

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents  
**Antelope Creek OR-034-018, 10 total pages**

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**Prepared by:**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bureau of Land Management**  
**Vale District Office**  
**100 Oregon Street**  
**Vale, Oregon 97918**



## H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON

### APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION

#### Evaluation of Current Conditions:

- 1) Document and review the existing BLM wilderness inventory findings on file, if available, regarding the presence or absence of individual wilderness characteristics, using Form 1, below.
- 2) Consider relevant information regarding current conditions available in the office to identify and describe any changes to the existing information (use interdisciplinary (ID) team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc.), and document your findings on Form 2, below.

When Citizen Information has been submitted regarding wilderness characteristics, document the submitted materials including: date of Submission; Name of District(s) and Field Office(s) Affected; Type of material Submitted (e.g. narrative, map, photo). Evaluate any submitted citizen information regarding the validity of proposed boundaries of the unit(s), the existence of roads and other boundary features, the size of the unit(s), and the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics based on relevant information available in the office (prior BLM inventories, ID team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc.)

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 your 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 inventory. Document your 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.*

Year: 2009 Unit Number/Name: OR-034-018 – Antelope Creek

## **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?**

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ (If yes, and if more than one unit is within the area, list the names of those units.):

**A.) Inventory Source(s) -- (X) Denotes all applicable BLM Inventory files, printed maps, or published BLM Decision documents with information pertaining to this unit.**

#### **Wilderness Inventories**

- (X) 1978 – BLM Wilderness Inventory 3-306, no name (unpublished BLM document stored in 6-way case file)
- (X) April 1979 – *Wilderness -- Proposed Initial Inventory – Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not have Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington*

#### **Wilderness Decision Documents**

- (X) August 1979 – *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* (green document)
- ( ) October 1979 – *Wilderness Review – Intensive Inventory - Oregon, Proposed Decision on the Intensive Wilderness Inventory of Selected Areas* (grey document)
- ( ) March 1980 – *Wilderness Review – Intensive Inventory; Final Decisions on 30 Selected Units in Southeast Oregon and Proposed Decisions on Other Intensively Inventoried Units in Oregon and Washington* (orange document)
- ( ) November 1980 - *Wilderness Inventory – Oregon and Washington, Final Intensive Inventory Decisions* (brown document)
- ( ) November 1981 *Stateline Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decision, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah* (tan document)

#### **B.) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s)**

BLM subunit 3-306 (no name) of OR-03-03-11.

#### **C.) Map Name(s)/Number(s)**

- (X) Final Decision – Initial Wilderness Inventory Map, August 1979, Oregon
- ( ) Proposed Decision -- Intensive Wilderness Inventory of Selected Areas Map, October 1979, Oregon
- ( ) Intensive Wilderness Inventory Map, March 1980, Oregon
- ( ) Intensive Wilderness Inventory --Final Decisions Map, November 1980, Oregon
- ( ) November, 1981 *Stateline Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decision, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah* (tan document)

**D.) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s)**  
 Vale District/Malheur 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):

**Inventory Source:** See above.

<b>Unit#/ Name</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>
3-306 subunit (no name) of OR-03-03-11	*	*	*	*	*
<b>TOTAL</b>	*				

\* -- Specific information for 3-306 could not be found in district inventory records. All 3-300 series wilderness characteristics units of the Vale District were part of an accelerated, separate inventory effort, related to a PP & L 500 kV transmission line proposal of 1977-78. The statewide decision map of the August 1979 document, *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*, identifies the units as previously not meeting wilderness characteristics, thus not subject to further review.

## **H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON**

### **APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION**

#### **Evaluation of Current Conditions:**

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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.

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## **FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS**

**Unit Number/Name -- OR-034-018 -- Antelope Creek**

**Description of Current Conditions:** [Include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation features and summary of major human uses/activities.]

### **1. Is the unit of sufficient size?**

Yes   X                        No           

**Description:** Refer to this inventory unit's Map 1 for its location. The 10,737 acre unit is bounded by county roads, including the Succor Creek Road, a BLM road extending from the County road 3196, a private land parcel and by Succor Creek State Natural Area. Other features of the unit's boundary include a 300 acre parcel of the Natural Area as a separate State inholding with its 1.3 mile cherry-stem road crossing public land, and three other cherry-stem roads totaling 0.9 miles with their affiliated hard rock mining sites. The boundary is nearly identical to the BLM's 1970's historic unit 3-306.

### **2. Is the unit in a natural condition?**

Yes   X                        No                                 N/A           

**Description:** The unit is dominated by a complex of varying directional rugged draws, drainages and breaks with steep to very steep slopes and rocky basalt outcrops throughout the area. Some edges of the unit, notable its northeast and certain stretches of its east and northwest, are mixed with less rugged, rolling to approaching flat terrain. Elevations range from approximately 2,500 to 3,650 feet. Dominant vegetation type is sagebrush community with native and non-native rangeland grasses.

