

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Cold Spring OR-034-061, 13 total pages

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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-034-061 --- Cold 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) 1978 – 1980 -- BLM Wilderness Inventory Unit Cold Spring 3-48 of OR-03-03-27 (unpublished BLM document in case files)
- (X) April 1979 – *Wilderness -- Proposed Initial Inventory – Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not have Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington*

Wilderness Decision Documents

- (X) August 1979 – *Wilderness Review – Initial Inventory, Final Decision on Public Lands Obviously Lacking Wilderness Characteristics and Announcement of Public Lands to be Intensively Inventoried for Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington* (green document)
- () October 1979 – *Wilderness Review – Intensive Inventory - Oregon, Proposed Decision on the Intensive Wilderness Inventory of Selected Areas* (grey document).
- () March 1980 – *Wilderness Review – Intensive Inventory; Final Decisions on 30 Selected Units in Southeast Oregon and Proposed Decisions on Other Intensively Inventoried Units in Oregon and Washington* (orange document)
- () November 1980 - *Wilderness Inventory – Oregon and Washington, Final Intensive Inventory Decisions* (brown document)
- () November 1981 *Stateline Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decision, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah* (tan document).

B.) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s)
3-48 Cold Spring of BLM OR-03-03-27

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

- Final Decision – Initial Wilderness Inventory Map, August 1979, Oregon
- Proposed Decision -- Intensive Wilderness Inventory of Selected Areas Map, October 1979, Oregon
- Intensive Wilderness Inventory Map, March 1980, Oregon
- Intensive Wilderness Inventory --Final Decisions Map, November 1980, Oregon.
- November, 1981 *Stateline Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decision, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah* (tan document).

D.) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s)

Vale District Office / Malheur 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
3-48 Cold Spring of OR-03-03-27	23,380	N	*	*	*
TOTAL	23,380				

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

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FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: OR-034-061 — Cold 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 32,466 acre “Turnbull Mountain 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. Unit OR-034-061 has nearly the same boundaries 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 associated Map 1 for its location. The 31,221 acre unit has nearly the same boundaries as during BLM’s late 1970’s wilderness characteristics inventory. OR-034-061 extends slight more west at its southwest corner than did the historic 3-48 unit. This is due to a change in status of a route (034-RT19) since the late 1970’s from a road to a MPT due to no mechanical maintenance being performed on the route since that time and with no BLM intent to perform such maintenance into the future. That said, this added area to constitute OR-034-061 does not equal the difference of between the original 23,380 acres and the present 31,221 acres. While the reason is not clear, it may simply be a typographic error (of inverting the thousand figures 3 and 2 to a 2 and 3) with the late 1970’s BLM documents. See BLM’s Photo Point Map and associated photo log and photos of this 034-RT19 route, and of the unit’s present north boundary route 034-RT-31.

The unit’s boundaries consist of BLM 034-RT31 road on its north side; private lands and BLM road 7318-0-00 on its west side; a combination of private land, county road 585 and another road traversing public lands on its east side; and county road 585 and private land on its south side. A 360-acre and a 40 acre private inholding are also features of the inventory unit. A private land parcel projects toward the interior from the unit’s northeast corner, and a more pronounced projection of private land extends toward the unit’s interior from the unit’s east boundary road. The road segments constituting those portions of this unit’s boundary 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 No N/A

Description: The terrain consists of rocky hills with multi-directional and typically short drainage patterns. Elevations range from about 4,240 to Turnbull Mountain's 5,254 feet. The terrain in the eastern portion of the unit is not as pronounced as the moderate-to-steep terrain found in the unit's western portion. Vegetation consists predominately of sagebrush and both native and non-native grasses. The approximate north half of the unit is within the Cold Spring Wild Horse Herd Management Area.

