

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Hog Creek OR-034-063, 25 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-034-063 -- Hog Creek

**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 Units 3-12 Hog Creek of OR-03-02-13 South Mountain and OR-03-02-14 Hog Creek; OR-03-02-15 Red Canyon; OR-03-02-17 Siphon; and, OR-03-02-18 Chicken Creek (BLM documents stored in 6-way 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)

3-12 Hog Creek of OR-03-02-13 South Mountain and OR-03-02-14 Hog Creek; OR-03-02-15 Red Canyon; OR-03-02-17 Siphon; and, OR-03-02-18 Chicken Creek

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
- (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/ 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
3-12 Hog Ck of OR-03-02-13 & OR-03-02-14	20,480	Y	N	N	N
Red Canyon OR-03-02-15	2,990	*	*	*	*
OR-03-02-17 Siphon	960	*	*	*	*
OR-03-02-18 Chicken Creek	2,500	*	*	*	*
TOTAL	26,930				

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

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

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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-034-063 – Hog Creek

Note: In February, 2004, the Vale District received from Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) its evaluation of wilderness characteristics for its 45,760 acre “Black Canyon Proposed WSA”. For reference, a hard copy of ONDA’s proposal is retained in this unit’s file. OR-034-063 represents only a portion of ONDA’s proposal. Information provided by ONDA’s proposal was considered and incorporated as appropriate for this BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory maintenance. ONDA’s proposal includes basically five 1970’s BLM inventory units (3-9, 3-12, OR-03-02-15, OR-03-02-17, and OR-03-02-18) and additional adjacent public lands which, respectively, are currently associated with the current BLM Wilderness Characteristic Inventory maintenance units of OR-034-031 and this unit (OR-034-063).

For BLM unit OR-034-063, there are three primary differences between BLM and ONDA regarding inventory unit boundary features (refer to the BLM Photo Points Map/Log for OR-034-063). First, unlike ONDA’s WSA proposal, BLM concludes that in the area’s northeast corner of OR-034-063, the boundary is the 7356-0-00 road which extends further east to where it meets private land (and which, respectively, also serves as part of the east boundary of this BLM unit). In this area, ONDA identifies as its proposed WSA boundary a short segment of its WF28a route (as a road) (i.e., BLM route 7367-0-00) and then it follows an east-oriented cross-country line to where it abuts the same private property. BLM concludes that all of ONDA’s identified WF28a route (i.e., 7367-0-00) is a motorized primitive trail (MPT). Furthermore, a valid BLM boundary for an inventory unit can not include an imaginary line crossing the landscape. Second, unlike ONDA, BLM concludes that 7357-0-00 is a road, not a “way” (i.e., MPT) as identified by ONDA. This route constitutes the west boundary of this BLM unit, which separates the unit from the BLM unit OR-034-031 to the west; it was the recognized boundary road in the late 1970’s by BLM, separating then units 3-9 and 3-12. Third, BLM identifies a cherry-stem road which branches from 7357-0-00. This 3.3 mile long road extends to an active communications relay tower site which must remain accessible by vehicle. This road -- or the communication site -- is not depicted or identified in any context by ONDA. For additional information, refer to this BLM inventory unit’s associated BLM Road Analysis form for 7357-0-00 and its affiliated Photo Point Map, Photo Log and photos. BLM also has supporting photos (and affiliated descriptive and route locations on the OR-034-063 Photo Point Map and Log) for 7356-0-00 and County 615 roads (both which are bounds of both this BLM unit and the ONDA-proposed WSA) and for 034-RT50 (a MPT which branches from 7367-0-00 but which ONDA does not identify in any manner). All BLM-determined roads associated with this BLM inventory unit are mechanically maintained as required to allow for regular and continuous use. BLM support documents are located in this inventory unit’s hard copy and/or electronic files.

