

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
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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, photos). 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: 2011 **Unit Number/Name:** OR-036-061-- Antelope Reservoir

**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 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 Units 3-134 of OR-03-10-21 Antelope Reservoir (unpublished BLM documents stored in Vale District case files)
- (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 Unit 3-134 of OR-03-10-21 Antelope Reservoir

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

- 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 Jordan Field 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 and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

Inventory Source: See above.

Unit# / Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
3-134 of OR-03-10-21 Antelope Reservoir	6,360	N	*	*	*
TOTAL	6,360				

*-- These criteria were not specifically addressed during the inventory of this unit.

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FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Name/ Number: OR-036-061—Antelope Reservoir

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 associated Map 1 for BLM's Unit OR-036-061 location. The boundary of the 18,432 acre unit includes original 1970's inventory Unit 3-134 and the surrounding area to the north in the original inventory Unit OR-03-10-21 that was excluded from further intensive inventory because of the area not meeting naturalness criteria. Acreage for Unit OR-036-061 in Form 2 is calculated from BLM GIS information. BLM Unit OR-036-061 is bounded on its north and northwest side by an utility corridor right-of-way for U.S. Highway 95 and numerous private land parcels, on its east side by BLM Road 6369-0-00, on its south and southeast side by BLM Road 6373-0-00, and on its west side by BLM Road a non-numbered County Road utility corridor right-of-way and two mineral material site withdrawals right-of-ways. The natural-surfaced boundary roads receive mechanical maintenance as needed to keep them passable on a regular and continuous (seasonal) basis.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes No X N/A

Description: Given its size relative to the evidence of man-made developments, BLM Unit OR-036-061 appears to be affected not primarily by the forces of nature but with the imprint of humans that is substantially noticeable to the average visitor. The southern third of the unit is dominated by Juniper Ridge. The ridge area is comprised of rolling hills that rise about 600 to 800 feet above the remaining portion of the unit. Juniper Ridge is dissected by numerous small drainages of Jack Creek that mainly flow into Antelope Reservoir or to the west into Rock Creek. Most of the remaining portion of the unit is dominated by a nearly flat terrain to slightly undulating hills surrounding Antelope Reservoir. Elevation within the unit ranges from 4,280 feet to 5,239 feet, with the upper elevations located mostly in the unit's southern area. Sparsely populated vegetation throughout the unit consists predominately of big and low sagebrush with both native and non-native grass species.

Refer to this inventory unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for its human developments in BLM's Unit OR-036-061. Developments within the unit include 28.4 miles of 24 MPTs, two pipeline systems with 16.8 miles of pipelines and 24 troughs, 8 earthen reservoirs including Antelope reservoir, 3 reservoir exclosures, one permitted private exclosure containing hay stacks, one corral, 0.8 miles of irrigation canal right-of-way, 3 developed springs, 22.6 miles of fence line, and 7 vegetation manipulation treatments conducted from 1965 through 1986. The vegetation treatments were conducted on approximately fifty percent of the unit surrounding Antelope Reservoir over a twenty-one year period. A large portion of the sagebrush component in the unit has been reduced by the various vegetation treatments conducted during this period. Linear contrast of vegetation types is prevalent throughout most of the treatment areas even though it has been over two decades since the last treatment was conducted. To the average visitor, the vegetation treatments conducted in the unit presently appear as a whole, individually and collectively, mostly distinguishable across the landscape. Because of the numerous man-made-developments scattered throughout the unit and the location of MPTs that dissect the landscape the unit does not appear affected primarily by the forces of nature.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: BLM concludes that BLM Unit OR-036-061 does not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Much of the character of the inventory unit has not changed since the 1970's. The unit is mostly an irregular rectangle in shape over ninety percent of its area with the north-northeast portion resembling a triangle that comes to a tip at the northeast boundary. The width of the main part of the unit averages slightly less than eight miles across while the length of the unit along its eastern boundary is about seven miles, its central portion about five miles in length, and the western boundary length is about three miles long. Diversity in landscape relief throughout the unit is limited to mostly flat to gentle sloping terrain in the northern and central portions of the unit while the southern area contains rolling ridges and hill tops that are dissected by numerous small headwater drainages of Jack and Rock creeks. Elevation rises in the unit by 600 to 800 feet in the southern third of the unit and provides about the only diverse area that one might experience any opportunities of solitude.

