sub-unit. However, when taken in conjunction with the adjacent wilderness area, these opportunities are considered outstanding.

Eagle Creek

BLM Road 3-5E-13, which forms the southern boundary of the subunit, serves as the trailhead for USFS Trail #781. The subunit is easily accessible from this road and therefore receives low to moderate levels of visitor use by offering opportunities for primitive recreation. In conjunction with the adjacent wilderness area, these opportunities are considered outstanding.

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)**?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

The inventory unit provides suitable habitat for the Northern Spotted Owl, a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The area is within the provincial home range of three known owl pairs. One known owl site and associated core habitat is within the inventory unit.

Summary of Analysis

Area Unique Identifier: OR08-OR05-1 Salmon-Huckleberry Additions

Summary
Results of analysis:
(Note: explain the inventory findings for the entirety of the inventory unit. When wilderness characteristics have been identified in an area that is smaller than the size of the total inventory unit, explain why certain portions of the inventory unit are not included within the lands with wilderness characteristics (e.g. the inventory found that certain parts lacked naturalness).

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? **Yes** ☒ No ☐
2. Does the area appear to be natural? **Yes** ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐
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 ☐

Check one:

☒ The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as lands with wilderness characteristics.

☐ The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by (name, title):

Adam Milnor, Outdoor Recreation Planner — 2/19/2013 Date

Team Members (name, title):

Alisa Tanner, Forester — 2/15/13

Dugan Bonney, Silviculturist — 2/19/2013

James England, Wildlife Biologist — 2/11/2013

Bruce Zoellick, Fisheries Biologist — 2/13/2013

Terry Fennell, Botanist — 2/19/2013

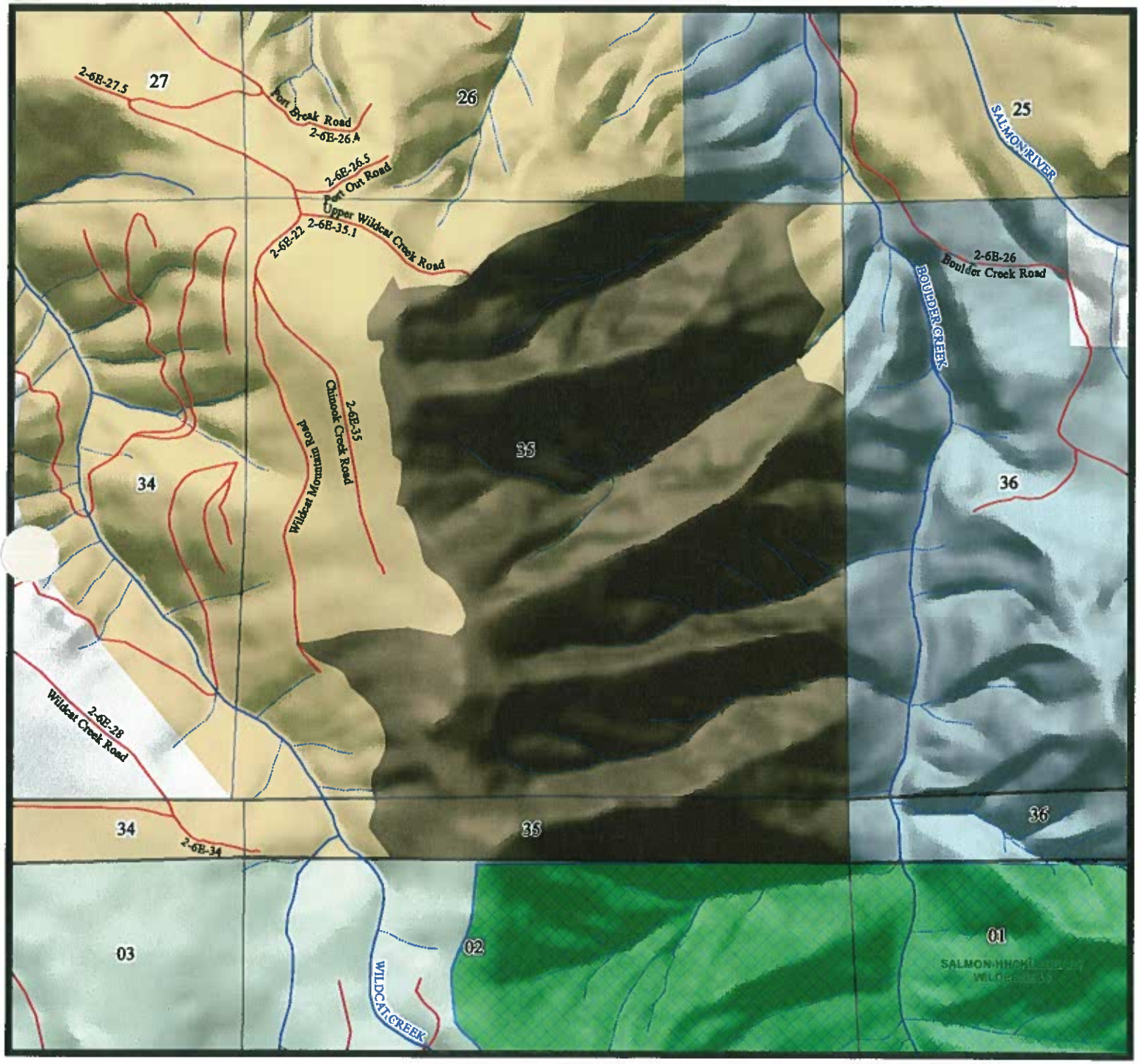
Reviewed by (Field Manager or District Manager):

