

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents  
**Board Corral Spring OR-034-015, 20 total pages**

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**Prepared by:**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bureau of Land Management**  
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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-034-015 – Board Corral Spring

**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) 1977-78 – BLM Wilderness Inventory Unit 3-67 Board Corral Spring of OR-03-05-04 (unpublished BLM documents stored in case files)
- (X) April 1979 – *Wilderness -- Proposed Initial Inventory – Road less 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 3-67 Board Corral Mountain of OR-03-05-04

**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>
3-67 Board Corral Spring of OR-03-05-04	5,320	N	*	*	*
<b>TOTAL</b>	5,320				

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

## **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.

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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.*

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

**Unit Number/Name -- OR-034-015 – Board Corral Spring**

**Note:** In February, 2004, the Vale District received from Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) its evaluation of wilderness characteristics for what ONDA names its 5,327 acre “Cherry Creek 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-034-015 are the same as ONDA’s proposal.

For BLM unit OR-034-015, differences between BLM and ONDA regarding a feature of the inventory unit’s boundary is that, unlike ONDA’s proposal, BLM concludes that a eastern segment of ONDA’s vehicle route “HC6a” is a road (that is, from its east connection with ONDA’s “ HC6a east” route going west to the fence line in section 19), and not what ONDA has defined as a “way” (that is, what BLM terms a motorized primitive trail) BLM concurs with ONDA that the remaining segment of ONDA’s HC6a route is a motorized primitive trail. Additionally, BLM identifies one very short cherry-stem road located in the southeast corner of the unit which serves as a boundary feature of OR-034-015. ONDA makes no reference to this route in its proposal. Refer to OR-034-015’s associated two Road Analysis forms, BLM Photo Point Map/Log, and affiliated photographs for additional documentation. An attachment to this Form 2 identifies any differences variances of motorized vehicle routes between ONDA’s and BLM’s findings with OR-034-015.

**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 unit’s associated Map 1 for its location. The boundaries are nearly the same as those identified in BLM’s original wilderness characteristics inventory of the late 1970’s. The difference is the present clarification of the unit’s road boundary location in its southeast corner. The 5,416 acre unit is bounded partially by roads and a 160 acre private parcel in the unit’s southeast sector. While bounded the same as that of ONDA’s proposal, the acreage variance between ONDA and BLM is due to GIS application methods for acreage determination. The unit’s east boundary is BLM road 7307-0-00; the unit’s south boundary is the road which partially abuts Honeycombs WSA, OR-3-77A; a 40 acre private parcel inholding and one very short cherry stem road to a National Interagency Fire Center weather station 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.

In the 1970's, the vehicle route along this inventory unit's north and west side (presently identified by BLM as 034-RT 1 for this WC inventory maintenance) was determined to be a road (serving as part of the south boundary of the Wild Horse Basin WSA). However, since that time a segment of 034-RT 1 has changed route status from road to a motorized primitive trail (MPT) (from the fence line in section 19 west and south to the junction with this inventory unit's south boundary road in section 26). The change from route status of this segment of 034-RT 1 from road to MPT is a result of no maintenance conducted since the 1970's inventory coupled with BLM's present decision that this route segment would not be subject to mechanical maintenance in the future. Thus, currently, this inventory unit's north boundary (034-RT 1) consists partially of a cherry stem road, and partially of a MPT. The MPT segment results in the WSA and this inventory unit being contiguous to each other. For additional information regarding this route's present status, refer to its BLM Road Analysis form, BLM Photo Point Map/Log, and affiliated photographs.

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

Yes   X                        No                                 N/A           

**Description:** The unit is approximately 2.8 miles by 4 miles in configuration. The unit's higher elevations (to 4,948 feet) are associated with Owyhee Ridge near its eastern boundary. From the ridge, the terrain west eventually breaks into the numerous incised fingers of the upper reaches of both Cherry Creek and Rookie Creek, dropping to an elevation of approximately 3,400 feet near the unit's western boundary with Wild Horse Basin WSA. Compared to the unit's eastern generally broad, moderately sloped terrain of Owyhee Ridge, the western half of the unit is more so characterized by steeper, notably dissected, broken topography of the two drainages. The unit's vegetation is predominately sagebrush and native and non-native grasses. A western portion of the inventory unit is within the Three Fingers Wild Horse Herd Management Area, which is managed to maintain a herd of 75 to 150 animals.