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 location. The unit has 32,425 acres of public land, making it larger than the late 1970's inventory determination. This is due to certain routes associated with the original 3-12 and OR-03-02-15 inventory units changing status from road to MPT since that inventory, thus including additional public lands (which now are within the eastern portion of OR-034-063). The unit's boundaries are a combination of roads (7356-0-00, 7357-0-00, County 615, and the communication site cherry-stem road), the communication site's facilities themselves, and Bureau of Reclamation and private land parcels. The roads receive mechanical maintenance as needed to keep them passable for regular and continuous use.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: The unit consists of a highly diverse complex of drainages, many which are associated with Hog Creek. The steep Hog Creek Ridge, centrally located within the unit, breaks into rim rock with drainages dipping both generally east and west. Other notable drainages include Chicken Creek, Miller Creek, Red Rock Canyon and Corbett Creek with these features separated by moderate to steep slopes, ridgelines, and undulating terrain. Elevations range from 2,700 to 5,078 feet. Vegetation is largely native and non-native grasses and sagebrush. Currants, chokeberry and mock orange grow in various draws with springs, as well as willow along Hog Creek. Juniper is present but nominal in extent and with no spatially dense stands present. Most of the Hog Creek Wild Horse Herd Management Area is within the unit. The herd is managed to maintain a population of between 30 and 50 animals.

Refer to this unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for human imprints. They include 28.6 miles of rangeland fence, 49.5 miles of 21 MPT's, 18 earthen reservoirs, one pipeline system of 3.5 miles and 6 troughs, and 3 developed springs. There remains no visual evidence of either a 1964 plow disk seeding or a drill seeding of non-native forbs in the eastern-most portion of the inventory unit. The eastern portion of the unit has an increased density and lesser spatial separation of multiple MPTs, and includes the pipeline system with 6 troughs. The density of imprints increases progressively toward the unit's east boundary, and are located in terrain with less pronounced diversity and elevation variance than the rest of the unit. Respectively, the eastern reach of the unit, identified as those public lands within OR-034-063 located east of the north-south oriented rangeland fence which traverses, in part, sections 4, 9, 16, 21 and 28 of T. 20 S.,

R. 41 E., appears to be affected substantially by human imprints. Thus, this described eastern reach of the BLM inventory unit does not appear to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with human imprints substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor. The remainder of the unit – which is greater than 5,000 acres in size – appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with human imprints substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor due to a combination of factors: the types of developments and their locations and spatial separation between each other in the context of the natural features of the inventory unit.

ONDA states that its notably larger Black Canyon proposed WSA appears “generally natural”, and agrees with BLM’s findings of human imprints as documented in the late 1970’s for historic unit 3-12. However, ONDA provides no information about human imprints present in the northeastern portion of its proposed WSA (that is, of those public lands located east and north of historic unit 3-12 and which now are included in ONDA’s proposed WSA and within OR-034-063), while concluding that its proposed WSA “has a natural appearance throughout the area”. ONDA references 7 photos, none which depict the eastern portions of its proposed WSA wherein, in part, BLM identifies increased density of human imprints within its OR-034-063 unit. Also, in part present within the northeast sector – and elsewhere -- of the proposed WSA, ONDA does not document the pipeline/trough system. ONDA does not document the presence of the cherry-stem road and associated communication site, which is located within the south central area of its proposed WSA (and is associated with –though excluded from -- the southwest sector of OR-034-063).

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes X No N/A

Description: That portion of the inventory unit which is in a natural condition is subject to determination regarding outstanding opportunities for solitude. The only location where sufficient density and size of vegetation may assist visual screening to aid a visitor in experiencing a sense of solitude is narrowly along the channel of those drainages where larger woody species are present. Some of the more so dense and taller sage-covered canyon slopes may also aid in providing such an experience. The unit’s configuration results in a varying width of between approximately 3 to 5 miles, and a length of between 3 to 9 miles. The unit’s expanded size and configuration (from the evaluated units of the late 1970’s which are now part of this unit), in combination with the unit’s diverse topography and elevation variances, provides settings for outstanding opportunities for solitude. It is more so available in the western approximate half of the area under determination; that is, where the spatial separation between MPTs and other human imprints which could provide avenues for disrupting solitude is greater relative to the lay and more so rugged topography of the area.

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

Description: That portion of the inventory unit which is in a natural condition is subject to determination regarding outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The primary primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities include hunting of common game species (primarily deer and chukar) and associated day hiking. Other recreational activities available include photography, general sightseeing and some wildlife and geologic (e.g., rim rock associated with some canyons) viewing. There are no special or unique features or attractions of the unit which would more so attract visitors for primitive and unconfined recreation activities. Although varied and within an extensive area to experience, individually or collectively the activities occurring and available within the unit do not constitute or provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

ONDA indicates that its proposed WSA provides outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. ONDA recognizes the same recreation opportunities as does BLM, while contributing the presence of canyons and vistas for the opportunities to be outstanding. Although canyons and vistas are present within the inventory unit, BLM does not agree that the nature of the canyons' features or that vistas associated with this BLM unit are in some manner unique, special or different enough to be a causative draw to the unit to participate in affiliated primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities which would enhance an opportunity or any combination of them to be outstanding.

