

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Board Corral Mountain OR-034-016, 12 total pages

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Prepared by:
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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, 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-034-016 – Board Corral Mountain

**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) 1979 – 1980 --- BLM Wilderness Inventory Units 3-66 Board Corral Mountain of OR-03-05-03 (unpublished BLM documents in 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 3-66 Board Corral Mountain of OR-03-05-03

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.

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplement al Values? Y/N
3-66 Board Corral Mountain of OR-03-05-03	14,940	N	N	*	*
TOTAL	14,940				

* -- Determinations of these criteria were not stated during the inventory of this unit.

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FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: **OR-034-016 – Board Corral Mountain**

Note: In February, 2004, the Vale District received from Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) its evaluation of wilderness characteristics for what ONDA names its 15,503 acre “Buck Gulch Proposed WSA”. For reference, a hard copy of ONDA’s proposal is retained in this unit’s file. Information provided by ONDA’s proposal was considered and incorporated as appropriate for this BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory maintenance. The boundaries of unit OR-034-016 are the same as ONDA’s proposal.

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 15,463 acre unit is bounded by roads and by one private land parcel. The boundaries are nearly the same as those identified in BLM’s original wilderness characteristics inventory of the late 1970’s. The difference is at the unit’s northwest sector, where, since the 1970’s, a portion of a boundary route has changed status from road to—in part-- a motorized primitive trail and –with the remainder of the route in this location -- as totally abandoned and overgrown with vegetation. Also, current methods for determining area size is more precise than what was available in the late 1970’s. A portion of the east boundary is Succor Creek Road (county); the unit’s north, west, and south sides by BLM roads 7306-0-00 and 7307-0-00. Portions of the unit’s west and southwest boundary road share a common road boundary with Wild Horse Basin WSA (OR-3-77B) and Honeycombs WSA (OR-3-77A), respectively. Four widely scattered private property inholdings totaling 200 acres and a 1.5 mile cherry-stem road and its associated active hardrock mining site (Teague Mine) are also features of the unit’s boundary. The unit’s boundary roads receive mechanical maintenance as needed to keep them passable on a relatively regular and seasonally continuous basis.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes **X** No N/A

Description: About half of the unit’s terrain in the east is dominated by a series of draws and drainages stemming from the north-south Owyhee Ridge; the remainder of the unit by more so rolling terrain with rock outcrops. Board Corral Mountain, the highest feature within the unit, is located in the southwest corner of the inventory unit. Elevations range

from approximately 2,680 to 4,975 feet. Dominant vegetation type is sagebrush community with native and non-native rangeland grasses.

Refer to this inventory unit's Map 1 and Map 2 for human developments within the unit. They include 13.3 miles of fence, three reservoirs 4 developed springs, and 8.1 miles of 9 motorized primitive trails. There is nominal remnant visual evidence of 10 abandoned vehicle routes/route segments within the unit. The visual appearance of a total of two substantially separated crested wheatgrass seedings established prior to 1978 were determined to be substantially noticeable to the average visitor at the time of the conducted wilderness characteristics inventory in the latter 1970's. At the time, the two seedings of a total of over 3,000 acres created substantial linear contrasts within the unit. Presently, visual evidence of some of the range drill furrow scarring remains substantially noticeable as human imprints to the average visitor of the unit. In addition, the drill seeded area in the unit's northeast sector has visual evidence of scattered past mining activities and is subject to ongoing dispersed single use tracking scars created by recreational off-highway vehicle (OHV) use activities. The drilled seeding along the unit's south boundary road has a half mile long segment of a buried pipeline within the unit. During 2002-2003, an approximate 630 congruous acres along the unit's east boundary were either drilled with native grasses (70 acres, a strip abutting the unit's boundary road), planted with bitterbrush (approximately 70 acres), or aerial seeded with sagebrush (490 acres) following a wildfire which affected a portion of the inventory unit. Presently, visual evidence remains of the 70 acre drill seeded strip.

Recognizing that all of the past three drilled seeding areas (which also includes the area of dispersed OHV activities, the pipeline/troughs, one reservoir and a developed spring) abut the boundaries of the inventory unit, when excluding these three locations then the remaining contiguous acreage of the inventory unit (which exceeds 5,000 acres in size) with its affiliated human imprints appears to be substantially natural and affected primarily by the forces of nature to the average visitor.