Refer to this unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for human developments within the unit. They include 4.5 miles of fence, two earthen reservoirs, a fence enclosure associated with another water source (not on maps), 0.4 miles of buried water pipeline, and 5 developed springs. A 0.1 mile long motorized primitive trail (MPT) enters the unit to Rookie Spring. In 1966, approximately a third of the unit was affected by a chemical treatment brush control project (see this unit's associated Map 2). Approximately 150 acres in the unit's southeast corner were affected by the 1970 Sheepheads crested wheatgrass drill seeding. During the late 1970's wilderness characteristics inventory, the plow and drill seeding project was determined to be substantially noticeable to the average visitor. At the time, the seeding adversely affected the area's natural condition and appearance. Presently, due to the nature of the soils in the area of the drilled seeding, the visual evidence of the seeding and the earlier brush control project is no longer substantially noticeable as a human imprint to the average visitor of the unit. Overall, the inventory unit appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans being substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

ONDA states that per BLM 1970's inventory documentation, the one reservoir and the crested wheatgrass drill seeding are reputedly the only human imprints associated with the area, and notes that these features were not located during the Association's inventory of the area. ONDA does not include the presence of fencing (which was also in the 1970's documentation), the developed springs, or the weather station as human imprints, while concluding that the area appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature.

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

Yes   X                        No                                 N/A           

**Description:** Vegetation does not provide sufficient screening to experience a high quality sense of solitude. However, the broken, dissected, and deeply incised nature of the two primary drainages of the unit (Cherry Creek and Rookie Creek), coupled in part by the presence of a portion of Owyhee Ridge within the inventory unit, provides sufficient topographic screening for outstanding opportunities for solitude. This opportunity is further enhanced by the contiguous nature of the unit with the adjacent WSA, which also possesses outstanding opportunities for solitude due to its diverse topography relative to its size.

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

Yes   X                        No                                 N/A           

**Description:** Hunting of California bighorn sheep as a State trophy game species is a rare and special opportunity associated with the area. While no one recreational activity is considered outstanding in the unit, collectively hunting of the sheep and other big and upland game species (deer, antelope and chukar), hiking, backpacking, scenic and geologic sightseeing, bird watching, and photography opportunities within the unit results in providing outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. This opportunity is further enhanced by the contiguous nature of the unit with the adjacent WSA, which also possessing outstanding opportunities of primitive and unconfined recreation for the same types of activities.

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

Yes   X                        No                                 N/A           

**Description:** The area is within the utilization range of the Leslie Gulch herd of California bighorn sheep, a BLM special status animal species.

ONDA states that it's Cherry Creek 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 acknowledges that habitat requirements may exist for Woodhouse's Toad, Mojave Black-collared Lizard, 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.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion**

Unit Name and Number: OR-034-015 -- Board Corral Spring

**Summary of 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>Mitch Thomas</u>	<u>3/15/2010</u>
Mitch Thomas, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Steve Christensen</u>	<u>2-23-2010</u>
Steve Christensen, Rangeland Management Specialist	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>03/10/2010</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>3/11/2010</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

