Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents Jenkins Reservoir OR-034-081, 12 total pages

Page 1: Index Cover Sheet

Page 2: Form 1 – Documentation of BLM Wilderness Inventory: Findings on Record

<u>Page 5: Form 2 – Documentation of Current Wilderness Inventory Conditions</u>

Page 11: Form 2 – Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Page 12: Wilderness Characteristics Overview–Jenkins Reservoir OR-034-081 Map

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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: 2010 Unit Number/Name: OR-034-081 -- Jenkins Reservoir

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) 1978-1979 BLM Wilderness Inventory Units 3-26 of OR-03-02-45 Jenkins Reservoir (unpublished BLM documents stored 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)

BLM 3-26 of OR-03-02-45 Jenkins Reservoir

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
- () 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).
- **(X)** June 2007 -- BLM Vale District North Fork Malheur Geographic Management Area -- Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Maintenance-- Northeast Lake Ridge, 3-4003.

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
3-26 of OR- 03-02-45	7,200	N	*	*	*
Jenkins Reservoir					
TOTAL	7,200				

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

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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.

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

Unit Number/Name: OR-034-081 — Jenkins Reservoir

NOTE: ON June 21, 2010, BLM received from Mr. Fred Sawyer an e-mail public comment during the public scoping period of the forthcoming Vale District Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan Amendment. Mr. Sawyer stated he had traveled certain vehicle routes during the summer of 2009 which, in part, are affiliated with this OR-034-081 wilderness characteristics inventory unit. He described the physical condition of certain vehicle routes, type of vehicle deemed required for driving certain routes, and stated certain areas need to be evaluated for wilderness characteristics, including certain public lands affiliated with this current OR-034-081 BLM inventory unit. For reference, a hard copy of Mr. Sawyer's e-mail is retained in this unit's file. Information provided by Mr. Sawyer was considered and incorporated as appropriate for this BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory maintenance.

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	\mathbf{X}	No

Description: Refer to this inventory unit's associated Map 1 for its location. The unit has 10,271 acres of public land. The unit is larger than BLM's late 1970's inventory unit of this area. The primarily difference in acreage is because what in 1979 was the north boundary route for the 3-26 of OR-03-02-45 Jenkins Reservoir inventory unit along North Fork Bully Creek has changed status from a road to a motorized primitive trail (MPT) due to no known mechanical maintenance performed and with BLM not intending to provide for such maintenance into the future. Furthermore, the unit's west side is now contiguous with 19,580 acre Beaver Dam Creek WSA due to the route (7353-A0, Kitten Canyon [aka Baker City Canyon]) which was determined by BLM in 1979 to be a road has since changed status to a MPT due to no known mechanical maintenance performed and with BLM not intending to provide for such maintenance into the future.

Other boundary features of the OR-034-081 are private lands on its south side, private lands and a road traversing BLM on its east side, and the 7353-00 Skyline Road (aka Upper Clover Creek County Road, per Mr. Sawyer) on its north side. A 660-acre private parcel associated with the unit's northwest sector -- and the segment of 7353-A0 which is a road that enters the private parcel from the north -- are common boundary features with both this inventory unit and the neighboring Beaver Dam Creek WSA. In 1979, BLM identified an approximate 2.5 mile-long NW-SE oriented cherry-stem road which nearly dissected the 3-26 unit into near equal halves. Since then, this route has changed to a MPT due to no known mechanical maintenance performed and with BLM not intending to provide for such maintenance into the future. The boundary roads of the present OR-

034-081 inventory unit are mechanically maintained as needed to provide for relatively regular and continuous use.

There are two routes described by Mr. Sawyer which directly relate to this BLM inventory unit. BLM concurs with Mr. Sawyer that both of them are presently MPTs (or a vehicular "way" as described by Mr. Sawyer). BLM's reasons are stated above. The first is the route through the canyon of North Fork Bully Creek (that is, in 1979 what was the north boundary route of BLM's 3-26 Jenkins Reservoir inventory unit). The second route is what Mr. Sawyer describes as "Baker City Canyon Route 738-0-00" -- but this identifier descriptive it is not known by BLM; rather, BLM presently identifies the "Baker City Canyon" route as the 7353-AO Kitten Canyon. This route includes a segment that is the boundary between Beaver Dam Creek WSA and this current OR-034-081 inventory unit.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?



Description: Elevations range from approximately 3,640 to 4,580 feet, with terrain gradients predominately being rolling to approaching flat. Some inner slopes of North Fork Bully Creek and some of the short side drainages of Bully Creek have moderate to steep slopes associated with them. Vegetation consists predominately of sagebrush and both native and non-native grasses, even within the more incised sectors of North Fork Bully Creek. Some widely scattered junipers are within the western reaches of the inventory unit.

