Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents Bogus Rim OR-036-059, 22 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, and 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-036-059—Bogus Rim

<u>FORM 1</u> -- 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 Units 3-124 of OR-03-09-05 Bogus Rim (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).
- (X) 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)
- (X) 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 3-124 of OR-03-09-05 Bogus Rim

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
- (X) Intensive Wilderness Inventory Map, March 1980, Oregon
- (X) 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 Office

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
3-124 of OR-03-09- 05 Bogus Rim	5,680	Y	N	N	N
TOTAL	5,680				

^{*-}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.
- 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*.

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<u>FORM 2</u> -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: OR-036-059 – Bogus Rim

Note: In February, 2004, the Vale District received from Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) its evaluation of wilderness characteristics for what ONDA names it's "Clark's Butte Addition" that is located adjacent to the Bogus Rim unit. The Bogus Rim unit and ONDA's Clark's Butte Addition (BLM's Clarks Butte Contiguous unit 036-057) share a common boundary road that is BLM Road 7304-0-00. Within ONDA's narrative this road is referred to by ONDA as a boundary road for the Clark's Butte Addition. Additional ONDA information contained within their GIS and Road Logs referrers to a section of BLM Road 7304-0-00 as a "way" (what BLM calls a motorized primitive trail [MPT]) that ONDA labeled as route OR7a. This presents a problem of whether ONDA is calling this section of BLM Road 7304-0-00 an actual road or a way. Please refer to BLM's Road analysis for road 7304-0-00 where BLM has provided information about this section and has determined that it meets the definition of a road for inventory purposes.

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

1. Is the unit of sufficien	it si	ıze?
-----------------------------	-------	------

Yes	\mathbf{X}	No	

Description: Refer to this inventory unit's associated Map 1 for its location. The 5,676 acre unit was the original BLM unit 3-124 of OR-03-09-05 Bogus Rim of the 1978 -1980 wilderness inventory meeting the size criteria. Acreage for unit OR-036-059 in Form 2 is calculated from BLM GIS information. The unit boundary consists of BLM Road 7304-0-0B0 on its south side, BLM Road 7304-0-00 on its east side, BLM Road 7304-0-0A0 on its north side, and BLM Road 7303-0-00 on its west side. 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 X No N/A

Description: The unit consists mainly of an elevated bench consisting of the predominate feature of the Bogus Creek Rim nearly 400 feet above the surrounding eastern, southern, and western terrain and numerous small hills that rise approximate 100 to 200 feet above the rim populate the interior center of the unit. The unit is dissected by numerous small drainages that radiate outwardly in all directions. All drainages from the

unit flow into Bogus Creek to the west except for one that flows into intermittent Mud Lake to the northeast of the unit. Elevation levels within the unit range from a low of 3,965 feet above mean sea level (msl) at the southwest corner boundary of the unit to a high of 4,661 feet (msl) at the crest of a small butte in the central portion of the unit. Vegetation within the unit consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contain native and non-native grass species.

Refer to this inventory unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for its human developments. Human imprints within the unit include 3.5 miles of 7 motorized primitive trails, 0.4 miles of one discontinued MPT. 1.1 miles of fence line, two pipeline systems consisting of 1.0 mile of pipe, one storage tank and 2 troughs, one earthen reservoir, and 9 vegetation manipulation treatments from 1956 through 1996. Although numerous vegetation treatments were conducted in 100 percent of the acreage within the unit over a five decade period presently, to the average visitor, the various vegetation treatments affecting the unit appear as a whole, individually and collectively, mostly indistinguishable except for a 17 acre area along the south central border. This 17 acres contains contrasting evidence of drill rows from a past vegetation treatment. BLM arrives at a different conclusion than the 1970's inventory. This is because the 1970s inventory concluded that the unit appeared to generally contain a natural condition except for the brush control treatment that was substantially noticeable. As described previously all vegetation treatments conducted over a five decade period within the unit presently appear natural to the average visitor. Overall, given the units size relative to the minimal evidence of man-made developments, the unit appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes	N	No 2	X N	[/A