John Huston, Cascades Field Manager — 2/8/13 Date

United States
Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Salem District / Cascades Resource Area
Inventory Unit: Salmon Huckleberry Additions

Subunit: Boulder Creek
OR08-OR05-1

ember 26, 2012



0 500 1,000
Feet

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Road
Intermittent
Perennial
Proposed Wilderness Characteristics Area
Region 6 Wilderness

Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Forest Service
State
Local Government
Private/Unknown

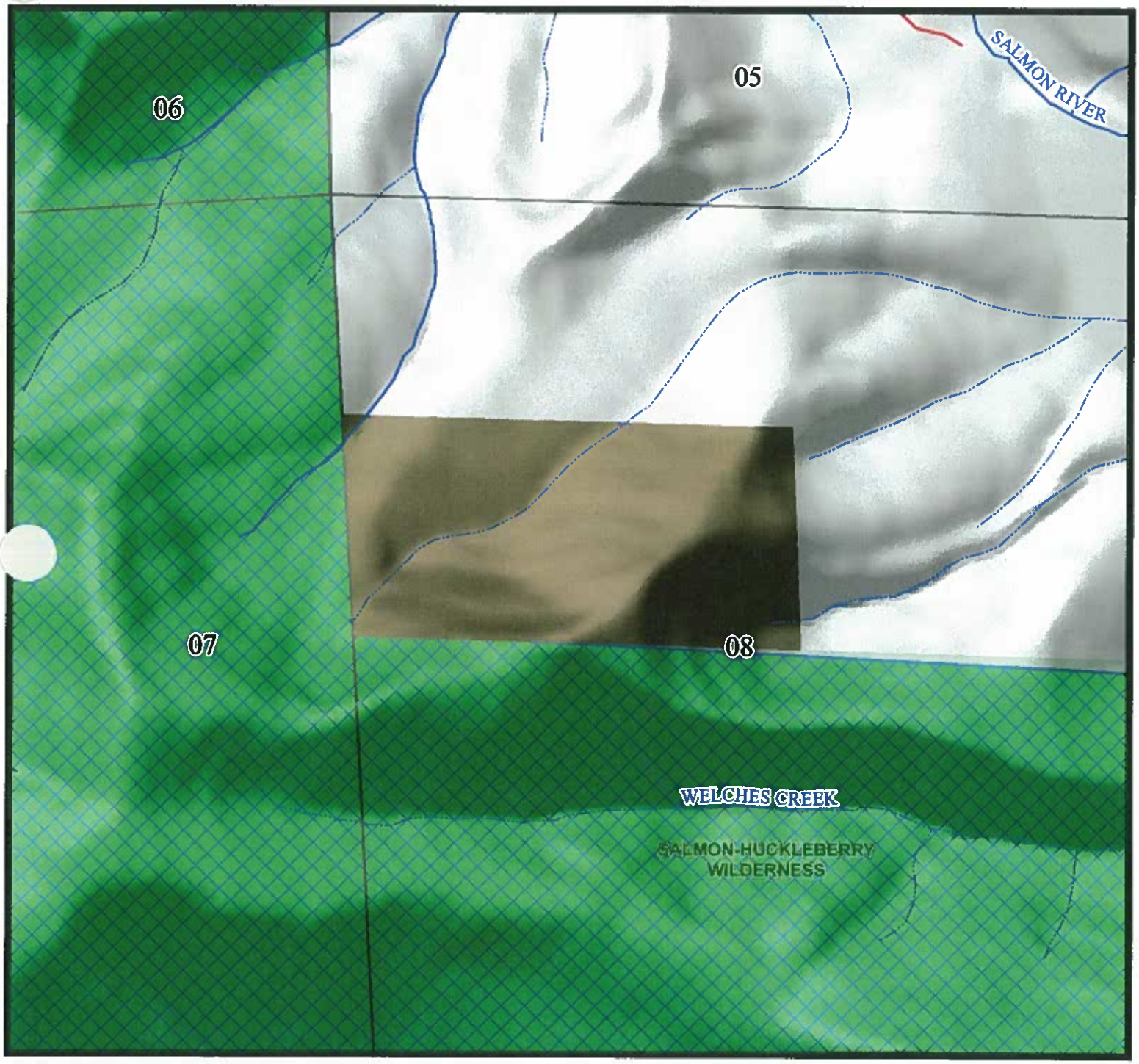
N
W E
S

United States
Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Salem District / Cascades Resource Area

Subunit: Salmon River1
OR08-OR05-1

ember 26, 2012

Inventory Unit: Salmon Huckleberry Additions



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Road
Intermittent
Perennial
Proposed Wilderness Characteristics Area
Region 6 Wilderness

Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Forest Service
Private/Unknown