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

Description: For that portion of the unit which meets natural condition, BLM has documented one known lek of sage grouse, which is a BLM special status animal species. Most of the Hog Creek Wild Horse Herd Management Area is within the unit.

(Note: Within that eastern portion of the unit which does not appear to be affected primarily by the forces of nature, there are several sites of Malheur Valley fiddleneck, a BLM special status plant species.)

ONDA states that its proposed Black Canyon WSA may provide habitat for the Mojave Black-collared Lizard, Desert Horned Lizard, Ferruginous Hawk, Pygmy Rabbit, and White-tailed Antelope Squirrel, which ONDA states are all "sensitive species" by the State of Oregon. BLM recognizes – at this point in time-- the Pygmy Rabbit as a listed BLM special status animal species, but based on knowledge of the vegetation and soils found within this inventory unit, the area does not support habitat for this species. Past surveys have documented the occurrence of the desert horned lizard, but the species is

not presently acknowledged by BLM as a special status animal species. BLM acknowledges that habitat requirements may exist for the black-collared lizard, ferruginous hawk and the white-tailed antelope squirrel; however, ONDA nor any other entity has provided BLM official documentation of the presence of these mentioned species, or of Pygmy Rabbit, in this inventory unit.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-034-063 – Hog Creek

Summary Results of Analysis:

- 1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? Yes No
- 2. Does the area appear to be natural? Yes No
- 3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion -- check one:

The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness character.

The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by: Robert L. Alward
Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner contractor

Team Members:

<u>Steve Christensen</u>	<u>10/7/2009</u>
Steve Christensen, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Shaney Rockefeller</u>	<u>10/5/09</u>
Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist	Date
<u>Gillian Wigglesworth</u>	<u>10/6/09</u>
Gillian Wigglesworth, Botanist	Date
<u>Michelle Caviness</u>	<u>10/5/09</u>
Michelle Caviness, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	<u>10/6/09</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

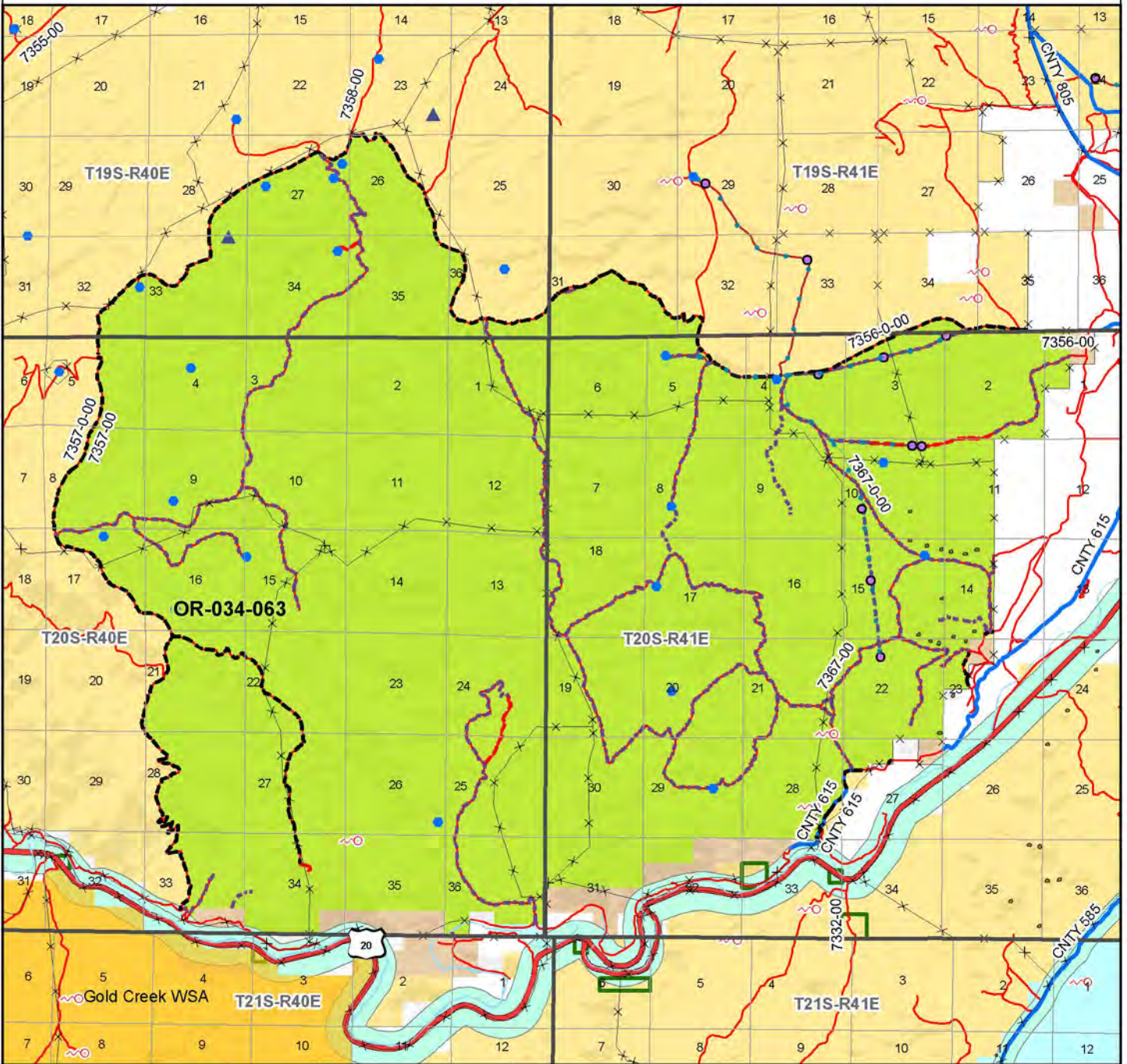
Approved by:

Pat Ryan 10/7/09
Pat Ryan, Matheur 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

Hog Creek - OR-034-063 - Map 1 of 2



Legend

- Developed Spring
- Wildlife Guzzler
- Earthen 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

Route Types - BLM Determination

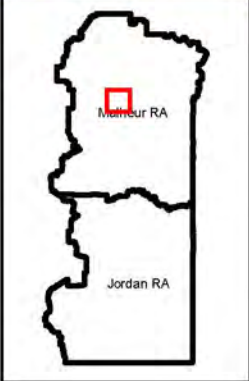
- Boundary Road
- Mixed Primitive Trail (MPT)
- Discontinued Use

Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit

- County
- Major Highway
- BLM Numbered & Other Routes

Ownership Nevada

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Private
- Other Federal Land



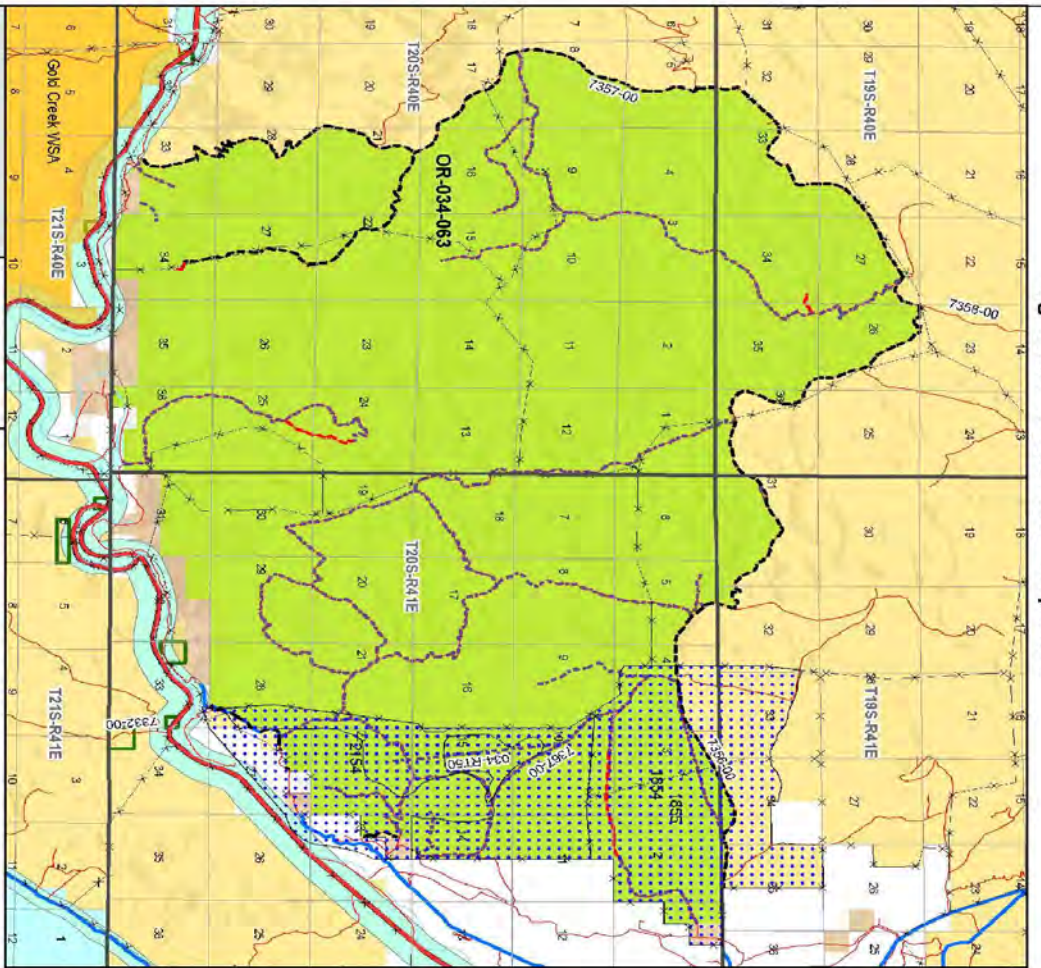
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VALE DISTRICT
May 11, 2009