Refer to this unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for the locations of human imprints. The unit has 8.25 miles of 13 motorized primitive trails (MPTs), 9.3 miles of rangeland fence, 2 earthen reservoirs, one developed spring, another spring with an associated fenced wildlife enclosure, a 1.2 mile small power line to the State's Natural Area inholding (Note: not in BLM GIS coverage at this date), and remnants of one small irrigation diversion dam on Succor Creek. There is remnant evidence of 4 abandoned vehicle routes within the unit. Approximately 60 percent of the unit was affected by a 2002 wildfire. During fire suppression, an existing vehicle route was bladed. This route between County Road 3193 on the unit's north boundary to the State's Natural Area inholding will not be maintained by BLM for future regular and continuous use; therefore, remains in status as a MPT. Following the fire, 950 acres in 3 separate locations along the northeast and east boundary road were range drill seeded -- two with a native species mix and one with a non-native perennial grass/forb mix. Other locations associated with the fire were chemically treated. In 2003, a drilled seeding of a mix of native and non-native grasses associated with the Succor Creek Restoration project

affected approximately 450 acres in the unit. Presently, there is no visual evidence of the chemical treatments, and the drill's furrowed affect of the soils is no longer apparent, while only scattered sites of the planted vegetation have any remnant visual evidence of a linear appearance.

The highest concentration of human imprints is more so associated with the unit's northwest quadrant; the very short motorized primitive trails in this quadrant are hill runs developed by off-road vehicles. The remaining developments are distributed in other locations, many being proximate to the unit's boundary road. Given the size of the unit relative to the location, extent and types of man-made features within the unit, human imprints appear, overall, to be substantially unnoticeable with the unit affected primarily by the forces of nature.

**3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?**

Yes  No  N/A

**Description:** The low profiled vegetation within the unit provides no visual screening between visitors. Except for a fairly flat strip of the unit's northwest quadrant along Succor Creek Road, the complex nature and distribution of topographically rugged, incised terrain associated with the unit's many draws and drainages provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

**4. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?**

Yes  No  N/A

**Description:** Common dispersed recreational activities include hunting of common game species (primarily chukar, deer and antelope), day use hiking, rockhounding (including the thunderegg, the State of Oregon's designated state rock), and general photography and geological sightseeing primarily associated with the Succor Creek canyon of the abutting Oregon State Natural Area. Thundereggs, while attracting rockhounds, are not unique or distinctive to the inventory unit to be considered a unique or special recreational attraction within the unit. There are no special features or exceptional recreation-related attractions associated with the inventory unit. Respectively, considered individually or collectively, the recreational values present do not constitute outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

**5. Does the unit have supplemental values?**

Yes  No  N/A

**Description:** Smooth blazingstar, a BLM special status plant species, is within the unit. The unit is within the habitat range for a herd of California bighorn sheep.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: OR-034-018 -- Antelope Creek

**Summary Results of Analysis:**

- 1. Does the area meet any of 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  NA
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values?  Yes  No  NA

**Conclusion -- check one:**

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

**Prepared by:** Robert Alward  
Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner contractor

**Team Members:**

<u>Mitch Thomas</u>	<u>2/4/10</u>
Mitch Thomas, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Shaney Rockefeller</u>	<u>3/10/10</u>
Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist	Date
<u>Diane H Pritchard</u>	<u>2/8/10</u>
Diane Pritchard, Archeologist	Date
<u>Eian Ray</u>	<u>02/09/10</u>
Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, contractor	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	<u>2/9/10</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

(NOTE: Previous staff members who reviewed this unit include Botanist Jean Findley (retired 7/2008), and Wildlife Biologist Brandon Knapton, (transferred 2007).)