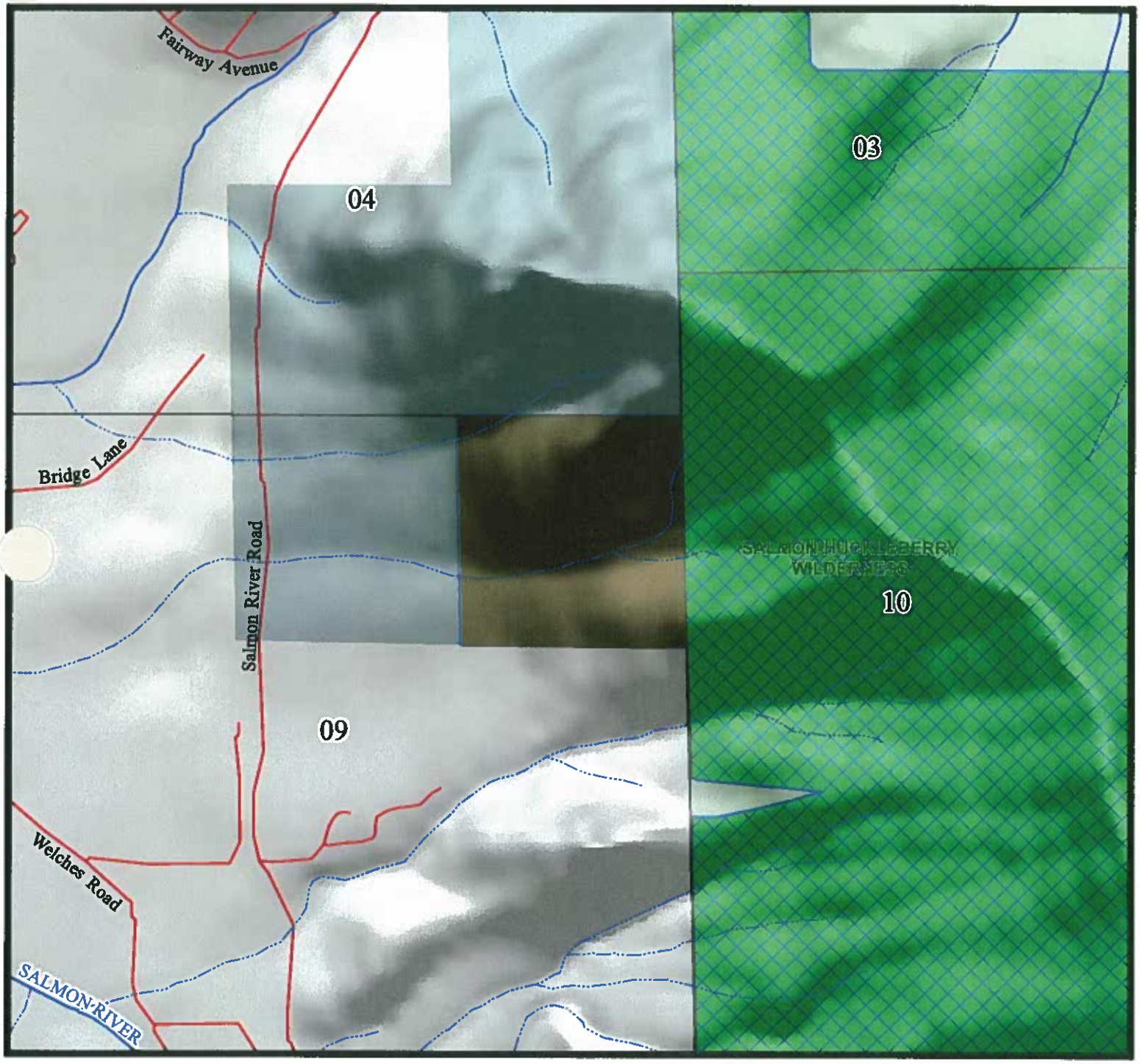
N W E S

United States
Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Salem District / Cascades Resource Area

Subunit: Salmon River2
OR08-OR05-1

ember 26, 2012

Inventory Unit: Salmon Huckleberry Additions



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Road
Intermittent
Perennial
Proposed Wilderness Characteristics Area
Region 6 Wilderness

Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Forest Service
Local Government
Private/Unknown