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
Hog Creek - OR-034-063 - Map 2 of 2



Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Hog Creek - OR-034-063 - Map 2 of 2

OBJECTID*	NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE
1884	CHICKEN CREEK SEEDING	Plow/Disc	Not Applicable	1984
1885	CHICKEN CREEK SEEDING	Drill Seeding	Unknown	1984
2154	CHICKEN CREEK FORB INTERSEEDING	Drill Seeding	Non-native Forbs	1984

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.

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

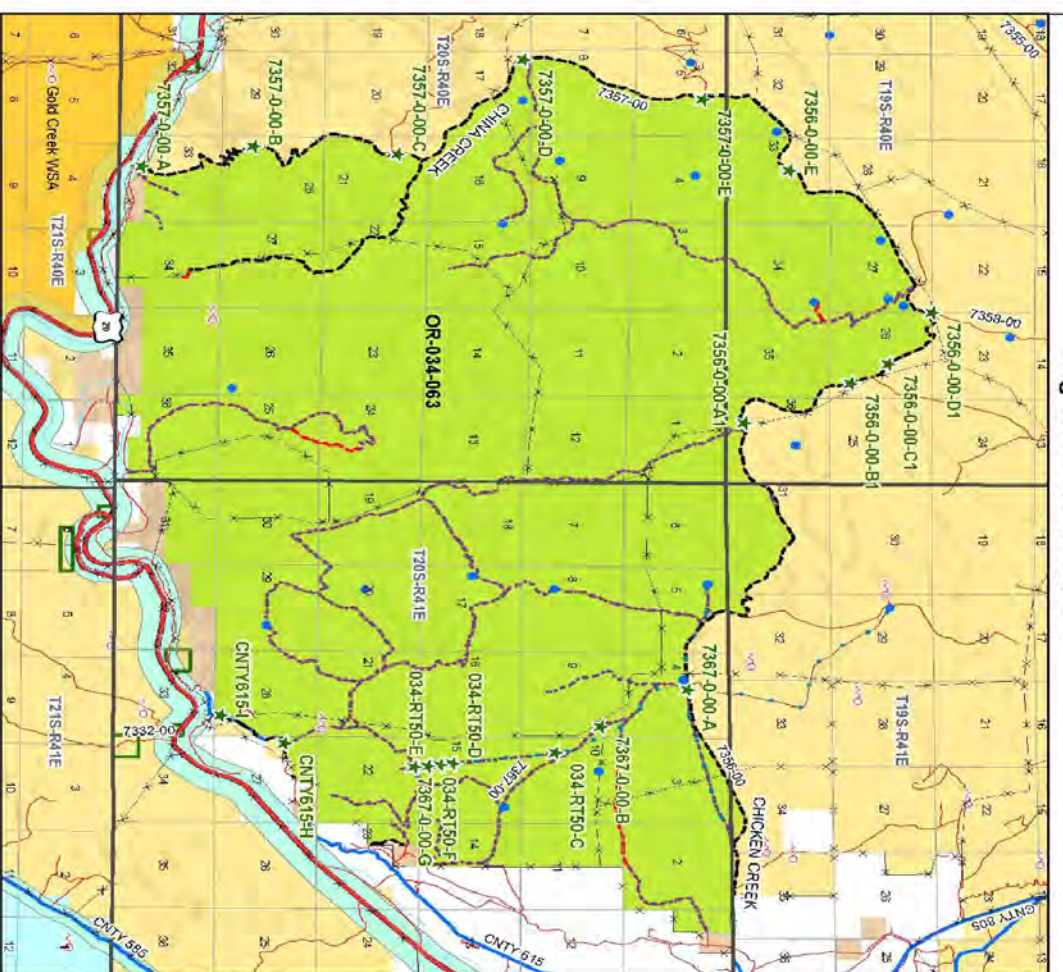
VALE DISTRICT
 May 11, 2009

0 0.5 1 2
 Kilometers

0 0.5 1 2
 Miles

—FINAL—

Wilderness Characteristics - BLM Photo Points
Hog Creek - OR-034-063



Wilderness Characteristics - BLM Photo Log
Hog Creek - OR-034-063

PHOTO_LOCATION	DIRECTION	PHOTO_TYPE	PHOTO_DATE	COMMENTS
034-RT50-C	N	Route	20081031	NG Pipeline route
034-RT50-C	S	Route	20081031	NG Pipeline route & large trough
034-RT50-D	N	Route	20081031	NG Pipeline route
034-RT50-D	S	Route	20081031	NG Pipeline route
034-RT50-E	N	Route	20081031	NG Pipeline route
034-RT50-E	S	Route	20081031	NG Pipeline route & steep hill
034-RT50-F	N	Route	20081031	Stream crossing-back at steep hill
034-RT50-F	S	Route	20081031	Stream crossing
7356-0-00-A1	W	Route	20080825	cattleguard
7356-0-00-A1	E	Route	20080825	cattleguard
7356-0-00-B1	E	Route	20080825	maintenance-blade marks
7356-0-00-C1	W	Route	20080825	maintenance-blade marks
7356-0-00-C1	N	Route	20080825	maintenance-blade marks
7356-0-00-C1	W	Route	20080825	maintenance - "kickout bladed"
7356-0-00-C1	W	Route	20080825	maintenance - "kickout bladed"
7356-0-00-D1	S	Route	20080825	maintenance - "kickout bladed"
7356-0-00-D1	N	Route	20080825	looking at route 7356-0-00
