Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Buckbrush OR-036-037, 10 total pages

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NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS
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.
FORM 1 -- DOCUMENTATION OF BLM WILDERNESS INVENTORY FINDINGS ON RECORD

1. Is there existing BLM wilderness inventory information on all or part of this area?

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

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

Wilderness Inventories
(X) 1978-1980 – BLM Wilderness Inventory Units partially of OR-03-12-12 Buckbrush; partially of OR-03-12-13 Hot Spring; OR-03-12-14 McDermitt Reseeding (unpublished BLM documents in case files)

( ) April 1979 – Wilderness -- Proposed Initial Inventory – Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not have Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington

Wilderness Decision Documents
( ) 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)


( ) 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)


B.) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s)
partially of BLM OR-03-12-12 Buckbrush; partially OR-03-12-13 Hot Spring; OR-03-12-14 McDermitt Reseeding
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.


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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit#/Name</th>
<th>Size (historic acres)</th>
<th>Natural Condition? Y/N</th>
<th>Outstanding Solitude? Y/N</th>
<th>Outstanding Primitive &amp; Unconfined Recreation? Y/N</th>
<th>Supplemental Values? Y/N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partially of Buckbrush OR-03-12-12</td>
<td>5,260</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partially of Hot Spring OR-03-12-13</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR-03-12-14 McDermitt Reseeding</td>
<td>4,300</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>12,760</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* -- Determinations for these criteria were not described for the inventory unit; in part due to two of the above units not meeting size criteria.
H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON

APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION

Evaluation of Current Conditions:

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Conduct field reviews as necessary to verify information and to ascertain current conditions. Reach conclusions on current conditions including boundaries, size of areas and presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. Fully explain the basis for each conclusion on form 2, including any critical differences between BLM and citizen information.

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-036-037 – Buckbrush

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 its location. This 17,063 acre unit is a mix of 3 units of the late 1970’s BLM wilderness characteristics inventory. The unit boundary consists of private property and County Road 825 on its south side, Highway 95 and associated right-of-way on its east side, County Road 823 on its north side, and a power transmission right-of-way on its west side. Also, a 320 acre private inholding is a feature of the unit’s boundary. The 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: The majority of the unit consists of flat to rolling open sagebrush and grassland plateau that slopes to the west. The only variation in topographic relief in the unit is the intermittent Oregon Canyon Creek flowing north to south in the center of unit. Topographic relief is minimal within the unit with elevations ranging from approximately 4,440 to 4,978 feet. The unit consists of broad expanses of native and non-native grasses and low-profiled sagebrush.

   Refer to this inventory unit’s associated Map 1 and Map 2 for human imprints. Human imprints include 20.2 miles of 7 motorized primitive trails (MPT), 15.9 miles of rangeland fence, and one fenced enclosure. The unit also has 3.4 miles of 5 abandoned motorized vehicle routes of which all are no longer visually apparent. From 1966 through 2007, 16 land treatments have occurred, affecting a total of approximately half of the unit – all in the western half. There remains apparent visual evidence of linear furrows caused by a 2007 disc seeding of nonnative grasses, covering approximately 500 acres of the unit south of and abutting the unit’s north central boundary road, and which has a temporary rangeland fence surrounding it until the seeding adequately establishes itself. The east half of the unit has 2 adjoining north-south oriented MPTs which dissect the length of the unit. Because of the number of intrusions, their proximity to each other,
and lack of topographic and vegetative screening, the works of man are substantially noticeable. Overall, the area appears to be affected by the works of humans with their collective imprints being substantially noticeable to the average visitor.

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

   Yes_______ No ____X____ N/A_______

   **Description:** This unit is generally square in shape, approximately 5 miles long and wide throughout with a 320 acre private parcel in the center of unit. The types, density, and distribution of vegetation types do not provide sufficient screening between visitors to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Because of the 20.2 mile network of spatially close MPTs which affect most of the unit’s area combined with the absence of vegetative or topographic screening, this unit does not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Solitude is further hindered along the unit’s length of its eastern sector by the unavoidable daily sounds of the proximate (though outside of unit) highway traffic.

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

   Yes _______ No ___X____ N/A _____

   **Description:** Opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation are available in the unit. However, these opportunities including hiking, backpacking, hunting, wildlife viewing, horseback riding, and photography are not outstanding because the unit lacks scenic quality, diversity of landforms, challenging terrain, or unique or special features to draw a recreating visitor to the unit. Oregon Canyon Creek and associated drainage is the only topographic feature within the unit. For reasons described, the unit does not provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

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

   Yes _______ No ___X____ N/A _____

   **Description:**
Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-036-037 --- Buckbrush

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? ______Yes  X No
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? ______Yes  X No  ______NA
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: Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner, contractor

Team Members:

Richard White, Rangeland Management Specialist

Date 4/29/10

Marcy Egger, Range Management Specialist

Date 5/19/10

David Draheim, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Date 2/10/10

Garth Ross, Wildlife Biologist

Date 5/3/2010

Jack Wenderoth, Planning Contractor

Date 5/17/10

Jon Sadowski, Environmental Contractor

Date 4-28-2010

Evan Ray, GIS Specialist, contractor

Date 5-14-10

Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator

Date 5/18/10

Approved by: Carolyn Freeborn, Jordan Resource Area Field Manager

Date 7/19/2010

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.