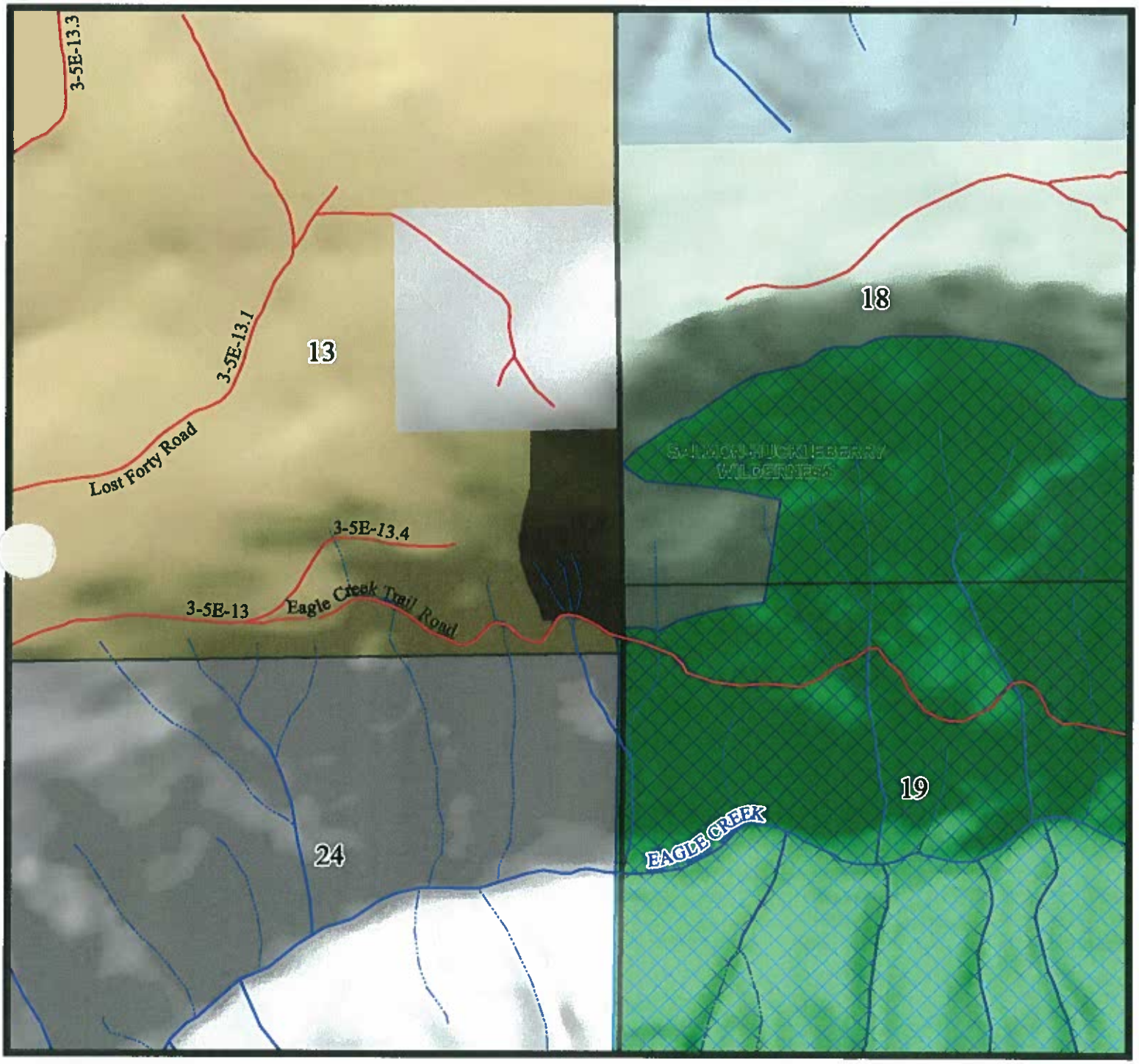
N
W E
S

United States
Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Salem District / Cascades Resource Area

Subunit: Eagle Creek
OR08-OR05-1

ember 26, 2012

Inventory Unit: Salmon Huckleberry Additions



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Road
Intermittent
Perennial
Proposed Wilderness Characteristics Area
Region 6 Wilderness

Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Forest Service
Local Government
Private/Unknown