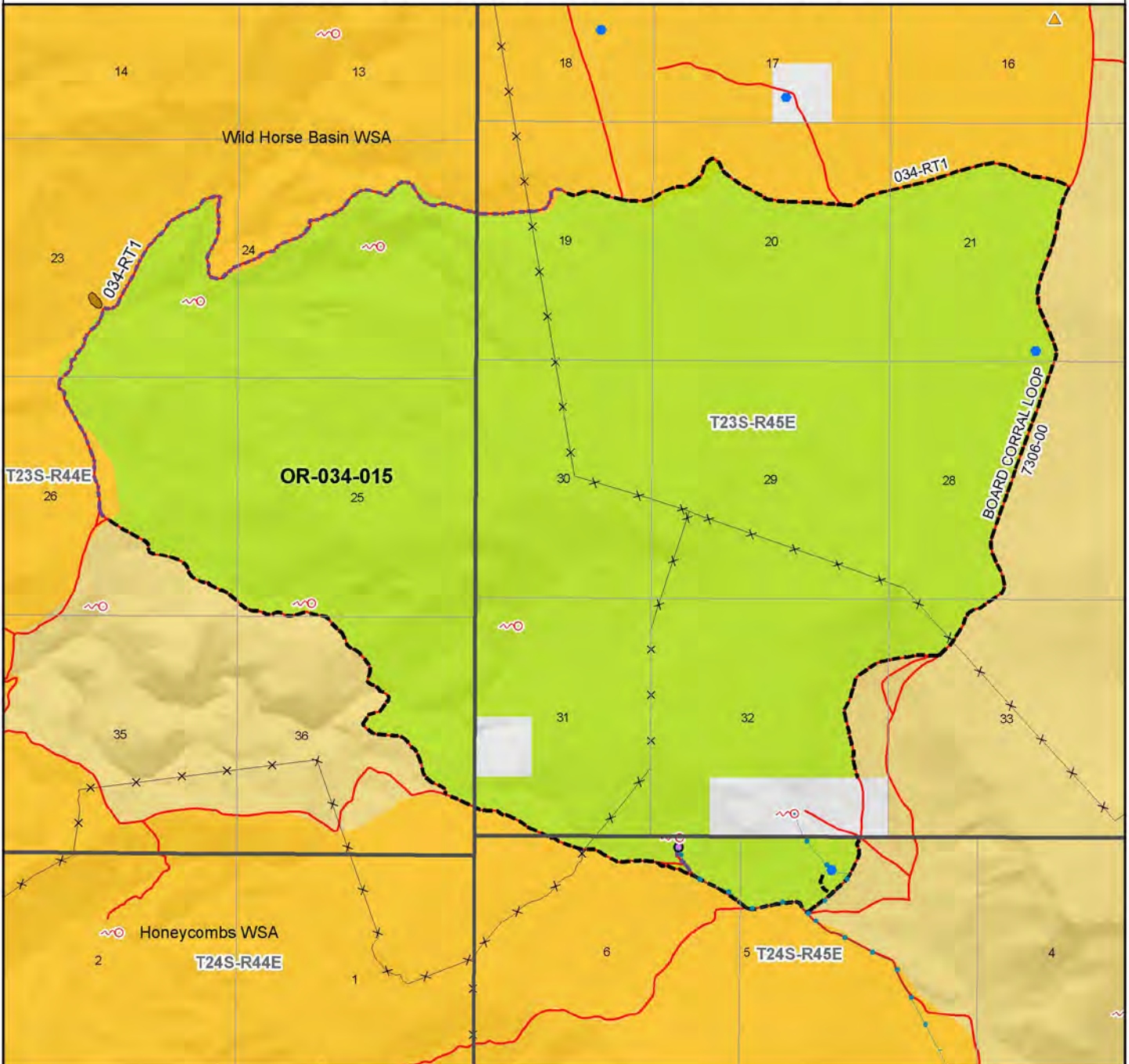
(NOTE: Previous staff members who reviewed this unit include Botanist Jean Finley (retired 7/2008), and Wildlife Biologist Technician Sandy Vistine-Ambor (transferred 8/2008).

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

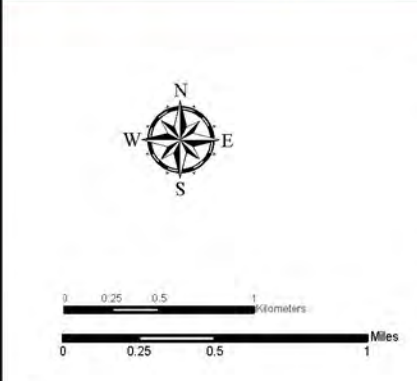
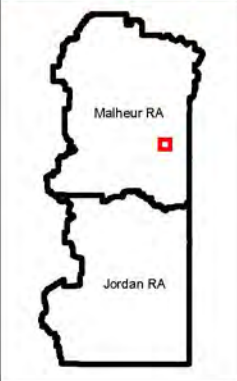
*This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.*

# Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

## Board Corral Spring - OR-034-015 - Map 1 of 2



Legend	
	Developed Spring
	Wildlife Guzzler
	Earth 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
	<b>Route Types - BLM Determination</b>
	Boundary Road
	Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT)
	Discontinued Use
	<b>Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit</b>
	County
	Major Highway
	BLM Numbered & Other Routes
	<b>Land Ownership</b>
	Bureau of Land Management
	State
	Private
	Other Federal Land