ONDA notes it was not able to distinguish evidence of the two pre-1978 drilled seedings, and found one rangeland fence. ONDA has no documentation of the other human imprints documented by BLM, and concludes its proposed WSA is primarily affected by the forces of nature. The Association references 4 photos (OC35-38) as evidence of the area's natural state.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes X No N/A

Description: Only that portion of the unit which is in a natural condition is reviewed for outstanding opportunities for solitude. The unit's length is approximately 7 miles. The inventory unit's width ranges from only about 2 miles in its south half to 5.5 miles in its north half. The topography of portions of the many dissected drainages and draws associated with the east side of Owyhee Ridge -- combined with the size of the unit's area

being considered for this wilderness characteristic -- provides for outstanding opportunities for solitude.

ONDA states the topography of its proposed WSA allows for “true solitude in the draws and canyons” and references three photos – OC14, OC15 and NE27. While photo NE27 could depict an isolated site of a draw or canyon for solitude, the first two photos are the same used by ONDA to depict a specific abandoned vehicle route in the area’s northwestern-most corner as having substantially returned to a natural state. (This is the same route addressed above by BLM -- under the size criteria.) .

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: Only that portion of the unit which is in a natural condition is reviewed for outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Primary recreation activities include dispersed hunting of big and upland game species (primarily deer, antelope and chukar) and some rock-hounding. The game hunted and the rocks/minerals of this area are not considered special or unique. Other general recreational activities which occur within the area, though none represent outstanding opportunities, include but are not limited to hiking, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, photography, and general sightseeing. The unit has no features or values – individually or in combination -- to provide for outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

ONDA states its proposed WSA provides outstanding opportunities for photography, botany and wildlife study. The Association inventoried sagebrush, desert buckwheat, parsley, wild onion, greasewood, rabbitbrush, and poison oak [sic]. Additionally, it lists 11 bird species observed, as well as three mammal species, the sagebrush lizard, blue racer snake, Great Basin Nymph, and a desert whitetail dragonfly. The observed loggerhead shrike is a BLM special status bird species; however its presence -- individually or in combination with other wildlife and/or with the vegetation documented within the unit -- do not result in providing for outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: The south half of the unit is within habitat suitable for California bighorn sheep, a BLM special status animal species in Oregon. BLM special status plant species within the unit are the Owyhee Clover and Soft Blazingstar.

ONDA states that it’s Buck Gulch WSA “may provide habitat for Woodhouse’s Toad, Mojave Black-collared Lizard, Desert Horned Lizard, Ferruginous Hawk, Pygmy Rabbit,

and White-tailed Antelope Squirrel,” which ONDA’s February 2004 submission to the Vale District declares are listed as “sensitive species” by the State of Oregon. As of 2009, the Woodhouse’s Toad, Mohave Black-collard Lizard, Desert Horned Lizard, and White-tailed Antelope Squirrel were not considered sensitive by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, BLM or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. BLM observation records confirm the Mohave Black-collard Lizard inhabits this unit. BLM acknowledges that habitat requirements may exist for Woodhouse’s Toad, Desert Horned Lizard, Ferruginous Hawk, Pygmy Rabbit, and White-tailed Antelope Squirrel however; neither ONDA nor any other entity has provided BLM official documentation confirming the presence of these species within this inventory unit. ONDA notes it observed a loggerhead shrike, a BLM special status animal species.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Number/Name: OR-034-016 – Board Corral Mountain

Summary Results of Analysis:

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

Conclusion -- check one:

X 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>Steve Christensen</u>	<u>2-23-2010</u>
Steve Christensen, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Gillian Wigglesworth</u>	<u>2/5/10</u>
Gillian Wigglesworth, Botanist	Date
<u>Shaney Rockefeller</u>	<u>3/10/10</u>
Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist	Date
<u>Dave Draheim</u>	<u>2/10/10</u>
Dave Draheim, Outdoor Recreation Planner	Date
<u>Michelle Caviness</u>	<u>2/22/10</u>
Michelle Caviness, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u>Jonathan Westfall</u>	<u>02/08/2010</u>
Jon Westfall, Geologist	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

Approved by:

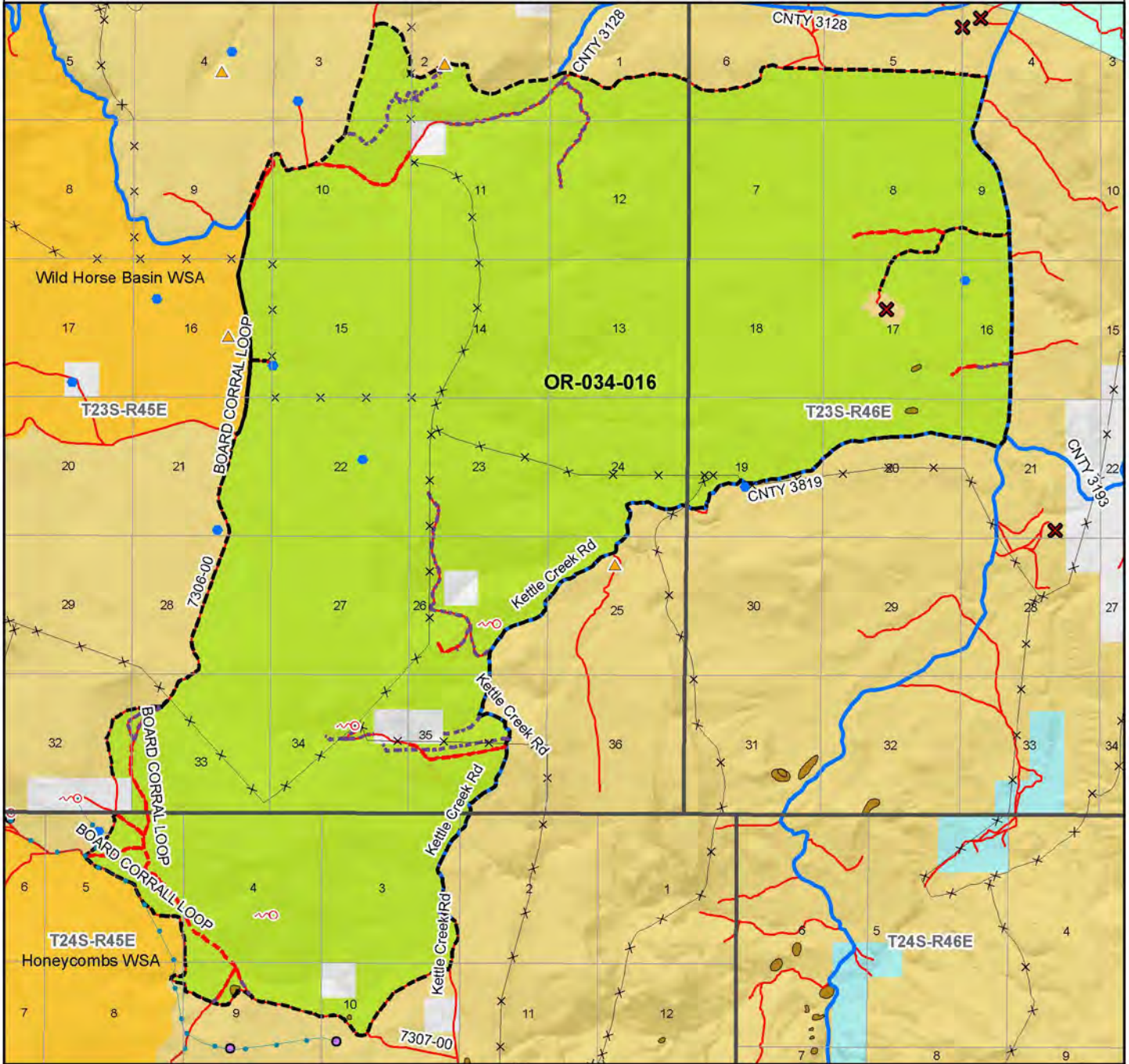
Pat Ryan
Pat Ryan, Malheur Resource Area Field Manager

3/30/2010
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.

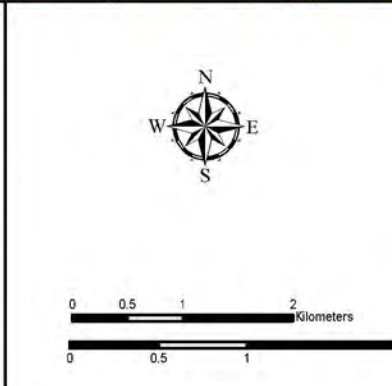
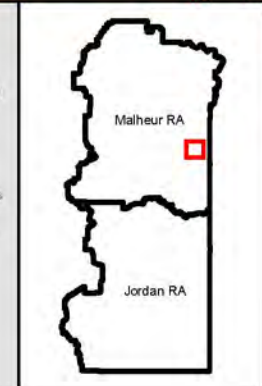
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Board Corral Mountain - OR-034-016 - Map 1 of 2



