

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Juniper Point OR-036-079, 15 total pages

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Prepared by:
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Vale District Office
100 Oregon Street
Vale, Oregon 97918



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, 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.*

Year: 2012 **Unit Number/Name:** OR-036-079 / ID-106-70C — Juniper Point

**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.):

NOTE: There is no known existing BLM Vale District 1970's wilderness inventory unit for the area that is addressed in the Form 2 for the above identified 2012 inventory unit.

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

- () 1978-1980 – BLM Wilderness Inventory Units (unpublished BLM documents stored in Vale District 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)
- () 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)

B.) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s)

N/A

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

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.

Unit# / Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
N/A *					
TOTAL					

* -- Vale District does not know of any existing BLM 1970's-1980's wilderness characteristics inventory documentation records for the area which covers the current 2012 OR-036-079 / ID-106-70C inventory unit that is addressed in Form 2.

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FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Name/Number: OR-036-079 / ID-106-70C — Juniper Point

NOTE: This inventory unit consists of contiguous BLM public lands between the Vale and Boise Districts. This Form 2 represents inventory information from both districts. A Form 2 and certain other related information from Boise District for the affected public lands within that district is retained in the Vale District inventory files for this unit.

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 unit's associated Map 1 for its location. In the late 1970's, Vale and Boise (ID) BLM Districts both conducted independent wilderness characteristics inventories which included public lands only within their respective states. With the current WC inventory maintenance, the bounds of BLM OR-036-079/ID-1-6-70C includes contiguous roadless BLM public lands within both Vale, OR and Boise, ID Districts.

BLM's approximate 8,470 acre Unit OR-036-079/ID-106-70C includes 5,770 acres in Vale District and approximately 2,700 acres in Boise District. BLM documented acreage is calculated from BLM GIS information. BLM's Unit OR-036-079 boundary components within Vale District consists of the utility and right-of-way corridor for Malheur County Road 821 on its northwest side, the utility and right-of-way corridor for Malheur County Road 979 on its northeast side, an unnumbered BLM road on a partial of the unit's southwest side along with an area between two irrigation canals that are connected to Parker Reservoir and one smaller reservoir below the Parker Reservoir earthen dam, and a state of Oregon land parcel on its south and west sides. The two irrigation canals, Parker Reservoir, and the small reservoir contain rights-of-ways that form partial boundaries on the southwest side of BLM Unit OR-036-079. Surface area and land area within the rights-of-ways are excluded from BLM Unit OR-036-079. Within the Boise District the unit's boundary consists of private lands and the extension of the utility and right-of-way corridor for Malheur County Road 979 on its east side, state of Oregon land on its southwest side and an unnumbered road on its south side. The BLM and Malheur County roads in Vale District receive mechanical maintenance as needed to ensure their ability to provide for relatively regular and continuous (seasonal) use. The unit as a whole and its area within Vale District independently meets the size criteria of wilderness characteristics.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description Information herein is supported by and includes information Boise District provided Vale District on a Form 2 for its contiguous ID-106-70C. A copy of that Form 2 is retained in District offices for this OR-036-079/ID-106-70C inventory unit.

Given its size relative to the evidence of man-made developments, BLM Unit OR-036-079/ID-106-70C appears to be affected primarily by the imprint of humans substantially noticeable to the average visitor and not by the forces of nature. Within Vale District, the following is provided regarding natural conditions. Vegetation is predominately a mix of non-native and native grasses, low and big sagebrush and areas throughout the unit containing varying densities of juniper woodlands. The area within Vale District is characterized by low profiled westward sloping terrain of shallow drainages flowing from Juniper Point that is the unit's dominate topographic feature. All drainages within the area flow to the south or west from Juniper Point and are tributary to Soldier Creek. The area's elevations within Vale District of the unit range from a low of 4,880 at the western boundary to a high of 5,281 feet at the top of Juniper Point that is located at the center of the unit. Terrain and vegetation types within the unit are much the same within Boise District, with Cherry Creek traversing the unit east-west close to and paralleling the unit's south boundary. Elevations within the Boise District range between approximately 4,880 and 5,193 feet.