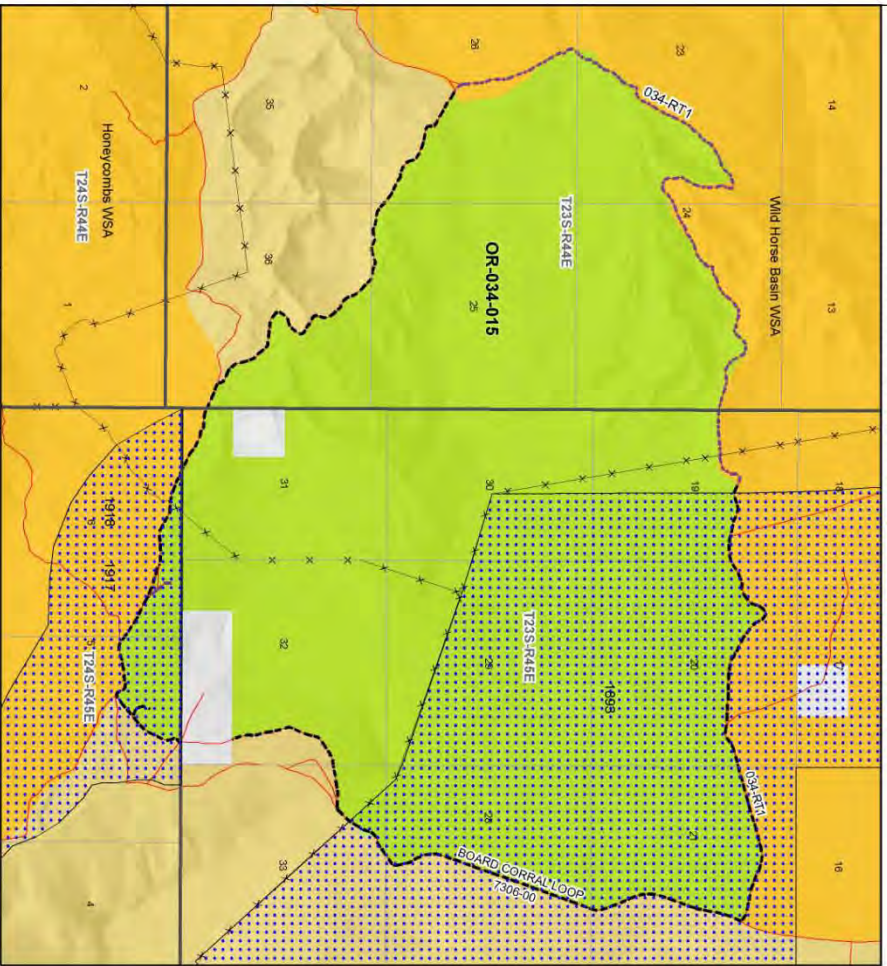


**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**  
  
**VALE DISTRICT**  
 December 29, 2008

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.

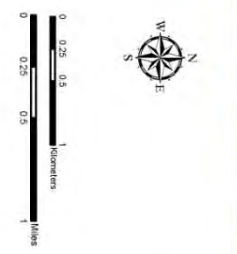
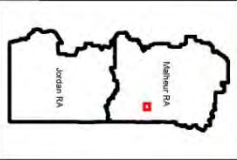
**--FINAL--**

**Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments**  
**Board Corral Spring - OR-034-015 - Map 2 of 2**



**Legend**

- Land Treatment
  - 1893 BRUSH CONTROL (Blue Dotted)
  - 1917 SHEEPHEADS SEEDING (Green)
  - 1918 SHEEPHEADS SEEDING (Yellow)
- Wilderness Boundary
  - Wilderness Boundary (Black Line)
  - Wilderness Study Area (Grey Dotted)
  - Wilderness Study Area (Blue Dotted)
  - Wilderness Study Area (Red Dotted)
- Other Features
  - Section Boundary (Thin Black Line)
  - County Boundary (Thick Black Line)
  - Water Feature (Blue)
  - Other Features (Various Symbols)



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

VALE DISTRICT  
 December 29, 2008

Map prepared by: [Name]  
 Date: [Date]  
 Scale: [Scale]  
 Projection: [Projection]

