Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Drinkwater OR-02-020, 18 total pages

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Prepared by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Vale District Office
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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.
WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON
(Source: Oregon State Office Internal Guidance as of July 2007)

Year: 2009    Inventory Unit Number/Name: 2-20, Drinkwater

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?

No _______ Yes _______ (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.):

a) Inventory Source: Wilderness Review-Initial Inventory, Oregon and Washington, August, 1979

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Drinkwater, 2-20

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): Final Decision-Initial Inventory, August, 1979

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Burns District – Three Rivers Resource Area

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Inventory Source: Wilderness Review-Initial Inventory, August, 1979, Pages 26-27

<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>2-20, Drinkwater</td>
<td>6,510</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON

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FORM 2 - DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: 2-20, Drinkwater

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Current Unit Acres: 6,044  Yes  X  No _______

Citizen Information Received: No citizen information for this unit was received.

ID-team Meetings: An ID-team consisting of BLM staff from the Burns District met on January 29, 2009, to evaluate this unit. The ID-team was provided with BLM’s current and past maps and past photographs and other inventory descriptions. The ID-team consisted of wilderness, range and planning staff. Wildlife, archaeology, geology and forestry staff were also consulted. Additionally, with the southeast corner of the unit being within Vale BLM District, inter-district coordination was conducted as needed.

BLM’s Boundary Road Determination Process: BLM completed a route analysis for the boundary roads identified for the unit. Prior to, and during the ID-team meeting, District staff were contacted and provided information about current uses of routes by BLM personnel, grazing permittees, and other publics.

Boundary changes since 1979: Two boundary changes have been made since the original inventory. A small acreage was added on the southwest corner of the unit and a block of land has been deleted on the northeast corner when the Juntura Cut-off Road was realigned, paved and improved to allow truck-hauling of diatomaceous earth from Eagle-Picher Mine to Vale, Oregon.

Current Unit Boundaries: (See BLM Unit Character Map): No boundary roads were driven as they are high-standard, paved routes.

N. boundary: Private and State lands
   No Photos
E. boundary: Juntura Cut-off Road (CNTY 303 Road);
   ONDA Photos: None
   BLM Photos: None
S. boundary: U. S. Highway 20
   ONDA Photos: None
   BLM Photos: None
W. boundary: Private land;
   ONDA Photos: None
   BLM Photos: None
**Interior Boundary Roads:** Two interior routes, one accessing two reservoirs in the western portion of the unit and another to a well and large bottomless tank were identified as interior boundary roads. The reservoirs road was bladed in 2007 and the well/tank road was constructed and is maintained to allow trucking of water for livestock to pastures which have no water sources. Other interior routes are unmaintained routes which BLM does not intend to maintain in the future.

(2) **Is the unit in a natural condition?**

Yes [X] No [ ] N/A [ ]

**1979 Unit Description:** The unit is located two miles east of the small rural community of Drewsey. The 1979 inventory report noted the unit, which was not intensively inventoried, was an area of rolling hills and some plateaus with sagebrush and juniper vegetation. Developments were fences and stock water reservoirs. A mining claim for diatomaceous earth is located in the south central area of the unit. The works of man were substantially unnoticeable because of the location of these developments. The unit was found to have naturalness.

**Current Condition Description:** The central portion of the unit is a small, high, plateau which drops off sharply on the east to the paved County Road 303, on the south to U. S. Highway 20 in Kingsbury Gulch and on the west to private lands in Drewsey Valley. A small parcel of land in the unit’s southeast corner is within the BLM Vale District. It is located in Kingsbury Gulch where the Juntura Cutoff Road meets U. S. Highway 20.