N W E S

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY

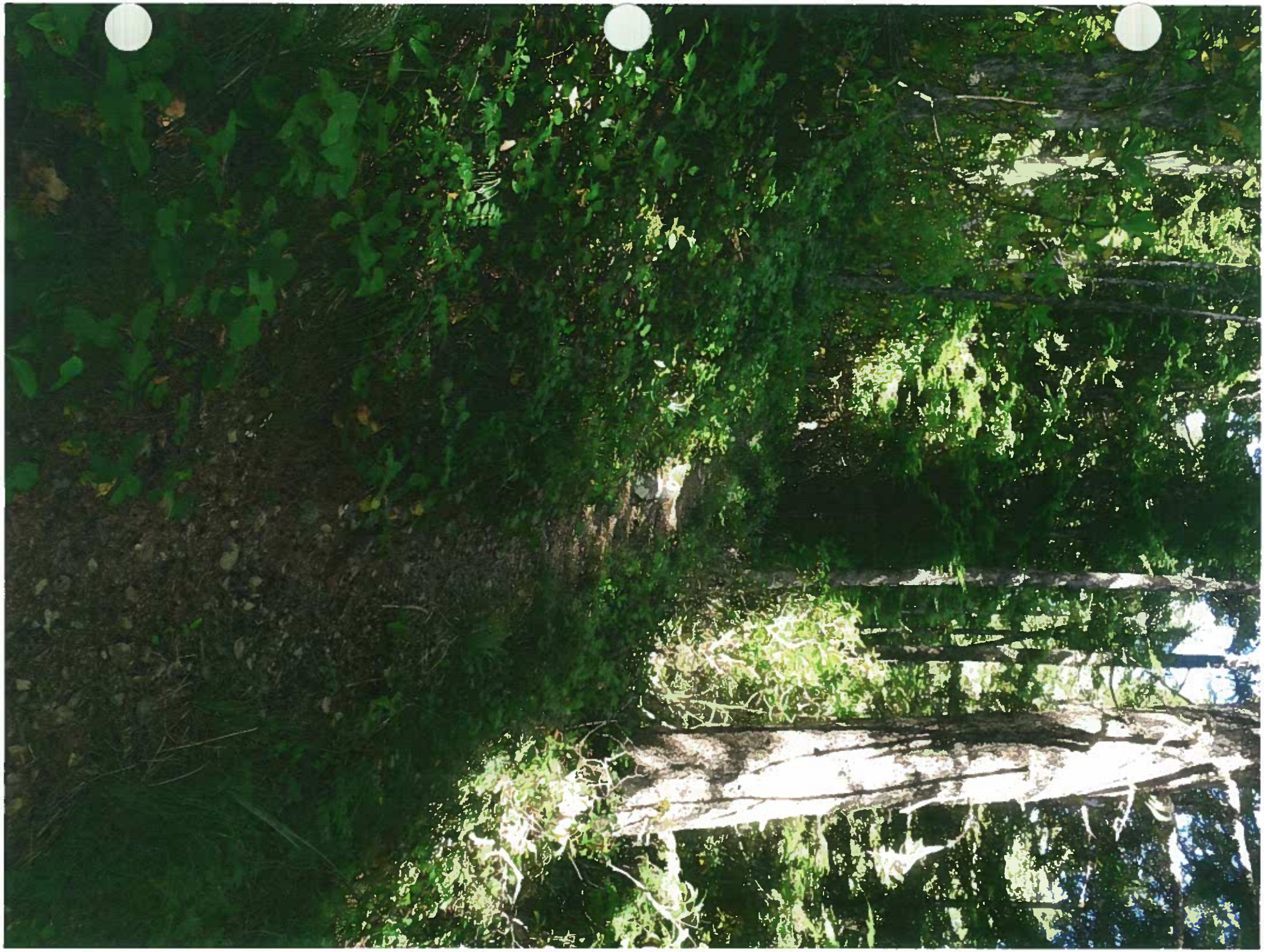
APPENDIX D – PHOTO LOG

Photographer(s): Adam Milnor

Inventory Area Unique Identifier: OR08-OR05-1 Salmon-Huckleberry Additions

Date	Frame #	Camera Direction	Description	GPS/UTM Location	Town-ship	Range	Sec.	Photo Point #
9/6/12	1	S	BLM Road 2-6E-35 , which accesses the inventory unit	45.353171 -122.040939	2S	6E	35	1
9/6/12	2	N	The former alignment of McIntyre Ridge Trail	45.346807 -122.035446	2S	6E	35	2
9/6/12	3	W	Typical forest conditions in the upland area, a mature conifer forest	45.346807 -122.035446	2S	6E	35	3
9/6/12	4	E	Typical forest conditions on the eastern facing slope above Boulder Creek	45.351844 -122.036798	2S	6E	35	4
9/6/12	5	N	The boundary of the inventory unit shows a young Douglas-fir plantation next to unmanaged forest	45.351180 -122.037828	2S	6E	35	5
7/27/12	6	N	BLM Road 3-5E-13, which forms the southern boundary of the Eagle Creek subunit	45.300822 -122.137284	3S	5E	13	6