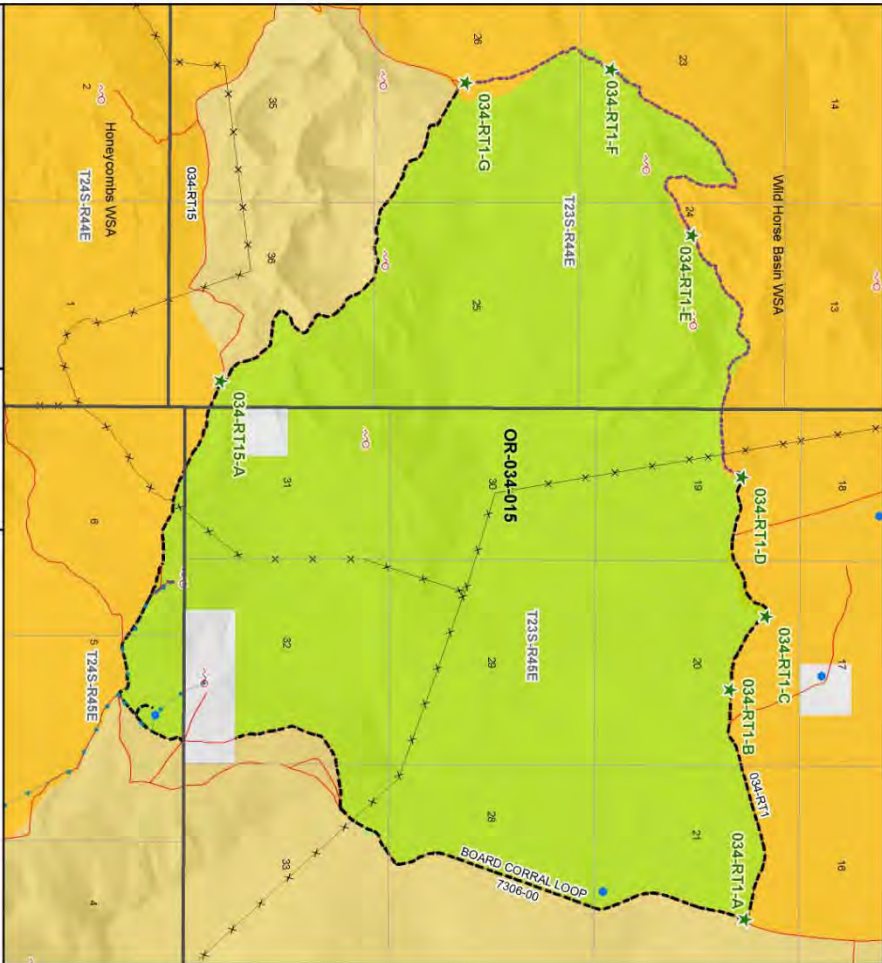
—FINAL—

**Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments**  
**Board Corral Spring - OR-034-015 - Map 2 of 2**

OBJECTID*	NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE
1893	BOARD CORRAL'S BRUSH CONTROL	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1968
1917	SHEEPHEADS SEEDING	Plow/Disc	Not Applicable	1970
1918	SHEEPHEADS SEEDING	Drill Seeding	Unknown	1970

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.

## Wilderness Characteristics - BLM Photo Points Board Corral Spring - OR-034-015



## Wilderness Characteristics - BLM Photo Points Board Corral Spring - OR-034-015

PHOTO_LOCATION*	DIRECTION	PHOTO_TYPE	PHOTO_DATE	COMMENTS
036-RT10-E	SE	Route	20080824	Front
036-RT10-E	NW	Route	20080824	Back
036-RT10-F	SE	Route	20080824	Front, end of 036-RT10
036-RT10-F	NW	Route	20080824	Back, end of 036-RT10
7304-0-00-1	NW	Route	20080823	Front, beginning of RT-7304-0-00
7304-0-00-1	SE	Route	20080823	Back, beginning of RT-7304-0-00
7304-0-00-H	N	Route	20080823	Front
7304-0-00-H	S	Route	20080823	Back
7304-0-00-G	NW	Route	20080823	Front
7304-0-00-G	SE	Route	20080823	Back
7304-0-00-F	N	Route	20080823	Front, end of RT 7304-0-00, intersection
7304-0-00-F	SE	Route	20080823	Back, end of RT 7304-0-00
7305-0-00-A	NE	Route	20080823	Front, beginning of RT 7305-0-00
7305-0-00-A	SW	Route	20080823	Back, beg. of RT 7305-0-00, cattle gate, fence
7305-0-00-A	SE	Project	20080823	OR-036-053-A-SE Fence
7319-0-00-A	SW	Route	20081027	front
7319-0-00-A	NE	Route	20081027	back