The current Drinkwater Unit contains less area than the original. A well and stock water trough with access road is now located in the east-central section of the unit. There are three small reservoirs with three fenced pastures of the River Allotment and small portions of two other pastures within this unit. The primary use is livestock grazing. The unit currently has the following developments **(See Unit Character Map):**

- Fences: 20.4 miles
- Reservoirs: 3
- Wells: 1
- Trough: 1
- Cattleguards: 1
- Boundary roads: 14.1 miles
- Non-boundary roads: 3.3 miles
- Mineral material sites: 12.6 acres

(3) **Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?**

Yes [ ] No [X] N/A [ ]

**1979 Unit Description:** It is clear that the unit does not possess wilderness characteristics. The rolling sagebrush and scattered juniper covered hills in this area gently slope to a flat top plateau in the center of the unit. Views from most points within the unit are unrestricted. Therefore, due
to the general lack of topographic or vegetative screening, this area does not possess an outstanding opportunity for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation and should not be intensively inventoried.

**Current Condition Description:** The ID-team was in agreement with the original unit findings. Since it is such a small area and directly affected by sights and sounds of vehicle use on boundary roads, the unit does not have outstanding opportunities for solitude.

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

Yes [ ] No [X] N/A [ ]

**1979 Unit Description:** Some opportunities for deer and antelope hunting and trapping were present but were not outstanding.

**Current Condition Description:** The ID-team found that the recreation opportunities identified above are likely still present. Their diversity and quality are not unlike that which can be found on public lands in much of eastern Oregon in the Northern Great Basin region. They are not unique and do not present characteristics either individually or collectively that would result in these recreation activities being outstanding within the unit.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes [ ] No [X] N/A [ ]

**1979 Unit Description:** None identified.

**Current Condition Description:** None identified.
Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Drinkwater, 2-20

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?  _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: David E. Vickstrom, Wilderness Specialist
Wilderness Characteristics Inventory; 2020, Drinkwater

Team Members:

Willie Street, Range Specialist, Burns District  
1-20-2010

Bill Andersen, Range Specialist, Burns District  
1-20-10

Bill Luijens, Management Specialist, Vale District  
2/8/10

Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist, Vale District  
2/18/10

Eric Haakenson, Wilderness Specialist, Burns District  
01/20/10

Dave Vickstrom, Wilderness Specialist, Burns District  
1-20-2010

Robert Alward, Consultant-Wilderness, Vale District  
2/5/2010

Approved by:

Rick Roy, Field Manager, Three Rivers Resource Area, Burns District  
1/25/10

Pat Ryan, Field Manager, Malheur Resource Area  
3/18/2010

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 1610.5-2.02.
INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
ROUTE ANALYSIS

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

Evaluator(s): D. Vickstrom Date: 1-26-2009

Original Wilderness Inventory Area Name/Number (UNIT_ID): 3-4 Vale Unit

Route Name and/or Identifier: Junta Cut-off Rd., CNTY 303 (also called mine haul road)

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Eagle-Picher Mine EIS 2009

I. LOCATION: refer to attached map and BLM corporate data (GIS). List photo point references (if applicable):

Location: No Photo Points

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: Main purpose is for access to/from Eagle-Picher Mine for trucks hauling diatomaceous earth to Vale via U.S. Hry 20. Other publics and gov't personnel also use road.

III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route? Yes √ No _____ Unknown _____

IV. CONSTRUCTION

Yes √ No _____

Examples:
Paved √ Bladed _____ Graveled _____ Roadside Berms _____
Cut/Fill √ Other _____

Describe: Road constructed by Harney Co Road Dept. to provide truck-hauling use for Eagle-Picher Mine. Route has been used many years prior to upgrading/paving for access to rangelands & U.S. Hry 20 from the Alvord-Beulah Lane, CNTY 542.
V. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes ☑️ No ☐

By Hand Tools ☐ By Machine ☑

Examples:
- Culverts ☑
- Stream Crossings ☐
- Bridges ☐
- Gates ☐
- Cattleguards ☑
- Drainage ☑
- Barriers ☐
- Other ☐

Describe: Improvements part of upgrading to high-std. paved road.

VI. MAINTENANCE:

A. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes ☑ No ☐

Hand Tools ☑ (Y/N) ☑ Machine ☑ (Y/N) ☑

Explain: Road is maintained by Harney Co. (i.e. repair of paved surface, snow plowed as needed during winter)

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 ☑ No ☐

Comments: Now maintained by Harney Co. Road Dept., as one of the roads in Co. Transportation System.

VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes ☑ No ☐

Describe evidence (vehicle tracks observed) and other rationale for whether use has occurred or will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Road used daily when mined resource is trucked to processing plant near Vale.

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 ☑ No ☐

Explanation: Route meets the definition of a road as a main access road between Eagle-Picher Mine & U.S. Hwy 20.
Appendix C – Road*Analysis: 036-RT 9  1 of 2

Evaluator(s): Dave Vickstrom  Date: 1-9-2009

Original Wilderness Inventory Area Name/Number (UNIT_ID): Z-20 (Drinkwater Unit)

Route Name and/or Identifier: Access Route to Two waterholes off CNTY Rd (Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known, include route number supplied by citizen information when available) Starts T-20S, R-36E, Sec 30 (P.) 3351

I. LOCATION: refer to attached map and BLM corporate data (GIS). List photo point references (if applicable):

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: Access reservoir on BLM lands E. of CNTY Rd 3351; access grazing allotment.

III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route? Yes ___ No ___ Unknown  

IV. CONSTRUCTION

Yes  ___ No ___

Examples:
Paved _______ Bladed  ___ Graveled _______ Roadside Berms  ___
Cut/Fill _______ Other  ___

Describe: Constructed w/ dozer.

ONDA Photo Points

None

BLM Personnel Consulted

Bill Andersen, Range Spec.

Not an ONDA PWSA
V. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes ___ No ___ ✓

By Hand Tools ___ By Machine ___

Examples:
Culverts ___ Stream Crossings ___ Bridges ___ Gates ___
Cattleguards ___ Drainage ___ Barriers ___ Other ___

Describe: ____________________________________________

VI. MAINTENANCE:

A. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes ___ ✓ No ___

Hand Tools ____ Machine ___ Y (Y/N) ___

Explain: Maintained in 2007 to clean out reservoirs by BLM.

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 ___ ✓ No ___

Comments: Accesses range developments (reservoirs)

VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes ___ ✓ No ___

Describe evidence (vehicle tracks observed) and other rationale for whether use has occurred or will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Used by permittee to check livestock check reservoirs at place salt/mineral blocks.

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 ___ ✓ No ___

Explanations: Road has been bladed in last 2-1/2 yrs. It will be maintained as necessary. It will continue to be used as described to meet the criteria of a road.
Appendix C – Road Analysis: 036-RT 9

Evaluator(s): D. Vickstrom
Date: 1-8-2009

Original Wilderness Inventory Area Name/Number (UNIT_ID): 2-20 (Drinkwater Unit)

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

LOCATION: refer to attached map (Field Map) and BLM corporate data (GIS). List photo point references (if applicable):
No Photo Pts.

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: Access to livestock well & large 30' bottomless trough.

ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route? Yes ___ No ___ Unknown ___

CONSTRUCTION

Examples:
Paved ______ Bladed ___ Graveled ___ Roadside Berms ___
Cut/Fill ______ Other ______

Describe: Bladed w/ heavy equipment to construct/access range developments.

ONDA Photo Points
None

BLM Personnel Consulted
Willie Street, Range Spec.

Not an ONDA PWEA
V. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes ______ No ______ √

By Hand Tools ______ By Machine ______

Examples:
- Culverts ______
- Stream Crossings ______
- Bridges ______
- Cattleguards ______
- Drainage ______
- Barriers ______
- Other ______

Describe: ________________________________

VI. MAINTENANCE:

A. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes ______ √ No ______

Hand Tools ____ (Y/N) ______ Machine Y ____ (Y/N) ______

Explain: Blading to access well/trough site.

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 ______ √ No ______

Comments: Grazing permittee hauls water on a regular basis to trough when cattle are using pasture. Note: The well caved in after it had been in operation & permittee hauls water to fill trough.

VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes ______ √ No ______

Describe evidence (vehicle tracks observed) and other rationale for whether use has occurred or will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis: Permittee hauls water to trough for cattle in summer months.

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 ______ √ No ______

Explanation: Route meets the criteria of a road & will continue to be used as described.