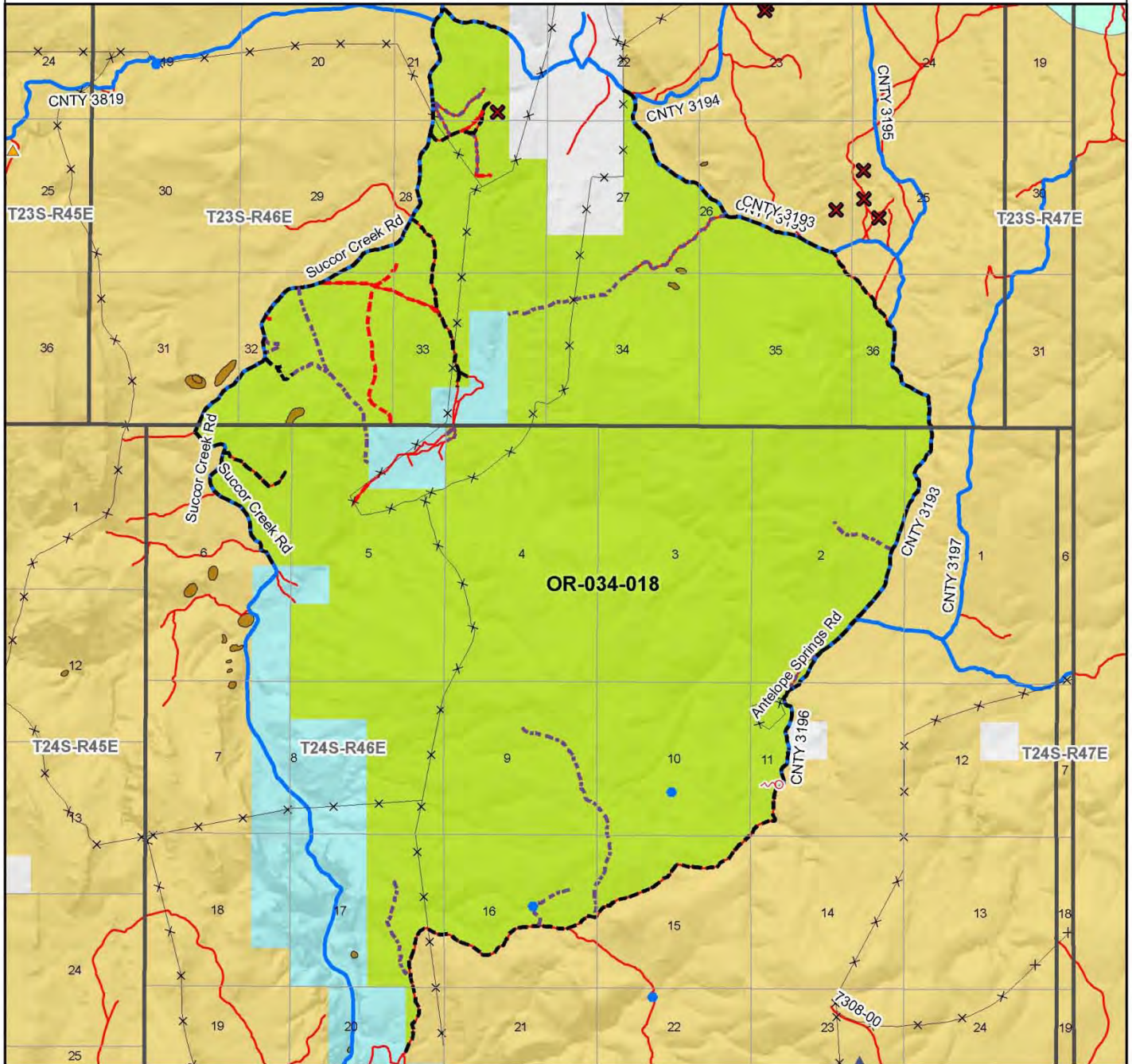
**Approved by:** Pat Ryan 3/30/2010  
Pat Ryan, Malheur Resource Area Field Manager Date

*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.*



# Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

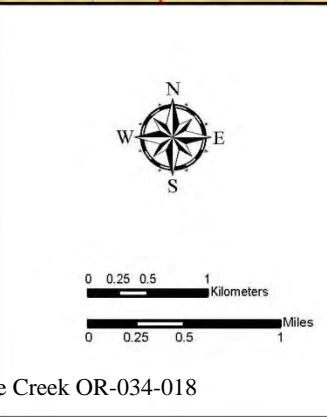
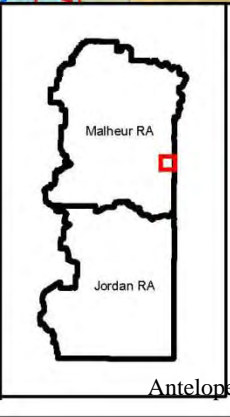
## Antelope Creek - OR-034-018 - Map 1 of 2



**Legend**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Developed Spring</li> <li> Wildlife Guzzler</li> <li> Earthen Reservoir</li> <li> Pipeline</li> <li> Trough</li> <li> Fence</li> <li> Storage Tank</li> <li> Surface Mining Disturbance</li> <li> Sage Grouse Lek</li> <li> Special Status Plant</li> <li> BLM Wild Char Inventory Unit</li> <li> Wilderness Study Area</li> <li> Mineral Material Site</li> <li> Road/Utility Right-of-Way</li> <li> Major Water Body</li> </ul>	<p><b>Route Types - BLM Determination</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Boundary Road</li> <li> Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT)</li> <li> Discontinued Use</li> </ul> <p><b>Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> County</li> <li> Major Highway</li> <li> BLM Numbered &amp; Other Routes</li> </ul> <p><b>Land Ownership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Bureau of Land Management</li> <li> State</li> <li> Private</li> <li> Other Federal Land</li> </ul>
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**Wilderness Inventory Unit**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