Note: The BLM Wild Char PhotoPoints displayed on the map are labeled with their Photo Locations. The BLM Photo Log table shown above lists the photos taken at their respective Photo Locations. Multiple photos may be taken at each Photo Location. Scenery and Project Photo Type pictures have their photo names provided in the Comments field.

**Legend**

- Developed Spring
- Wildlife Corridor
- Eastern Reservoir
- Pipeline
- Mineral Material Site
- Road Utility ROW
- Wilderness Study Area
- BLM Wild Char Inventory Photo Point

- Route Types - BLM Determination
- Boundary Road
- Mineral Primitive Trail (MPT)
- Discontinued Use
- Roads - Outside Wild Char Unit
- County
- Major Highway
- BLM Numbered & Color Routes

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VALE DISTRICT  
February 20, 2009

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

0 0.25 0.5 1 Kilometers

---FINAL---



034-RT1-A-E.JPG



034-RT1-A-W.JPG



034-RT1-B-E.JPG



034-RT1-B-W.JPG



034-RT1-C-NW.JPG



034-RT1-C-SE.JPG



034-RT1-D-E.JPG



034-RT1-D-W.JPG



034-RT1-E-NE.JPG



034-RT1-E-SW.JPG



034-RT1-F-NE.JPG



034-RT1-F-SW.JPG



034-RT1-G-N.JPG



034-RT1-G-S.JPG



034-RT15-A-E.JPG



034-RT15-A-W.JPG



OR-034-015-A.JPG

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

### APPENDIX C – ROAD\* ANALYSIS

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road for wilderness inventory purposes.)

**Wilderness Inventory Unit Name/:** OR-34-015 – Board Corral Spring

**NOTE:** This unit is affected by ONDA’s proposed Cherry Creek WSA.

**Route Name and/or Identifier** (*Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known; include route number supplied by citizen information when available*):

O34-RT 1

(ONDA references the route as a combination of “HC6a east” and “HC6a”.)

**I. LOCATION:** Refer to attached map. This route is the north and west boundary of this BLM WC unit. **List photo point references (if applicable):** Refer to this BLM inventory unit’s associated hard copy of its BLM Photo Points map, and affiliated Photo Log and photos -- retained in this unit’s permanent hard copy file, and electronically retained under this unit’s subfolder Final Findings/GIS Products. Any applicable ONDA map, photos and affiliated Photo Log are electronically retained under Wilderness Characteristics/Citizen Proposals.

**II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE:**

*(Examples: Rangeland/Livestock Improvements (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment).)*

**Describe:** The segment of this route from BLM 7306-0-00 west to the cross fence is used for wild horse administration, as well as for access to both a 40-acre private land parcel in section 17 (which is an inholding affiliated with the Wild Horse Basin WSA) and to certain rangeland improvements (within both the WSA and this WC inventory unit). West of the fence to its confluence with the unit’s southwest boundary road provides access for maintenance of certain other rangeland improvements. The entire O34-RT 1 route provides access for outdoor recreation activities.



**III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:**

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route?

Yes \_\_\_ \_\_\_ No X Unknown \_\_\_

**IV. CONSTRUCTION**

Yes X No \_\_\_

Examples: Paved \_\_\_ Bladed X Graveled \_\_\_  
Roadside Berms X Cut/Fill X Other \_\_\_

**Describe:** Intermittent segments along this route's entire length display evidence of construction for access and for past wild fire suppression activities

**V. IMPROVEMENTS**

Yes \_\_\_ No X

By Hand Tools \_\_\_ By Machine \_\_\_

Examples: Culverts \_\_\_ Stream Crossings \_\_\_ Bridges \_\_\_  
Drainage \_\_\_ Barriers \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

**Describe:**

**VI. MAINTENANCE:**

**A. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?** Yes X No \_\_\_

**If yes: Hand Tools (Y/N) \_\_\_ Machine (Y/N) Y**

**Explain:** From BLM photo point (PP) 034-RT1-A Point west to the ridge crest in section 19, maintenance with a bulldozer has been conducted as recently as 2006 to support wild horse management or wild fire suppression activities (Cherry Creek Fire).