Refer to this unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for human imprints in Vale and Boise Districts. There are 5.0 miles of rangeland fence within Vale District (including, herein for descriptive purposes, the State line fence), 9 motorized primitive trails (3.9 miles of 4 in Vale District; approximately 5 miles of 5 in Boise District), and within Vale District 5 earthen reservoirs and two vegetation treatments. There no longer is visually apparent evidence of motorized vehicular use of a very dated short 0.3 mile route; the route is presently obscured and covered with vegetative growth of a density and size similar to the vegetation of its immediate proximity. A large area of public land located in the southwest portion of the unit contains a large earthen reservoir that has been excluded from the unit because it possesses a right-of-way for private irrigation use for the ranch immediately downstream. Additionally small areas between the large reservoir and the fence surrounding the ranch have been excluded from the unit because of the private use intrusion upon public land. In 1983 approximately 90 percent of the Vale District's portion of the unit received a prescribed fire vegetation treatment. This 1983 burnt area contained an overstorey of sagebrush and juniper woodlands. In many areas of the 1983 prescribed fire vegetation treatment overstores of sagebrush and juniper did not burn leaving much of the Vale District portion of the unit appearing to be in a natural condition to the average visitor. The other and on-going vegetation treatment initiated in 2006 consists of selective cutting of juniper trees within a block of approximately 710 acres in the Vale District's portion of BLM Unit OR-036-079. The tree cutting prescription is intended to reduce juniper encroachment into sagebrush dominated rangeland. To date the juniper trees that have been cut down have been left in place upon

the ground. The proposed prescription to burn all cut juniper trees in place has been replaced by fire wood cutting permits. The Vale District has authorized firewood cutting of the down juniper trees and off road use to reach and retrieve the wood.

Presently there are no plans to pile and burn the cut trees as originally proposed. This action has allowed vehicle access across the landscape producing numerous temporary two-track trails to the tree locations. Presently, to the average visitor, the vegetation treatments conducted in BLM Unit OR-036-079 appear as a whole, individually and collectively, distinguishable across the landscape. Because the imprint of humans is substantially noticeable to the average visitor, the entire unit as a whole appears affected primarily not by the forces of nature but by the imprint of human disturbance.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: Information herein is supported by and includes any information Boise District provided Vale District on a Form 2 for its contiguous ID-106-70C. A copy of that Form 2 is retained in District offices for this OR-036-079/ID-106-70C inventory unit.

BLM concludes that BLM Unit OR-036-079/ID-106-70C does not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The area ranges from 1.25 to 3 miles in east-west width and approximately 1.5 to 4.5 miles in length. Topographic relief varies little throughout the unit with elevations ranging from 4,880 to 5,281 feet above mean sea level. Elevation changes in most of the unit traversing from east to west or north to south are gradual with the highest elevations occurring at Juniper Point and generally decreasing in all directions from this predominate topographic feature. Although Juniper Point provides the highest elevation and blocks line-of-sight from any location, its side slopes can be viewed from within the majority of the unit, leaving only some small drainages and knolls that offer areas some sense of seclusion. Effective solitude that would be provided from vegetative screening varies across the entire unit because of the incomplete combustion of sagebrush and juniper overstory vegetation during the 1983 prescribed fire. Because the broad expanses of burnt areas from the fire left only large pockets of big sagebrush and juniper trees located mostly on the side slopes of Juniper Point the unit offers visitors little opportunity for quality seclusion or solitude. Overall the unit's terrain and vegetation composition is insufficient in most areas to provide adequate screening and/or seclusion for visitors to support outstanding opportunities for solitude.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: Information herein is supported by and includes any information Boise District provided Vale District on a Form 2 for its contiguous ID-106-70C. A copy of

that Form 2 is retained in District offices for this OR-036-079/ID-106-70C inventory unit.