See this inventory unit's associated Map 1 for human developments. There are 26.3 miles of 11 motorized primitive trails (MPTs), 20.7 miles of rangeland fences, 14 earthen reservoirs, and 2 developed springs. There also remains very minimal to no remnant visual evidence of 6.6 miles of 6 abandoned vehicle routes associated with the unit. These types and extent of developments is nearly the same as identified with the late 1970's BLM inventory. Presently, there remains no visual contrast of a 1973 chemical brush control project, but which was visually apparent in the late 1970's. In the late 1970's inventory, BLM concluded the unit was not in a natural condition. It is likely the size, location and visual contrast of the 3,520 acre brush control project influenced the BLM's conclusion at that time. With no longer any apparent visual contrast of that project – and given the types, extent and locations of the present developments relative to the unit's nearly constantly differing topography over space -- BLM presently concludes that the unit appears to be primarily affected by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

ONDA makes no documentation of whether or not rangeland fences and/or developed springs are present, and states it did not find any of the reservoirs while concluding that the work of man is no longer substantially noticeable and the proposed WSA is primarily affected by the forces of nature. ONDA did state it could not find evidence of vegetative manipulation (i.e., the brush control project).

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?Yes No N/A

Description: The unit is commonly greater than 6 miles wide and 7 miles long, with a width ranging between 2.5 to 7.5 miles and a range in length of 3 to 10 miles. The vegetation does not provide adequate height or density to provide screening sufficient to experience outstanding opportunities for solitude. However, the mostly dynamic topography throughout most of the unit, in combination with the unit's size and configuration, provides outstanding opportunities for solitude.

4. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: Recreation activities include hunting of common game species (primarily chukar and deer, some antelope) with associated hiking, horseback riding, and general sightseeing and photography. The unit does not have any unique or special features or activity opportunities that would more so draw recreating visitors to it. Viewing of wild horses, while available, is not so unique as to be an outstanding as a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Individually or in combination, the activities available are not outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

ONDA states, "... opportunities for primitive recreation even in a relatively small area are absolutely outstanding" in context of "...large and impressive" junipers..."flowering bushes support butterflies, lava rocks aboundvistas are extensive... and flakes of rock and minerals are sprinkled throughout", and references photographs associated with each of these opportunities. BLM does not concur that such features – of themselves or in combination – provide for outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. ONDA's mention of vistas includes reference of a photograph ("SA50") of viewing distant Cedar Mountain (within neighboring Cedar Mountain WSA). BLM notes that outside (of an inventory unit) sights and landscapes are not qualifying criteria for determination of wilderness character of an inventory unit.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: Current BLM records indicate there are three Sage grouse leks located within the unit and sage grouse inhabit this area throughout the year. The bird is a BLM special status animal species.

ONDA states that their proposed Turnbull Mountain WSA "may also be home to 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 White-tailed Antelope Squirrel was 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 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-034-061 — Cold Spring

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.

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Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner contractor

Team Members:

<u>Steve Christensen</u>	<u>3-1-2010</u>
Steve Christensen, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Shaney Rockefeller</u>	<u>3/10/10</u>
Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist	Date
<u>Michelle Caviness</u>	<u>3/1/10</u>
Michelle Caviness, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u>Gillian Wigglesworth</u>	<u>2/5/10</u>
Gillian Wigglesworth, Botanist	Date
<u>Ejan Ray</u>	<u>02/09/10</u>
Ejan Ray, GIS Specialist, contractor	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	<u>2/9/10</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

Approved by:

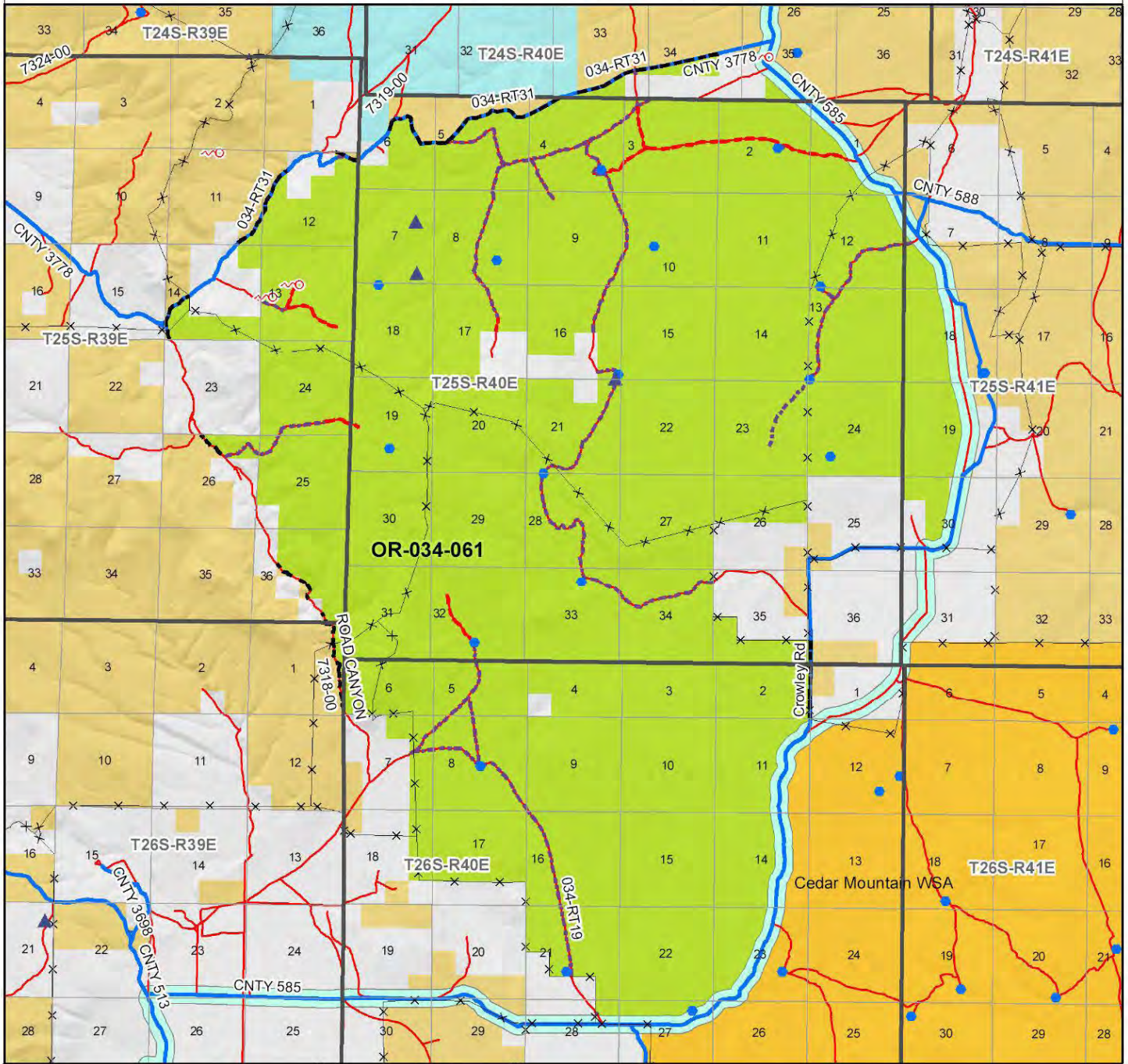
Pat Ryan
Pat Ryan, Malheur Resource Area Field Manager

6/9/10
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.

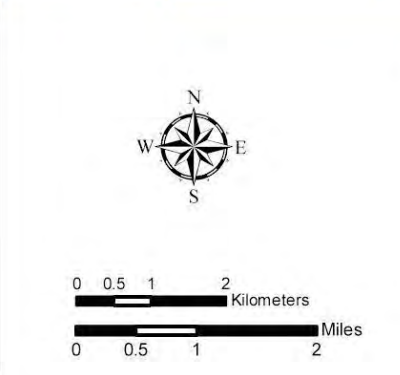
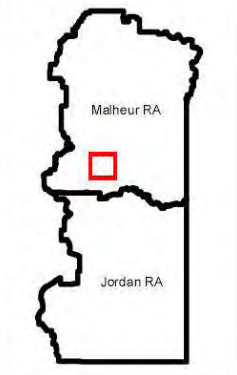
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Cold Spring - OR-034-061 - Map 1 of 2