Refer to this unit's associated Map 1 for human imprints. There are 14.8 miles of 7 motorized primitive trails (MPTs), two which fully dissect the length of the unit, 16.4 miles of rangeland fences, and 7 earthen reservoirs. These are generally the same developments as documented in the late 1970's relative to the 3-26 inventory unit. although six more reservoirs are presently accounted for, and there no longer is a cherrystem road (but rather has since changed to a MPT) which traverses OR-034-081 with an east-west orientation (this route served as the north road boundary of the late 1970's BLM 3-26 inventory unit). The change from a cherry-stem road to what is now a MPT, and considering the number, types and distribution of current developments within the current OR-034-081 unit – while recognizing the increase in the unit's size from the late 1970's - results in this unit appearing to remain not in a natural condition but substantially affected by human developments substantially noticeable to the average visitor. With this inventory unit being contiguous with the Beaver Dam Creek WSA, the effects of the human developments within this contiguous OR-034-081 unit are not so great as to preclude the WSA, itself, from being affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans substantial unnoticeable to the average visitor.

Mr. Sawyer did not provide specific information regarding natural conditions of the locations he submitted.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes	\mathbf{X}	No	N/A

Description: In that the unit itself is determined to not be in a natural condition the unit itself is not subject to an assessment for outstanding opportunities for solitude. However, being contiguous to the WSA the following is provided when considering the contiguous nature of this unit with the WSA.

The vegetation mix of the inventory unit is not as diverse as is found within some locations of the contiguous WSA. The present vegetation of predominately sagebrush and grasses within the inventory unit, itself, does not provide sufficient height and/or density to screen visitors from each other, so to have outstanding opportunities for solitude. The unit ranges from approximately 2.6 to 5 miles in length (east-west) and is predominately approximately 3-3.5 miles wide. Predominately of rolling terrain – and an extension of the same nature of the eastern and southern portions of the contiguous WSA – the inventory unit, itself, does not provide sufficient topographic screening to provide for outstanding opportunities for solitude. However, the size and configuration of this inventory unit when combined with the contiguous WSA results in an overall increase of more expansive topographic landscapes of a configuration and topographic nature which does provide settings for visitors to experience outstanding opportunities for solitude. In the late 1970's the BLM found that the north-central portion of the WSA – due to its configuration relative to its more diverse terrain features and presence of aspen pockets in many of its drainages – provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The location of the afore-mentioned 660 acre private land parcel does somewhat break up the continuity of public lands for providing outstanding opportunities for solitude, but this is countered by the extent and generally favorable configuration of the inventory unit and the WSA combined to provide settings sufficient for outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Mr. Sawyer did not provide specific information regarding opportunities for solitude within the areas he described.

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

Yes	No	X	N/A	
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Description: In that the unit itself is determined to not be in a natural condition the unit itself is not subject to an assessment for outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. However, being contiguous to the WSA the following is provided when considering the contiguous nature of this unit with the WSA.

Primary primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities within the inventory unit itself are hunting of common game species (primarily deer and chukar) and associated hiking. While good, these activities within the unit are not outstanding. The unit possesses no special or unique features which would more so draw visitors to it. Individually or in

combinations, the activities within the unit, itself or in combination, do not provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

In the late 1970's only the north-central portion of the adjacent Beaver Dam Creek WSA was determined by BLM to provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. This north-central area of the WSA with its more varied topography associated with tributaries of Bully Creek -- combined with it not being encumbered by extensive intersecting with private land – were factors which BLM concluded supported the outstanding opportunities. This north-central area of the WSA is physically removed from and does not extend to the WSA's east boundary where it is contiguous with this OR-034-081 inventory unit. Respectively, outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation within the combined area of this inventory unit and the contiguous WSA remains limited to the north-central portion of the WSA.

Mr. Sawyer did not provide specific information regarding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation within the areas he described.

5	Does	the	unit	have	cunn	lemen	tal x	alue	c?
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Yes X No N/A

Description: Five leks of sage grouse – a BLM special status animal species – have been documented within the unit.

Mr. Sawyer did not provide specific information regarding supplemental values within the areas he described.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: <u>OR-034-081 — Jenkins R</u>	<u>keservoir</u>		
Summary Results of Analysis: 1. Does the area meet any of the size require	ements? X	Yes	_No
2. Does the area appear to be natural?	Y	Yes X	_No
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunand unconfined type of recreation?	ities for solitude X Yes	-	
4. Does the area have supplemental values?	X Yes _	No	NA
Conclusion check one:The area, or a portion of the area, h	as wilderness c	haracter.	
X The area does not have wilderness c	haracter.		
Prepared by: Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner cont	ractor		
Team Members:	ractor	, ,	
	1.	2/11/11	
Bill Lutjens, Rangeland Management Specialist		Date	
Daniel & Thomas		12/14/11	,
Dan Thomas, Range Technician		Date	
Magaetatum		12/14/	/1
Michelle Caviness, Wildlife Biologist		Date	
Slum, Rocks _		1/2/1	
Shaney Rockefeller, Wild Horse Specialist		Date	
9 - 1		12 21	_ 11
Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, contractor		Date ,	
		1/2/	/
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator		1/7/12 Poto	
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator		Date '	
Approved by:			
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Pat Ryan, Malheur 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.

Pat Ryan, Malheur Resource Area Field Manager