BLM concludes that BLM Unit OR-036-079/ID-106-70C does not provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The primary recreation activity within the area is hunting of common game species (deer, chukar, and some antelope) and associated day hiking. Horseback riding and general sightseeing, while available, are not actively pursued by most visitors. The area does not possess any unique, special or rare resource values which would more so draw recreating visitors to it. The unit's area does not have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

California bighorn sheep habitat is identified in the unit, a species dependent upon wildlands habitat for survival. Although the opportunity to hunt Bighorn sheep within the unit may exist, BLM does not find it to be outstanding due to the limited terrain within the area that Bighorn sheep occupy and utilize on a regular basis (e.g., rugged, rocky, cliffy or steep-sloped terrain). Moreover, while within Vale District this area is included within the identified potential habitat for Bighorn sheep, no local sheep herd is known to inhabit or move through the area within the parcel.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No N/A _____

Description: None known.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-036-079 / ID-106-70C — Juniper Point

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 Alward, Wilderness Planner, Contactor

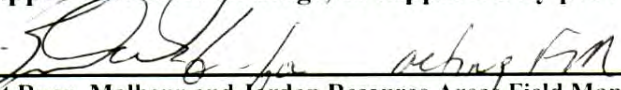
(NOTE: Jack Wenderoth, a Planning contract prepared the 4-19-2011 Final version of the Form 1 and Form 2 (signed/approved on 11-28-2011) for the public lands within Vale District. Now, no longer under contract with Vale District, Alward prepared this updated Final version following coordination with Boise District.)

Team Members:

<u></u>	<u>7/23/2012</u>
Keri Fredrick, Outdoor Recreation Planner	Date
<u></u>	<u>7/5/2012</u>
Aimee Huff, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u></u>	<u>7/19/2012</u>
Garth Ross, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u></u>	<u>7/19/12</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

Approved by:

I approve criteria findings, as supported by provided Boise District information.

 7/5/12
 Pat Ryan, Malheur and Jordan Resource Areas 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.

Unit Name: Small Unit

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier 106-70C Acreage 2,700 acres

(1) Is the area of sufficient size? (If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check "Yes" and describe the exception in the space provided below),

Yes _____ No X

Note: If "No" is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.

Description (describe the boundaries of the area--wilderness inventory roads, property lines, etc.):

This unit is 2,700 acres in size. The unit is contiguous to BLM lands in Oregon administered by the Vale District BLM. There is a fence line and route separating the Vale District BLM from the Boise District. Private property borders the eastern boundaries of the unit and Oregon State Land border the southwest portion of the unit. Unit configuration has an extremely poor configuration, the unit is narrow, varying in width from .5 to 1.5 miles.

Unit is used for grazing.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

Note: If "No" is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.

Description (include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation, and summary of major human uses/activities):

The unit is cut in half by a fence line. There are numerous routes penetrating and dissecting this small unit totaling roughly 5 miles in length.

There are not 5,000 contiguous acres of land where the signs of man's work are substantially unnoticeable. Unit is dissected by multiple substantial routes and fence lines.

(3) Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

Description (*describe the area's outstanding opportunities for solitude*):

There are obviously no outstanding opportunities for solitude because of the narrow configuration of the unit and the lack of topographic and vegetative screening.

(4) Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X _____

Note: If "No" is checked for both 3 and 4 the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for question 5.

Description (*describe the area's outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation*):

There are no outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation due to the lack of natural or scenic attractions and the lack of diversity in possible recreational activities.

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X _____

Description:

Summary of Analysis*

Area Unique Identifier: 106-70C

Summary

Results of analysis:

(Note: explain the inventory findings for the entirety of the inventory unit. When an LWC has been identified that is smaller than the size of the total inventory unit, explain why certain portions of the inventory unit are not included in the LWC (e.g. the inventory found that certain parts lacked naturalness).

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

Check one:

The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as Land with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC).