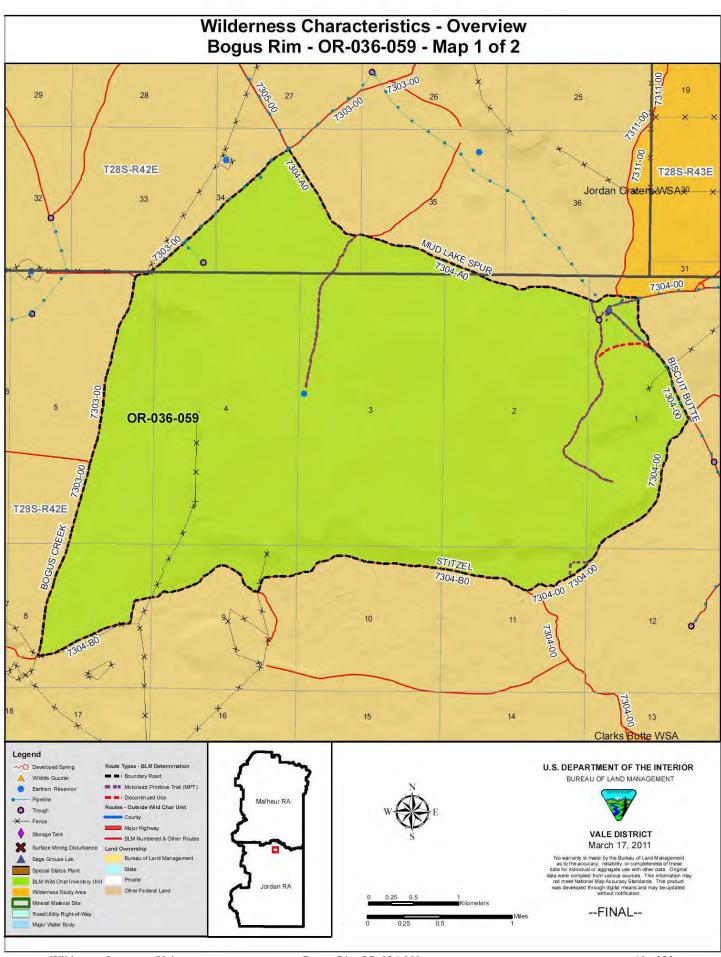
Description: BLM concludes that unit OR-036-059 does not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The character of this inventory unit has not changed since the 1970's. The unit possesses an irregular shape that closely resembles the bottom of a tree trunk, widest along the western boundary and narrows to a uniform width through its middle to the eastern boundary. The unit western boundary is approximately 4 miles in width, then narrows to about 2 miles in width, and has an overall length of 4.0 miles. There is enough topographic screening to restrict the view across the unit from the boundaries because of the surrounding rim, but the majority of the unit lacks pronounced features, secluded sites, and virtually does not contain any extensive vegetative screening for seclusion from others. As a result of the area's size relative to its shape, the absence of vegetative screening, and the lack of diversity in relief over most of the unit, there is no outstanding opportunities for solitude.

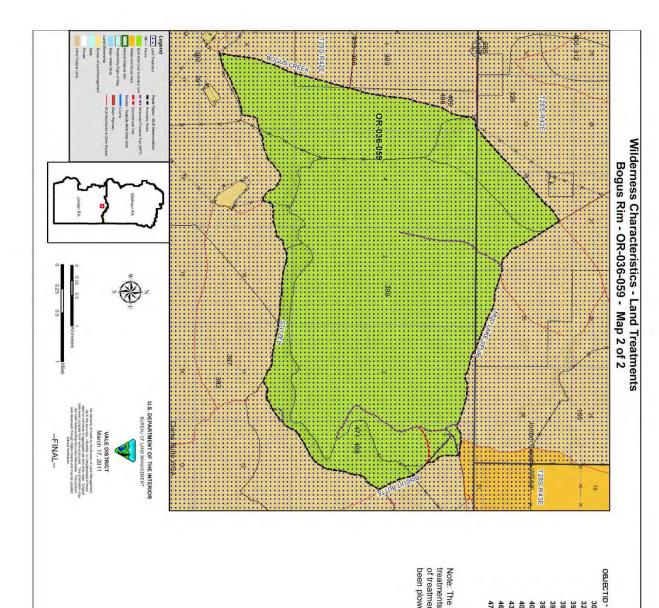
4. D	oes the un	it have ou	tstand	ling opportu	nities for primitive and unconfined recreation?
	Yes	No	X	N/A	_
	primitiv unit is h riding ar about tw sites. In activitie associate	e and uncounting of unting of und hiking of two hours or idividually s within the	onfined upland occurs. In foot a or columnit with the unit we	I recreation. and big game. The unit is the and other that lectively the is not outstar	O does not possess outstanding opportunities for The dominate dispersed recreation activity in the e species (chukar and deer); associated horseback too small for extensive touring, it can be crossed in a the Bogus Creek Rim the unit offers no attractive opportunity to participate in and experience these ding. There are no unique or special features more so attract a visitor who is seeking a primitive see.
5. D	oes the un	it have su	pplem	ental values	?
	Yes	No	X	NA	_
	Descrip	tion:			