In 1980 when Wild Horse Basin WSA was designated, a portion of the southern of Wild Horse Basin WSA boundary (i.e., this WC unit's north and west

boundary) was determined to be a road. ONDA states that a portion of this route (“HC6a”) no longer meets the definition of a road. Although minimal maintenance has been performed on this entire BLM route since 1980, mechanical maintenance would continue to be performed as needed to provide for regular and continuous use from 7306-0-00 west to the cross fence in support of wild horse management and to provide access to the 40 acre private parcel. From the cross fence west to this route’s confluence with the road in section 26 (PP 034-RT1-G), no known maintenance has been conducted since before 1980, and BLM does not plan to conduct future maintenance on this segment to insure regular and continuous use.

**B. If the route is in good condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM in the event this route became impassable?**

Yes   X   No   X  

**Comments:** 1. Yes -- BLM would maintain the road for wild horse management and access to private land from PP 034-RT1-A and to the cross fence in section 19. 2. No -- BLM would not maintain the route from the cross fence to PP 034-RT1-G. Should this segment of the route become unusable, access for outdoor recreation users would decline and the alternative south boundary road of this BLM WC inventory would receive increased use.

**VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:**

Yes   X   No \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe evidence (vehicle tracks observed) and other rationale for whether use has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis:**

Photos show that there is seasonally regular and continuous use over the entire route.

**VIII. CONCLUSION:**

**To meet the definition of a road, items IV or V, and VI-A or B, and VII must be checked yes.**

**Road:** Yes   X   No   X  

**Explanation:** As described and explained above, the portion of this route from its confluence with 7306-0-00 (PP 034-RT1-A) west to the cross fence in section 19 was a road in 1980 and remains a road presently. From the cross fence west

and south to PP 034-RT1-G (i.e, this BLM WC inventory unit’s south boundary road), this route segment no longer meets minimum road criteria. It presently is a motorized primitive trail ((MPT). This route segment of MPT status results in BLM WC inventory unit OR-034-015 being contiguous with Wild Horse Basin WSA, and with the vehicle route from PP 034-RT1-A west to the cross fence being a cherry stem road.

Evaluator(s):  Date: 2/19/09  
 Mitch Thomas, Rangeland Management Specialist

 Date: 4/06/09  
 Dave Draheim, Outdoor Recreation Planner

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\* **road**: An access route which has been **improved and maintained** by **mechanical means** to insure **relatively regular and continuous use**. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

- a. **“Improved and maintained”** – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.
- b. **“Mechanical means”** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.
- c. **“Relatively regular and continuous use”** – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.

*Following is the definition from Glossary of OSO 7-3-2007 Draft H-6300-1:*

**road**: The BLM will continue to base the definition of what constitutes a “road” from the FLPMA’s legislative history. The language below is from the House of Representatives Committee Report 94-1163, page 17, dated May 15, 1976, on what became the FLPMA. It is the only statement regarding the definition of a road in the law or legislative history.

“The word ‘roadless’ refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.”

The BLM previously adopted and will continue to use the following sub-definitions of certain words and phrases in the BLM road definition stated above:

- a. **“Improved and maintained”** – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.
- b. **“Mechanical means”** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.
- c. **“Relatively regular and continuous use”** – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.

A road that was established or has been maintained solely by the passage of vehicles would not be considered a road, even if it is used on a relatively regular and continuous basis. Vehicle roads constructed by mechanical means but that are no longer being maintained by mechanical methods are not roads. Sole use of hands and feet to move rocks or dirt without the use of tools or machinery does not meet the definition of “mechanical means.” Roads need not be “maintained” on a regular basis but rather “maintained” when road conditions warrant actions to keep it in a usable condition. A dead-end (cherry-stem) road can form the boundary of an inventory area and does not by itself disqualify an area from being considered “roadless”.