7356-0-00-D1	N	Route	20080825	back up 7358-0-00
7356-0-00-D1	E	Route	20080825	middle route toe at "V" - left from 7358-0-00
7356-0-00-D1	E	Route	20080825	middle route toe at "V" - left from 7358-0-00
7356-0-00-E	N	Route	20080825	route surface change - bladed
7356-0-00-E	SW	Route	20080825	route surface change - bladed
7357-0-00-A	SE	Route	20080726	start of route
7357-0-00-A	NW	Route	20080726	start of route
7357-0-00-B	NW	Route	20080726	no evidence of maintenance.
7357-0-00-B	SE	Route	20080726	no evidence of maintenance.
7357-0-00-B	NW	Route	20080726	no evidence of maintenance.
7357-0-00-C	SE	Route	20080726	no evidence of maintenance.
7357-0-00-D	S	Project	20080726	OR-034-031-D.S, cattle gate
7357-0-00-D	N	Route	20080726	cattle gate
7357-0-00-E	N	Route	20080726	end of route
7357-0-00-E	S	Route	20080726	end of route
7357-0-00-A	W	Route	20081031	Begin route 7357-0-00
7357-0-00-A	S	Route	20081031	Begin route 7357-0-00
7357-0-00-A	E	Route	20081031	Looking East toward s Harper, OR
7357-0-00-B	W	Route	20081031	Berm
7357-0-00-B	S	Route	20081031	Route and gate before stream crossing
7357-0-00-B	N	Route	20081031	Route
7357-0-00-G	S	Route	20081031	Stream crossing
7357-0-00-G	N	Route	20081031	NG Pipeline route
7357-0-00-G	S	Route	20081031	Route 7357-0-00
7357-0-00-G	S	Route	20081031	NG Pipeline/7357-0-00 intersection
7357-0-00-G	W	Route	20081031	Route 7357-0-00
7357-0-00-G	W	Route	20081031	Route 7357-0-00
CNTT615-H	N	Route	20081031	Back towards intersect, County 615/7357-0-
CNTT615-H	E	Route	20081031	Back towards intersect, County 615/7357-0-
CNTT615-H	W	Route	20081031	Intersect County 615/7357-0-00
CNTT615-H	W	Route	20081031	Forward down County 615
CNTT615-I	NE	Route	20081031	Route & gate
CNTT615-I	NW	Route	20081031	Route