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-036-059 — Bogus Rim	
Summary Results of Analysis:	
1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements?	X YesNo
2. Does the area appear to be natural?	<u> </u>
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for soli and unconfined type of recreation?Yes_	<u>=</u>
4. Does the area have supplemental values?Yes _	X No NA
Conclusion check one:	
The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness	character.
X The area does not have wilderness character.	
Prepared by: Jack Wenderoth, Planning Contractor	
Team Members:	
a dine dut	4/5/2011
Aimee Huff, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date 4-5-11
Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, Contractor	Date 4/5/2011
Garth Ross, Wildlife Biologist	Date 4/5/11
Brent Grasty, Gle Coordinator	Date
Approved by:	
Cardin R Freeborn -	4/5/2011
Carolyn Preeborn, 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.



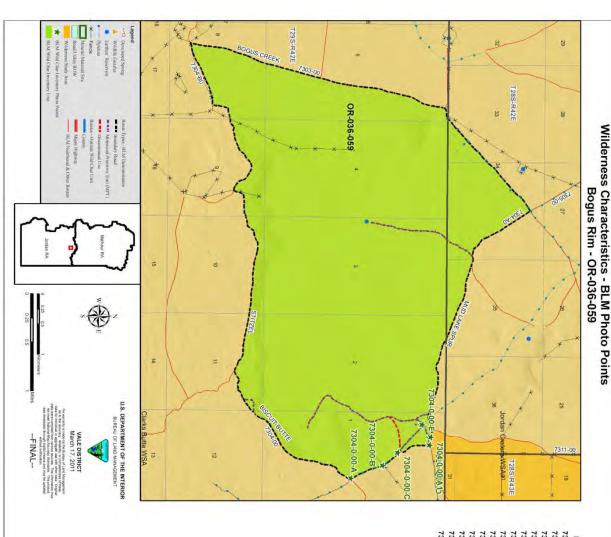


Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments Bogus Rim - OR-036-059 - Map 2 of 2

NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE	
MUD FLAT B.C.	Chemical Treatmen Not Applicable		1958	
MUD CR B.C.	Chemical Treatmen Not Applicable		1973	
WEST CRATER B.C.	Chemical Treatmen Not Applicable	Not Applicable	1969	
BOGUS LAKE REHAB	Drill Seeding	Unknown	1973	
BOGUS CR B.C. & SDG	Chemical Treatmen Not Applicable		1966	
MUD FLAT BRUSH SPRAY	Chemical Treatmen Not Applicable	Not Applicable	1956	
BOGUS CR ESR & ADDENDUM	Drill Seeding	A mix of non-native grasse	1996	
BOGUS CR ESR & ADDENDUM	Drill Seeding	A mix of non-native grasse 1996	1996	
BOGUS CR B.C. & SDG	Drill Seeding	Non-native Grasses	1966	
BOGUS CR ESR & ADDENDUM	Aerial Seeding	A mix of non-native grasse	1996	
BOGUS CR ESR & ADDENDUM	Aerial Seeding	A mix of non-native grasse 1996	1996	

303 329 393 397 398 398 406 408 433 469

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 Bogus Rim - OR-036-059

PHOTO_LOCATION*	DIRECTION	PHOTO_TYPE PHOTO_DATE	PHOTO_DATE	COMMENTS
7304-0-00-A	W	Route	20080824	Front, beginning of RT 7304-0-00
7304-0-00-A	SE	Route	20080824	Back, beginning of RT 7304-0-00, intersection
7304-0-00-B	W	Route	20080824	Front, cattle cuard
7304-0-00-B	S	Route	20080824	Back
7304-0-00-B	ш	Project	20080824	OR-036-059-B-E Fence
7304-0-00-B	×	Project	20080824	OR-036-059-B-W. Fence
7304-0-00-C	W	Route	20080824	Front, intersection
7304-0-00-C	SE	Route	20080824	Back
7304-0-00-D	W	Route	20080824	Front, end of RT 7304-0-00
7304-0-00-D	S	Route	20080824	Back, end of RT 7304-0-00
7304-0-00-E	SE	Route	20080824	Front
7304-0-00-E	z	Route	20080824	Back
7304-0-00-E	ш	Project	20080824	OR-036-059-E-E Water tank

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.