The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by (team members):

Ryan Homan	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Brad Jost	Wildlife Biologist
Beth Corbin	Botanist/Ecologist
Rich Jackson	Hydrologist
Tina Ruffing	Supervisory Range Management Specialist
Raul Trevino	Range Management Technician

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: _____

Title: _____

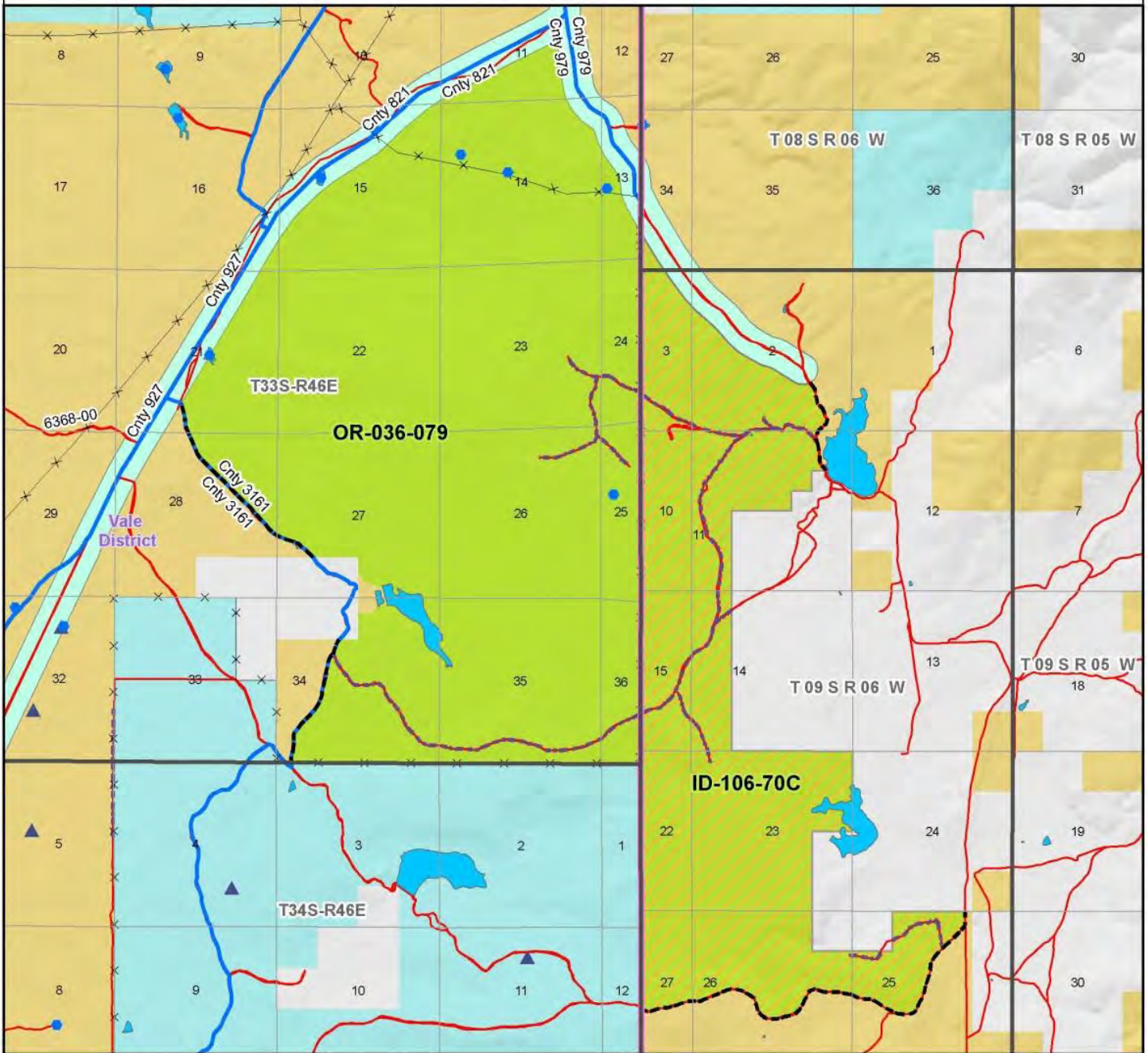
Date: _____

* 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 1610.5-3.

Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

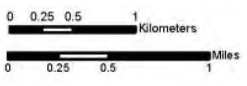
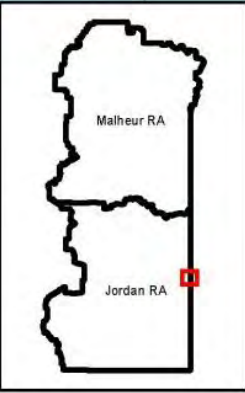
Juniper Point - OR-036-079, ID-106-70C

Map 1 of 2



Legend

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



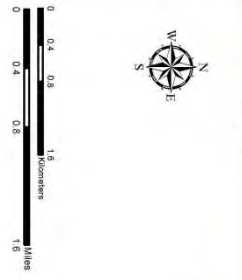
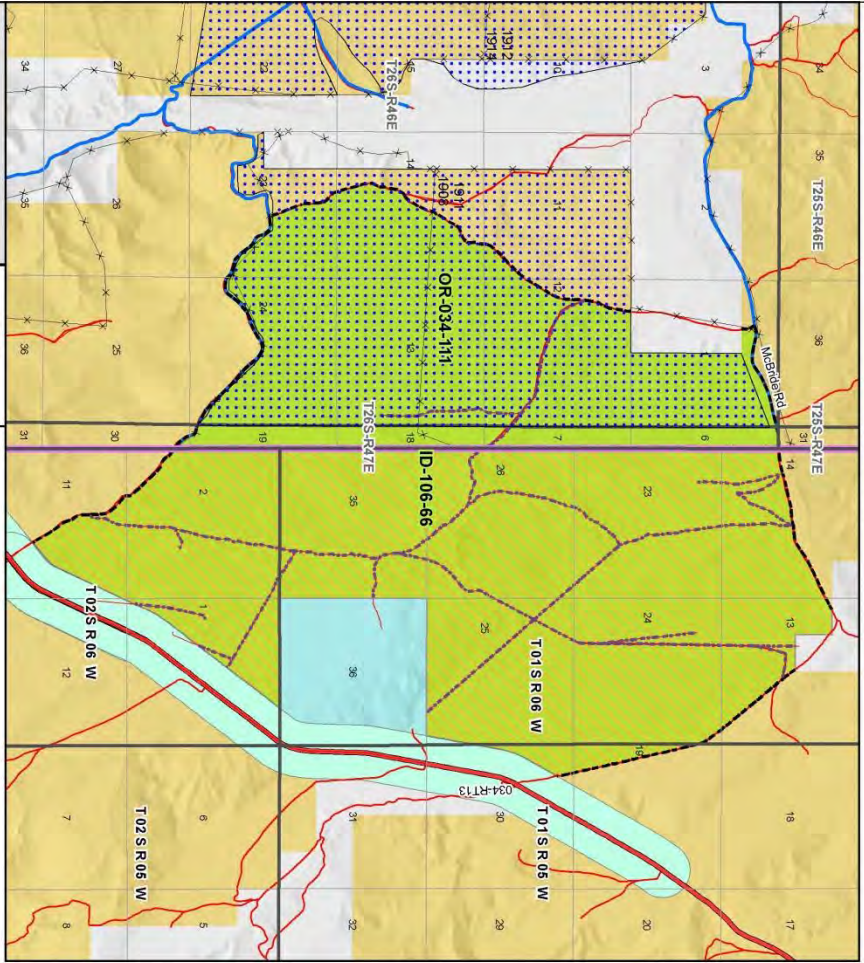
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VALE DISTRICT
April 10, 2012

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
Dry Creek, OR-034-111 / Horse Spring, ID-106-66
Map 2 of 2



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

VALE DISTRICT
 April 18, 2012

This map was prepared by the Bureau of Land Management, Vale District, as a result of a project to update the wilderness inventory for the Dry Creek, OR-034-111 / Horse Spring, ID-106-66 area. The map is based on the most current data available and is subject to change without notice. The map is not intended to be used for any other purpose without permission.

—FINAL—

Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Dry Creek, OR-034-111 / Horse Spring, ID-106-66
Map 2 of 2

OBJECTID*	NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE
1908	ROCKVILLE SEEDING	Flw/Disc	Not Applicable	1964
1911	ROCKVILLE SEEDING	Drill Seeding	Unknown	1964

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.