Legend

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



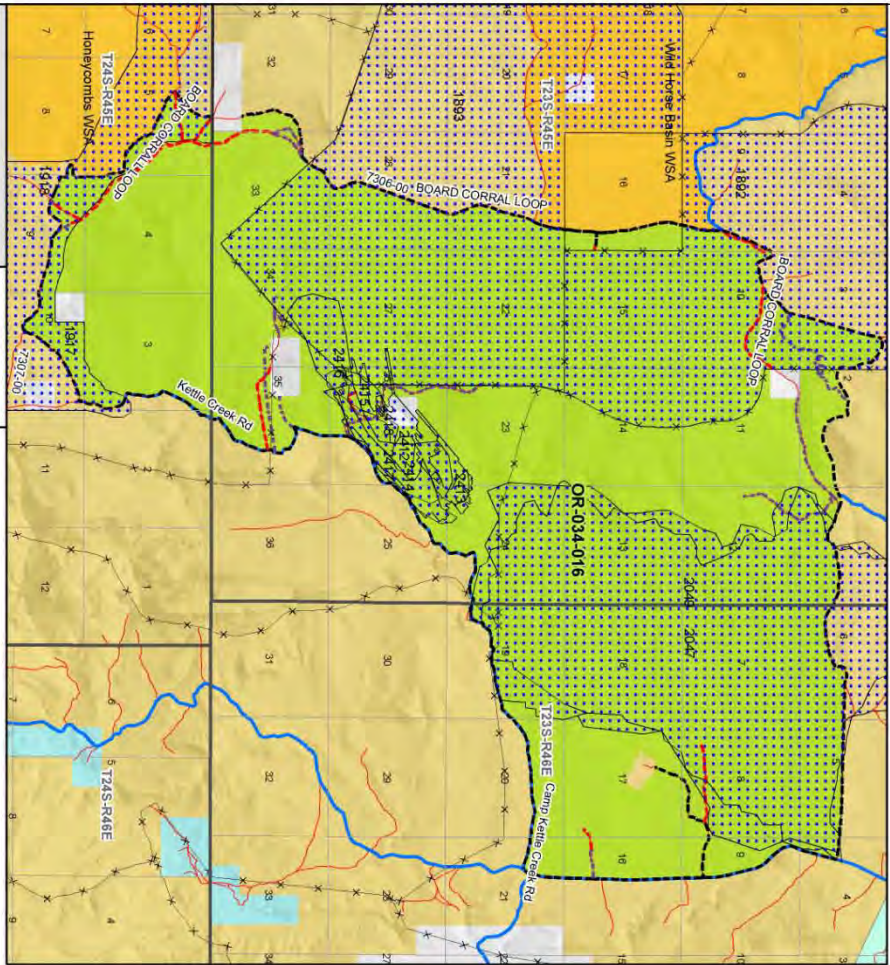
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VALE DISTRICT
October 20, 2009

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--FINAL--

Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Board Corral Mountain - OR-034-016 - Map 2 of 2



Legend

Land Ownership

- 172AS-R46E
- 1883
- 1730E-00

Wilderness Characteristics

- 1882 BAS BRUSH CONTROL
- 1893 BOARD CORRAL S BRUSH CONTROL
- 1917 SHEEPHEADS SEEDING
- 1918 SHEEPHEADS SEEDING
- 2047 BOARD CORRAL S FIRE REHAB
- 2049 AL KALI PASTURE
- 2412 MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB
- 2413 MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB
- 2414 MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB
- 2415 MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB
- 2416 MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB
- 2417 MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB
- 2418 MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB

Other Features

- Homepoints VWS
- Kettle Creek Rd
- Board Corral Loop
- Malheur RA
- Jordan RA

Scale: 0 to 2 Kilometers / 0 to 2 Miles

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
VALE DISTRICT
October 20, 2009
FINAL

Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Board Corral Mountain - OR-034-016 - Map 2 of 2

OBJECTID*	NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE
1892	BAS BRUSH CONTROL	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1963
1893	BOARD CORRAL S BRUSH CONTROL	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1966
1917	SHEEPHEADS SEEDING	Plow/Disc	Not Applicable	1970
1918	SHEEPHEADS SEEDING	Drill Seeding	Unknown	1970
2047	BOARD CORRAL S FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	A mix of non-native gr	1974
2049	AL KALI PASTURE	Drill Seeding	Unknown	1973
2412	MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB	Aerial Seeding	Unknown	20020301
2413	MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB	Planting	Shrubs	20021201
2414	MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB	Planting	Shrubs	20021201
2415	MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB	Planting	Shrubs	20021201
2416	MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	Shrubs	20020826
2417	MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	Native Grasses	20020828
2418	MUD DUCK FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	Native Grasses	20020828

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.