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-RT50-C-N.jpg



034-RT50-D-S.jpg



034-RT50-F-N.jpg

OR-034-063 Hog Creek Page 1



034-RT50-C-S.jpg



034-RT50-E-N.jpg



034-RT50-F-S.jpg



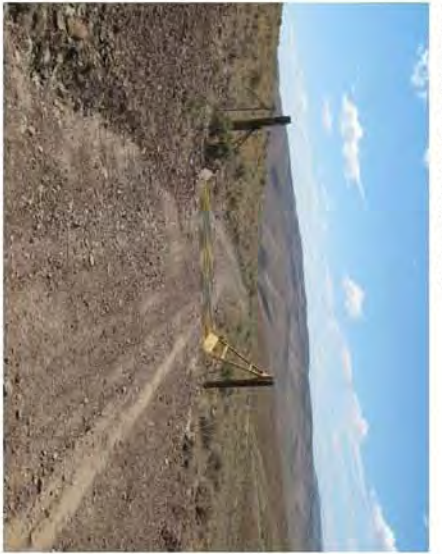
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034-RT50-E-S.jpg



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7356-0-00-A-W1.JPG

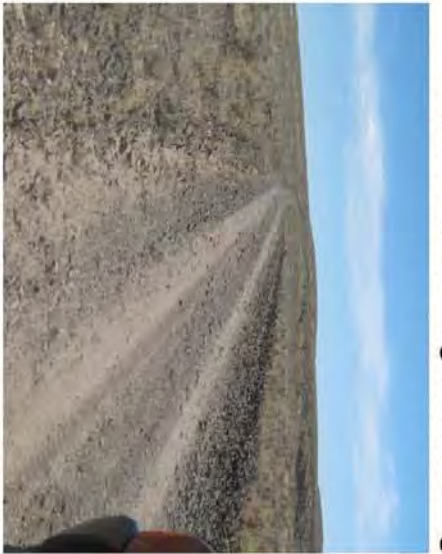


7356-0-00-C1-W.JPG



7356-0-00-C1-W3.JPG

OR-034-063 Hog Creek Page 2



7356-0-00-B-E1.JPG



7356-0-00-C1-W1.JPG



7356-0-00-C1-W4.JPG



7356-0-00-C1-N.JPG



7356-0-00-C1-W2.JPG



7356-0-00-D1-E.JPG



7356-0-00-D1-E1.JPG



7356-0-00-E-NE.JPG



7357-0-00-A-SE.JPG



7356-0-00-D1-N.JPG



7356-0-00-E-SW.JPG



7357-0-00-B-NW.JPG



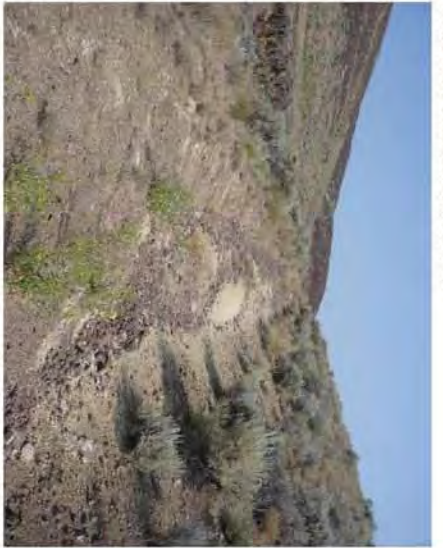
7356-0-00-D1-S.JPG



7357-0-00-A-NW.JPG



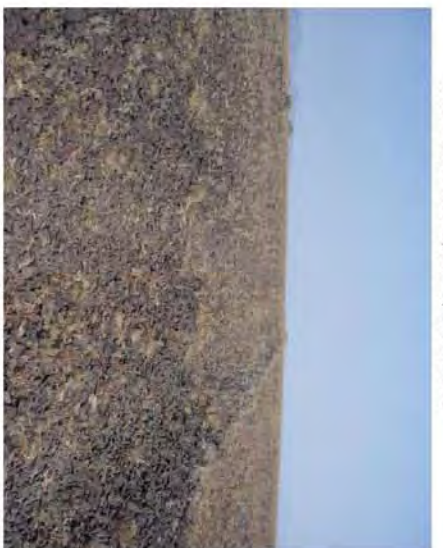
7357-0-00-B-SE.JPG



7367-0-00-C-NW.JPG



7357-0-00-C-SE.JPG



7357-0-00-D-N.JPG



7357-0-00-E-N.JPG



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7367-0-00-A-E.jpg



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7367-0-00-A-W.jpg



7367-0-00-A-W1.jpg



7367-0-00-B-N.jpg



7367-0-00-B-S.jpg



7367-0-00-B-S1.jpg



7367-0-00-G-N.jpg



7367-0-00-G-S.jpg



7367-0-00-G-S1.jpg



7367-0-00-G-W.jpg



7367-0-00-G-W1.jpg



CNTY615-H-E.jpg



CNTY615-H-N.jpg



CNTY615-LNE.jpg

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CNTY615-H-W.jpg



CNTY615-L-NW.jpg



CNTY615-H-W1.jpg



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**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: OR-34-063 – Hog Creek

NOTE: This unit is affected by ONDA’s proposed Black Canyon WSA.

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

BLM 7357-0-00

(Route is ONDA’s WF17a, a vehicular way (i.e., motorized primitive trail.)

I. LOCATION: Refer to attached map. Route is the west boundary of the BLM inventory 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 photos and affiliated Photo Log are electronically retained under Wilderness Characteristics/S/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: This route serves as one of only about 3 primary routes branching from US Highway 20 within the Malheur River canyon corridor to expansive public land tracts so to access multiple rangeland improvements, and to support hunting, dispersed camping and other general recreational activities. It is also the primary access to the cherry stem road which goes to the Coyne Point communications site in this OR-034-063 unit.