The unit's diversity in vegetation that is comprised of both low and big sage brush and both native and non-native grasses across the landscape does not provide any extensive vegetative screening opportunities for solitude or a sense of isolation in a large portion of the unit. The central and northern two-thirds of the unit lacks a large portion of its sagebrush vegetation screening component when it was reduced by a prescribed burn in 1986 and by two plow and disks vegetation treatments conducted in 1965 and 1967. The locations of MPTs that dissect the unit in relation to the unit's boundary roads limit the

extent of available areas that one could experience opportunities for solitude. As a result of the area's size relative to its shape, the absence of large diverse areas, the location of roads and MPTs, the absence of vegetative screening, and the limited diversity in relief, there is no outstanding opportunities for solitude within the unit.

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

Yes _____ No N/A _____

Description: BLM concludes that BLM Unit OR-036-061 does not provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The most dominate dispersed recreation activities within the unit would be hiking throughout the southern rolling hills, the hunting of game species (primarily deer, chukar and antelope) or fishing and camping in and around Antelope Reservoir. Other than the nearly flat north and central portions that surround Antelope Reservoir that exists over almost seventy percent of the unit there are no unique or special features associated with the unit that would attract a visitor who is seeking a primitive and unconfined recreational experience. Recreational pursuits within the area, individually or collectively, are not outstanding in character or nature for the unit.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes No _____ N/A _____

Description: BLM has documented three sage grouse leks within the unit. The bird is a BLM special status animal species.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-036-061—Antelope Reservoir

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: Jack Wenderoth 11-16-11
 Jack Wenderoth, Planning Contractor

Team Members:

<u>Keri Fredrick</u>	<u>11-16-11</u>
Keri Fredrick, Outdoor Recreation Planner	Date
<u>Aimee Huff</u>	<u>11/16/2011</u>
Aimee Huff, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Eian Ray</u>	<u>11-16-11</u>
Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, Contractor	Date
<u>Garth Ross</u>	<u>11/16/2011</u>
Garth Ross, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	<u>11/16/11</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