7304-0-00-D-W.JPG







Wilderness Characteristic Photos 7304-0-00-E-SE.JPG



OR-036-059 Bogus Rim Page 2



OR-036-059-B-W.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/Number (UNIT ID): OR-036-059—Bogus Rim

NOTE: This unit is affected by ONDA's proposed Clarks Butte WSA.

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

BLM Road 7304-0-00 Section D-E (Biscuit Butte Road)
ONDA partial of designated BLM Road 7304-0-00 as route (way) OR7a

I. LOCATION: Refer to attached map. This section of BLM Road 7304-0-00 is the east boundary of BLM Unit OR-036-059 and the west boundary of BLM Unit OR-036-092.

List photo point references:

BLM Road 7304-0-00 Section D-E photos 7304-0-00-A through D (8 photos) ONDA route (way) OR7a photos BD030 and BD035

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: BLM Road 7304-0-00 is utilized mainly by recreationist for accessing the southern area of the Jordan Craters WSA and the Owyhee River Rim, by ranchers (as observed by current BLM staff) and by BLM staff for the administration of rangeland resources, livestock grazing, and the maintenance of livestock improvements (fences, springs, pipelines, and reservoirs) in two allotments. BLM Road 7304-0-00 is used on a constant basis to access the Mud Lake Well and pipeline system. The Mud Lake Well provides water to many spur pipelines distributed throughout numerous allotments and pastures. Ranches (permittees) use BLM Road 7304-0-00 to access the Mud Lake Well to perform maintenance and for management of directing water to various pipelines in pastures throughout the grazing season. Road 7304-0-00 is also used on a seasonal basis by hunters and as an alternative route around Mud Lake when the water within the lake precludes travel along BLM Road 036-RT9. BLM Road 7304-0-00 section D-E is the current eastern boundary of the BLM Bogus Rim Unit OR-036-059.

III.	ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:
	Is a road right-of-way associated with this route?
	Yes NoX Unknown
IV.	CONSTRUCTION
	Yes <u>X</u> No
	Examples: Paved Bladed X Graveled Roadside Berms X Cut/Fill Other
	Describe: BLM Road 7304-0-00 Section D-E was probably constructed sometime during the 1960s-1970s by heavy equipment, consists of natural material, and is part of the BLM Vale District Transportation Plan. No exact date can be found at this time when the road was constructed but BLM Road 7304-0-00 contains remnants of berms along both sides of the bladed roadbed and drainage ditches in segments of the road. Vegetation now covers the majority of the berms. The berms along the roadbed are now covered mostly by perennial grasses along with annual plants since the original berm width has not been bladed for many years. Currently in an effort to reduce weed establishment along roads on public land the BLM blades only the roadbed when performing maintenance and not the entire width of the road that included berms when the road was originally constructed.
	Presently the original constructed road berms are not particularly pronounced but the width of the constructed road can be determined along the road by the lack of brush (BLM photos 7304-0-00-A-NW, B-S, C-SE, and D-S and ONDA photo DB 030 and 035). All BLM photographs along BLM Road 7304-0-00 show that maintenance was performed since the road was constructed as indicated by the lack of any vegetation across the bladed road width (excluding berms).

In their 2004 Wilderness inventory document ONDA made the following statement to provide information that there were no roads in the northern portion of their Clark's Butte proposed WSA Addition; "Clark's Butte proposed WSA Addition is bounded by Bogus Ranch Rd to the west, roads OR9d, OR9e, OR9g, and OR7a to the north" (photos BD 030, 035) but added in their Geographic Information System (GIS) that their route OR7a is a "way" that is in poor condition, rutted, overgrown, and not previously bladed but not maintained. ONDA in their document for their section of OR7a referred to it as a road but in their GIS information and on their map for the Clarks Butte Addition refer to OR7a as a "way".