Legend

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



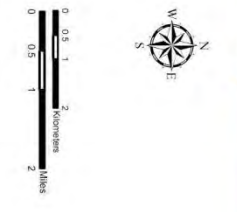
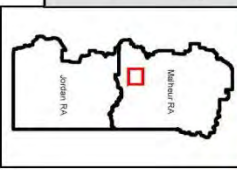
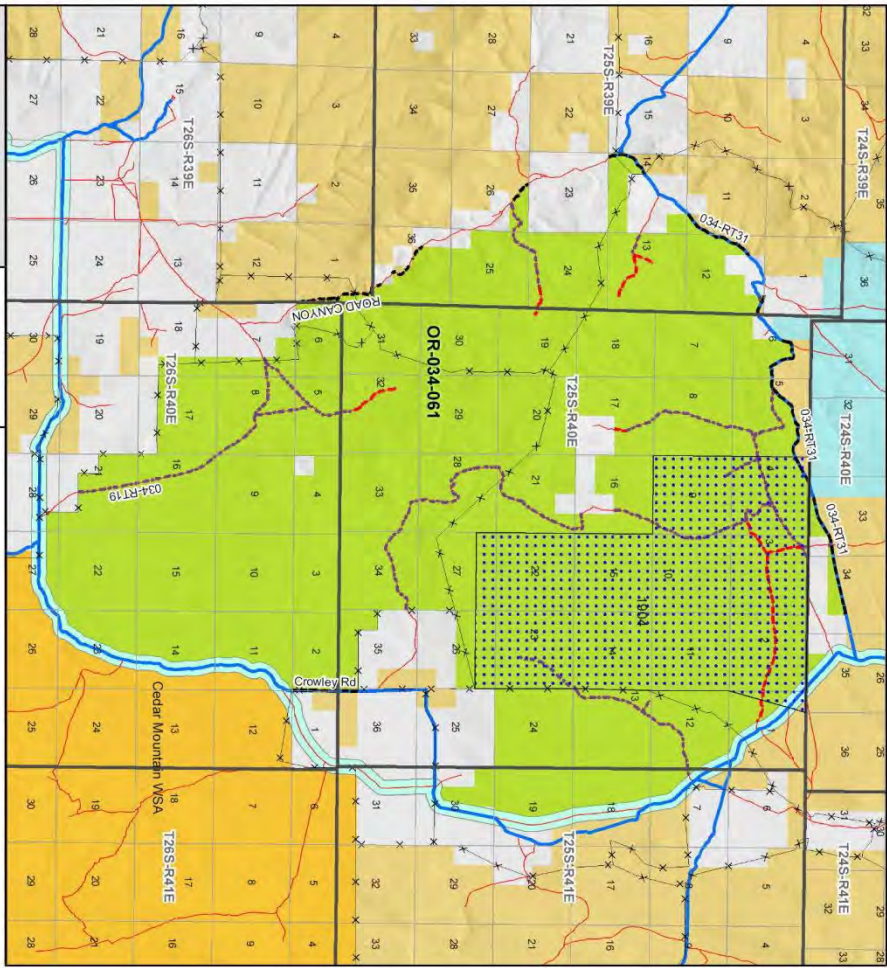
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VALE DISTRICT
December 15, 2009

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--FINAL--

Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Cold Spring - OR-034-061 - Map 2 of 2