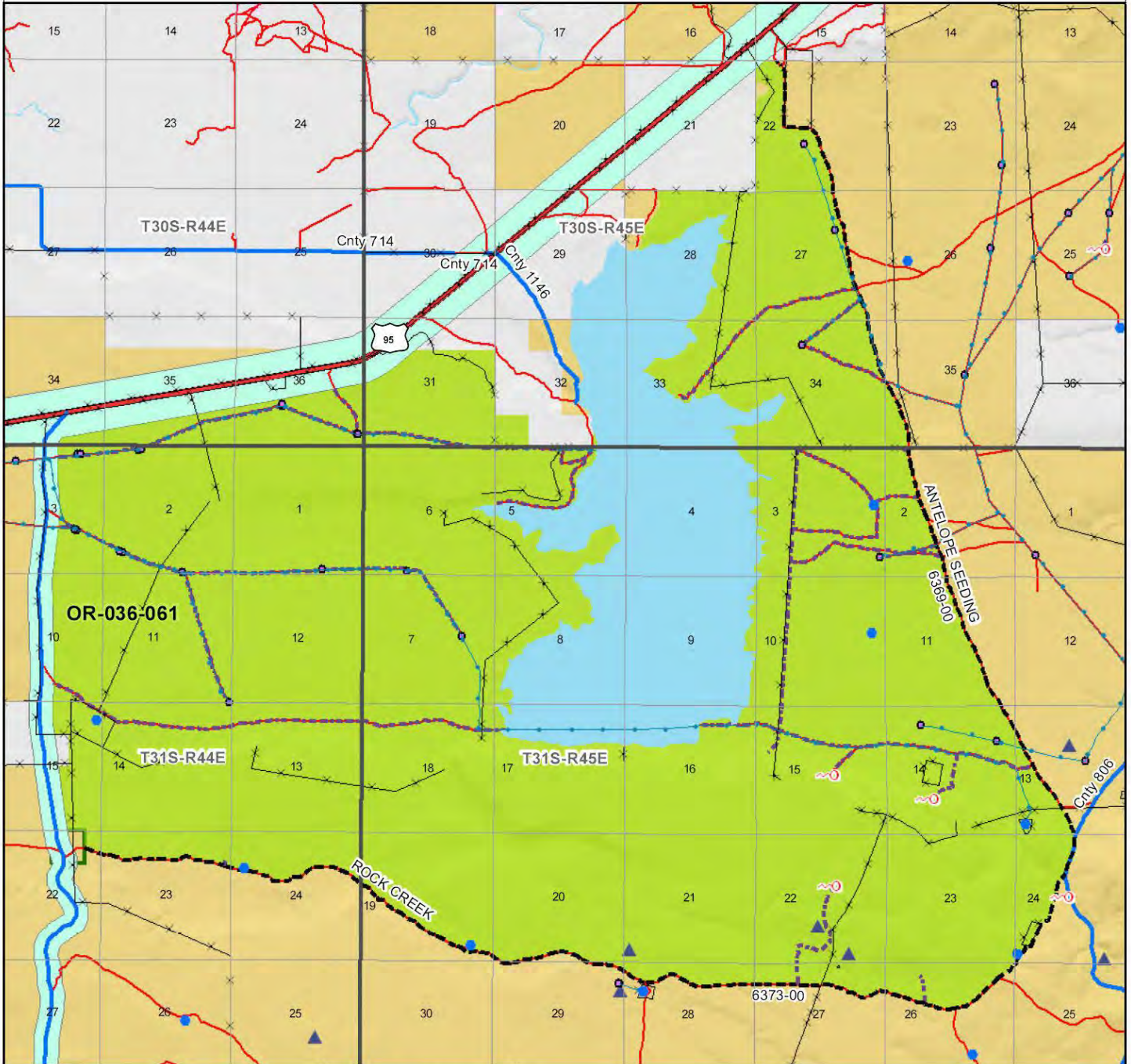
Approved by:

Carolyn R. Chad 11/28/2011
 Carolyn Freeborn, Jordan Resource Area Field Manager Date

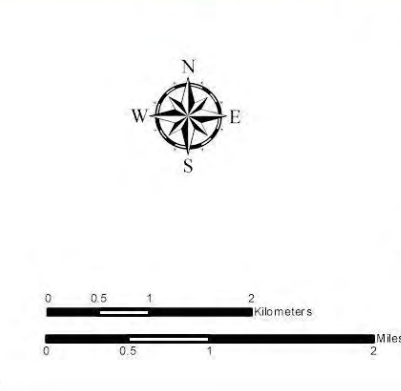
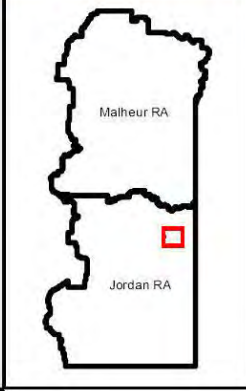
This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.

Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Antelope Reservoir - OR-036-061 - Map 1 of 2



Legend	
	Developed Spring
	Wildlife Guzzler
	Earthen Reservoir
	Pipeline
	Trough
	Fence
	Storage Tank
	Surface Mining Disturbance
	Sage Grouse Lek
	Special Status Plant
	BLM Wild Char Inventory Unit
	Wilderness Study Area
	Mineral Material Site
	Road/Utility Right-of-Way
	Major Water Body
Route Types - BLM Determination	
	Boundary Road
	Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT)
	Discontinued Use
Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit	
	County
	Major Highway
	BLM Numbered & Other Routes
Land Ownership	
	Bureau of Land Management
	State
	Private
	Other Federal Land



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

VALE DISTRICT
October 20, 2011

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