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: Date of construction is unknown. It has been established since before the BLM's late 1970's wilderness characteristics inventory. The switchbacks on the south end of the route were engineered; on the ridge top high levels of construction was not required since the terrain is a natural gravel and shale types of material.

V. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes No

By Hand Tools _____ By Machine _____

Examples: Culverts _____ Stream Crossings _____ Bridges _____
Drainage _____ Barriers _____ Other _____

Describe:

VI. MAINTENANCE:

A. Is their Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery? Yes No

If yes: Hand Tools (Y/N) Y N Machine (Y/N) _____

Explain: Due to high level of hunter use and recent access to the Coyne Point communications site, this route (especially in the south end) gets maintained with hand tools as needed; administrative use has included hand tool maintenance on this road within the past 5 years. Mechanical work may have been done to repair a washout near photo point 7357-0-00-C in the same timeframe as indicated by signs this significant erosion event may have healed by itself or mechanically repaired.

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: Overall this route is in good condition, being passable by a high clearance vehicle. It is recognized by the BLM as a primary access route to a number of range improvement projects and as a significant access route for rangeland administration, a recent establishment of a communication site and public access for recreation, including hunting and camping. BLM would approve mechanical maintenance as needed to provide access, although the very nature of the natural surface materials on much of the route has not and would not in the future require much if any maintenance activities.

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:

Periodic regular and continuous use over time will occur for accessing the communications site. Access for monitoring livestock grazing and maintenance of rangeland improvements (e.g., earthen reservoirs, fences, protective enclosure fences and developed springs) would continue to occur on a regular basis. Recreational access would continue, being more so associated with hunting of common game species and dispersed vehicle-supported camping activities.

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

Explanation: This route meets road criteria, as described and explained, above.

Evaluator(s): Steve Christensen Date: 10-7-2009
Steve Christensen, Range Management Specialist

Martin Espil Date: 10/7/09
Martin Espil, Range Management Specialist

Shoney Rockefeller Date: 10/7/09
Shoney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist

* **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”.