**VALE DISTRICT**  
January 23, 2009

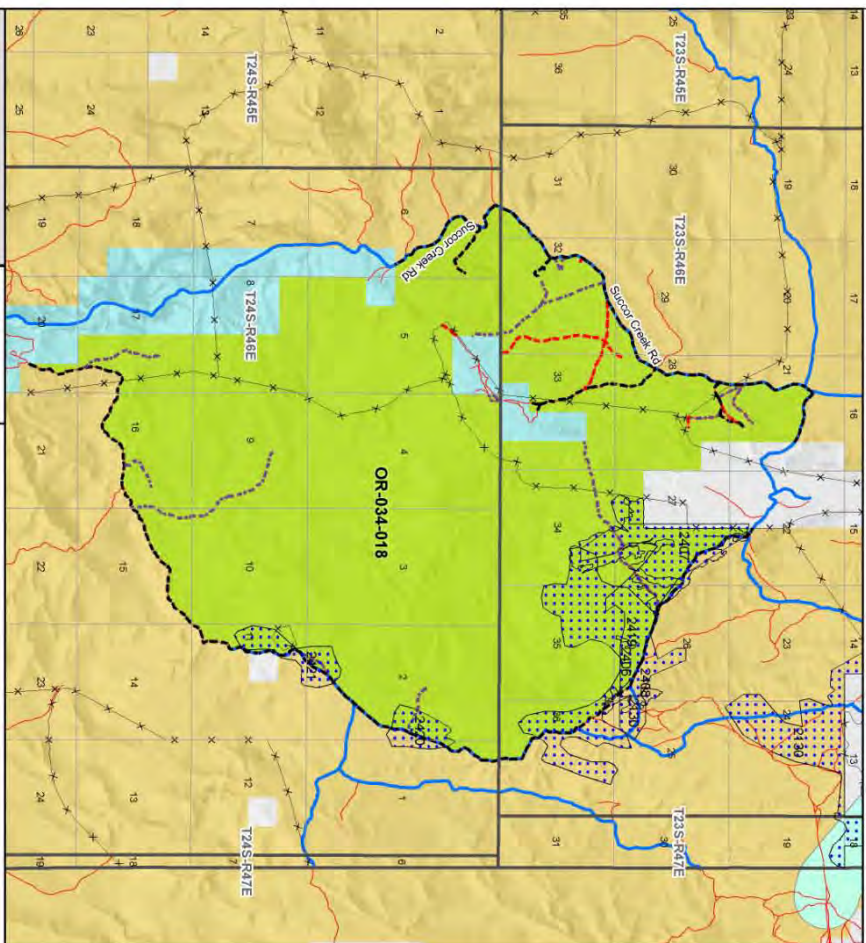
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**--FINAL--**

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**Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments  
Antelope Creek - OR-034-018 - Map 2 of 2**



**Legend**

**Land Treatment**

- Green - Succor Creek Restoration SDG
- Yellow - Succor Creek Restoration SDG
- Blue - Trimbly Fire Rehab
- Red - Trimbly Fire Rehab
- Light Blue - Trimbly Fire Rehab
- Dark Blue - Trimbly Fire Rehab
- White - Other Land

**State Year - BLM Determination**

- Black - Inventory
- Red - Inventory
- Blue - Inventory
- Green - Inventory
- Yellow - Inventory
- Orange - Inventory
- Light Blue - Inventory
- Dark Blue - Inventory

**Other Features**

- Black - Road
- Red - Road
- Blue - Road
- Green - Road
- Yellow - Road
- Orange - Road
- Light Blue - Road
- Dark Blue - Road

**Map Orientation**

- North
- South
- East
- West

**Scale**

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**WALD DISTRICT  
April 15, 2009**

**FINAL**

**Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments  
Antelope Creek - OR-034-018 - Map 2 of 2**

OBJECTID*	NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE
2130	SUCCOR CRK RESTORATION SDG	Drill Seeding	Non and Native Grasses	2003
2406	SUCCOR CRK RESTORATION SDG	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	20020501
2407	SUCCOR CRK RESTORATION SDG	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	20020501
2408	SUCCOR CRK RESTORATION SDG	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	20020501
2419	TRIMBL Y FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	Non-native Grasses	20020801
2420	TRIMBL Y FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	Native Grasses	20021001
2421	TRIMBL Y FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	Native Grasses	20021001

Note: The Land Treatments represented by navy blue dots on the map to the left are labeled with the treatments' ObjectIDs listed in the first field of the Land Treatments table shown above. Multiple types of treatments may have been applied to the same area. For example, one treatment area may have been plowed and drill seeded - a record is shown in the table for each type of treatment.