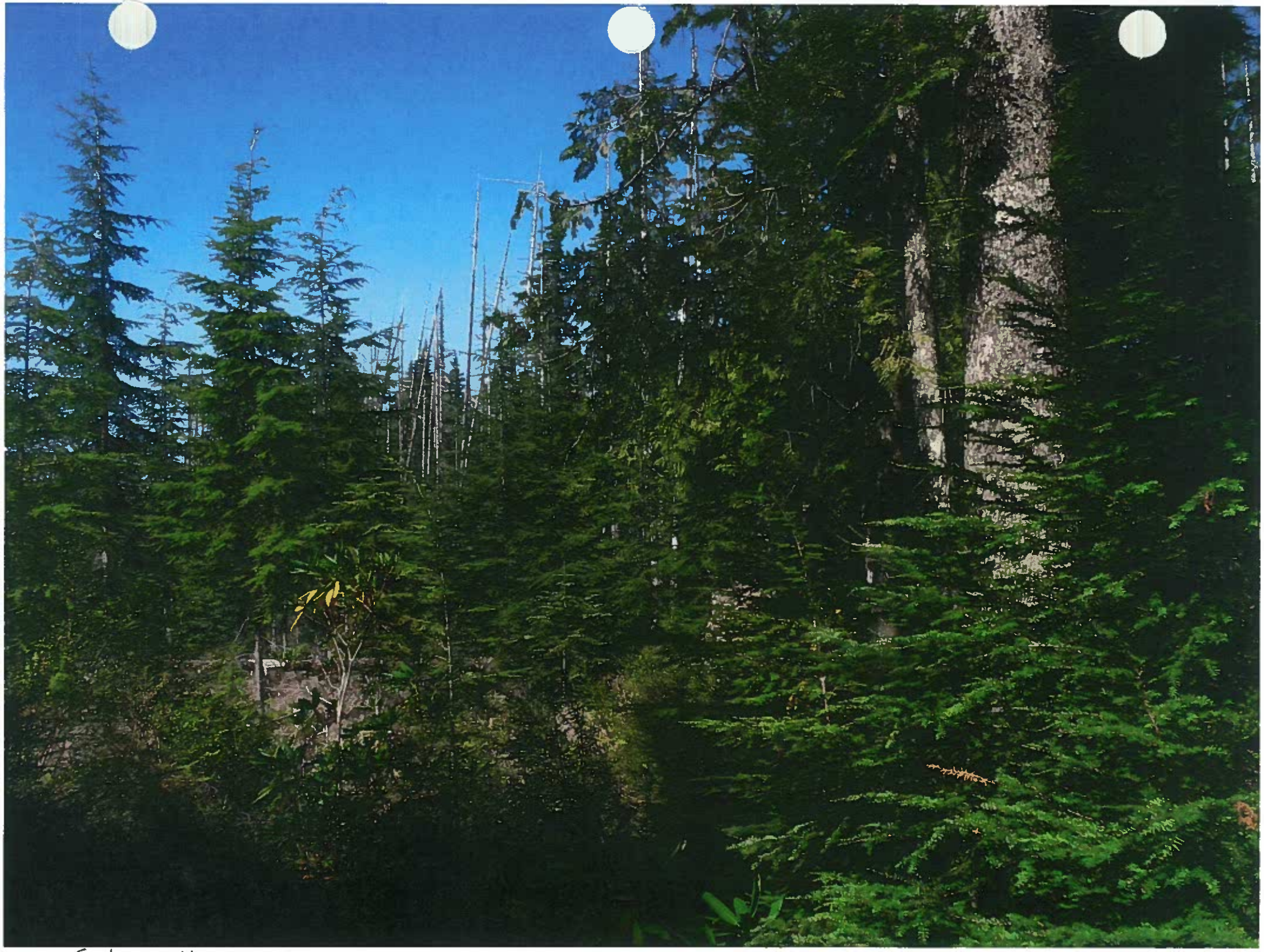
Salmon Hack 1



Salmon Hack 2

Salmon Hack 3

Salmon Huck 4



Salmon Hwy 5

Salmon Hack 6