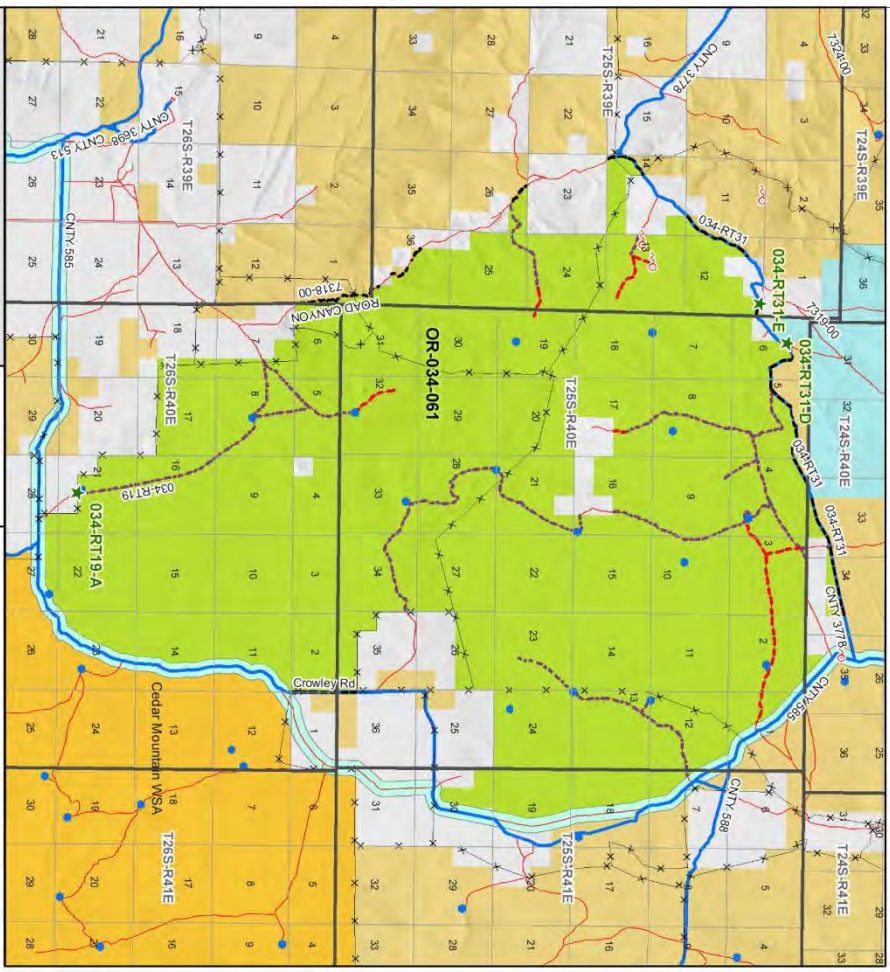
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 VALE DISTRICT
 December 15, 2009
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Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Cold Spring - OR-034-061 - Map 2 of 2

OBJECTID*	NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE
1904	BAKER CREEK SEEDING	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1973

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
Cold Spring - OR-034-061



Legend

- Developed Spine
- Wildlife Corridor
- Wildlife Reserve
- Wildlife
- Permit
- Mineral Material Site
- Road Utility ROW
- Wilderness Study Area
- BLM Wild Char Inventory Photo Points
- BLM Wild Char Inventory Unit
- BLM Determination
- Inventory Road
- BLM Inventory Primitive Trail (APRT)
- Dispersed Use
- Roads - Outside Wild Char Unit
- County
- Major Highway
- BLM Numbered & Other Roads

Scale: 0 0.3 0.6 1.2 1.8 2.4 Miles

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

WALE DISTRICT
December 16, 2009

NO WARRANTY. The BLM does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the information provided on this map. The information was developed from the best available data and may be subject to change without notice.

—FINAL—

Wilderness Characteristics - BLM Photo Points
Cold Spring - OR-034-061

PHOTO LOCATION	DIRECTION	PHOTO_TYPE	PHOTO_DATE	COMMENTS
034-RT19-A	N	Route	20080826	Start of route. Too dry to drive. No maintenance
034-RT19-A	N	Route	20080826	Start of route. Too dry to drive. No maintenance
034-RT31-D	SW	Route	20081027	front
034-RT31-D	NE	Route	20081027	back
034-RT31-E	NW	Route	20081027	front
034-RT31-E	SE	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.



034-RT19-A-N.JPG



034-RT31-D-SW.JPG

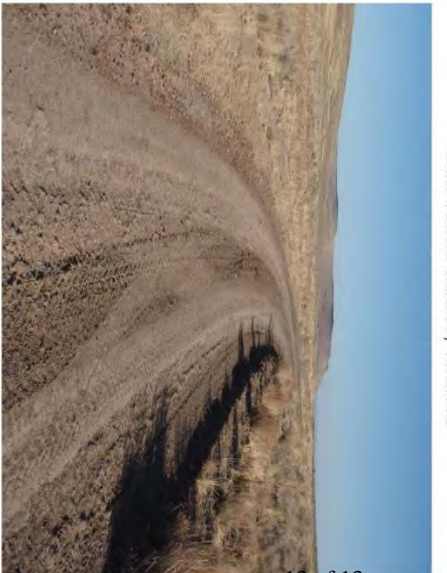
OR-036-061 Cold Spring Page 1



034-RT19-A-N1.JPG



034-RT31-E-NW.JPG



034-RT31-D-NE.JPG



034-RT31-E-SE.JPG