V.	IMPF	ROVE	MENTS	
	Yes	X	No	

	By Hand Tools By MachineX
	Examples: Culverts Stream Crossings Bridges DrainageX Barriers Other
	Describe: Some segments of BLM Road 7304-0-00 section D-E contain ditches along the roadbed to drain water from the road (BLM photo 7304-0-00-A-NW and are usually part of the original construction. Therefore, the drainage ditches are considered an improvement even through many roads throughout the Vale District do not contain this feature.
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: Up until now BLM has been unable to locate a written record of when maintenance was last preformed on section D-E of BLM Road 7304-0-00. The roadway has received maintenance as needed throughout the past 10 years as evident by BLM photographs of the road width and the vast majority of the roadbed and some berms being void of perennial vegetation. BLM does not agree with ONDA's findings that BLM Road 7304-0-00 Section D-E has not been maintained. Section D-E requires little maintenance to remain a well-traveled serviceable road and disagrees with ONDA findings that this section of road is rutted and overgrown as can be seen in all BLM corresponding photographs.
	To reduce the potential for erosion and the establishment of invasive plant and weed species, BLM emphases minimal ground disturbance for road construction and maintenance, through Best Management Practices (BMPs) as described in the SEORMP, Appendix O. BMPs are designed to assist in achieving land use objectives for maintaining or improving water quality, soil productivity, and the protection of watershed resources from ground disturbing activities. Therefore, BLM does not grade many roads unless obstruction to vehicle passage is evident. To further reduce ground disturbance and to minimize disruption of natural drainage patterns, roads are kept to the minimal width necessary. Additional precautions are taken to reduce vegetation removal by retention of vegetation on cut-slopes unless it proposes a safety hazard or restricts maintenance activities, and by conducting roadside brushing of vegetation in a way that prevents disturbance to plant root systems and does not create visual intrusions.
	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 <u>X</u> No

Comments: BLM Road 7394-0-00 Section D-E would be approved by management to be maintained as necessary because the road is a well-used north-south road between Jordan Valley with BLM allotments, WSAs, and the Owyhee River Rim. This road is used as the main access to ranchers and BLM staff for administration purposes throughout the year. Another important reason to maintain this road is because it is the only alternative route around Mud Lake that allows east-west travel in the area when the water level in the lake rises to a point that precludes travel along BLM Road 036-RT9.

|--|

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

BLM Road 7304-0-00 section D-E has received regular use as evident from a wide roadway and tire disturbance indicating continual use (BLM photos 7304-0-00-A through D and ONDA photos DB 030 and 035). BLM Road 7304-0-00 has annual seasonal use as evidence by the lack of perennial vegetation in all road segments and by well-used bare ground where vehicle tire tracks can be observed.

BLM Road 7304-0-00 Section D-E is well traveled, wide along most of its length, and is clearly defined on the landscape. BLM Road 7304-0-00 is also used on a seasonal basis by hunters, ranchers, BLM staff, and recreation enthusiasts.

VIII. CONCLUSION:

VII.

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

Noau. 10 <u>A</u> 110	Road: Y	es	<u>X</u>	No	
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REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Explanation: BLM has determined that BLM Road 7304-0-00 Section C-D meets the definition of a road as stated in Sections IV, V, VI-A, VI-B, and VII above. BLM Road 7304-0-00 was constructed by mechanical equipment, has been maintained since being constructed, would be approved to be maintained by management as needed if the road base became impassable, and has had regular and continuous use.

BLM does not support ONDA's conclusion that BLM Road 7304-0-00 Section D-E is not a road. This finding is based on BLM performed road maintenance in the past, photographs from 2009, on field reconnaissance, and that BLM Road 7304-0-00 Section D-E is clearly defined on aerial photography provided by the National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) that BLM utilizes to supplement its current road information.

Refer to BLM 7304-00 Road Analysis Map for location of BLM Road 7304-0-00 Section D-E

Evaluator(s): Eian Ray, Outdoor Recreation Planner	Date:
Jack Wenderoth, Planning Contractor	Date: <u>4-5-11</u>
Aimee Huff, Range Management Specialist	Date: 4 5 207

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

*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.

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".

