

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
McCain Springs OR-034-099, 10 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-034-099 -- McCain Springs

**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

- 1978–1980 -- BLM Wilderness Inventory Unit 3-71 of OR-03-05-22 McCain Spring (unpublished BLM document in 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)
- November 1981 *Stateline Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decision, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah* (tan document).

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

BLM 3-71 of OR-03-05-22 McCain Springs

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

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

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

Vale District Office/ Malheur Field Office

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record

(Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory unit is associated with the area, list each unit and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

Inventory Source: See above.

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
3-71 McCain Springs OR-03-05-22	4,880	*	*	*	*
TOTAL	4,880				

* -- These criteria were not specifically addressed during the inventory of this unit since the unit did not meet any size criteria.

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FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/ Name: OR-034-099 — McCain Springs

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 No

Description: Refer to this inventory unit's associated Map 1 for its location. The bounds of the unit are nearly identical to those identified during BLM's late 1970's wilderness characteristics inventory. At that time, BLM determined the unit did not meet size criteria (measured at 4,880 acres). Enhanced methods for determining acreage since the late 1970's indicates the size of the unit is 5,057 acres; thus, meeting size criteria. Boundary features of the unit are County road 796 on its north and northeast sides, County road 795 on its south side, and private land parcels and another road traversing public lands on its west side. A 160 acre private inholding is also a feature of the unit's boundary. The unit's boundary roads receive mechanical maintenance as needed to keep them passable on a relatively regular and seasonally continuous basis.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes No N/A

Description: Elevations range from 4,530 to 4,791 feet. The unit is characterized by moderate to slightly sloped, mostly rolling terrain with drainages of Schnable and Cove creeks flowing mostly in a southern direction. Dominate vegetation is sagebrush and both native and non-native grasses.

Refer to this unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for human imprints. There is 3.5 miles of 6 motorized primitive trails concentrated in two separate locations, 1.3 miles of rangeland fence and 2 earthen reservoirs. A 1968 chemical brush control project which affected portions of the unit is no longer visually contrasting to the average visitor. However, as in the late 1970's, the average visitor is still able to view considerable visually linear contrast evidence of a 1963 disc-drilled seeding (see Map 2, land treatment project 1948, Schnable Creek seeding) in the unit's northwest sector. This treatment involves approximately 825 acres of the inventory unit and does not appear to be substantially unnatural to the average visitor. The other developments described above are fully within the remaining approximate 4,232 acre portion of the inventory unit. The type, locations and spatial distribution of the imprints relative to each other in this

remaining approximate 4,232 acres of the unit results in this area being affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans being substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

Description: The remaining approximate 4,232 acres of the unit that is in a natural condition does not meet any size criteria of wilderness characteristics. Therefore, no determination is made for outstanding opportunities for solitude.

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

Description: The remaining approximate 4,232 acres of the unit that is in a natural condition does not meet any size criteria of wilderness characteristics. Therefore, no determination is made for outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: Approximately 40% of the unit is within a much greater bighorn sheep habitat area, although the nature of the unit's affected terrain is not as preferable as other locations for the species to use. Bighorn sheep is a BLM special status animal species in Oregon. BLM has documented 4 sage grouse leks within the in unit; the bird is a BLM special status species.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-034-099 — McCain Springs

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
Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner contractor

Team Members:

<u>Mitch Thomas</u>	<u>2/14/10</u>
Mitch Thomas, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Gillian Wigglesworth</u>	<u>2/5/10</u>
Gillian Wigglesworth, Botanist	Date
<u>Shaney Rockefeller</u>	<u>3/10/10</u>
Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist	Date
<u>Michelle Caviness</u>	<u>2/28/10</u>
Michelle Caviness, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u>Eian Ray</u>	<u>02/09/10</u>
Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, contractor	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	<u>2/9/10</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

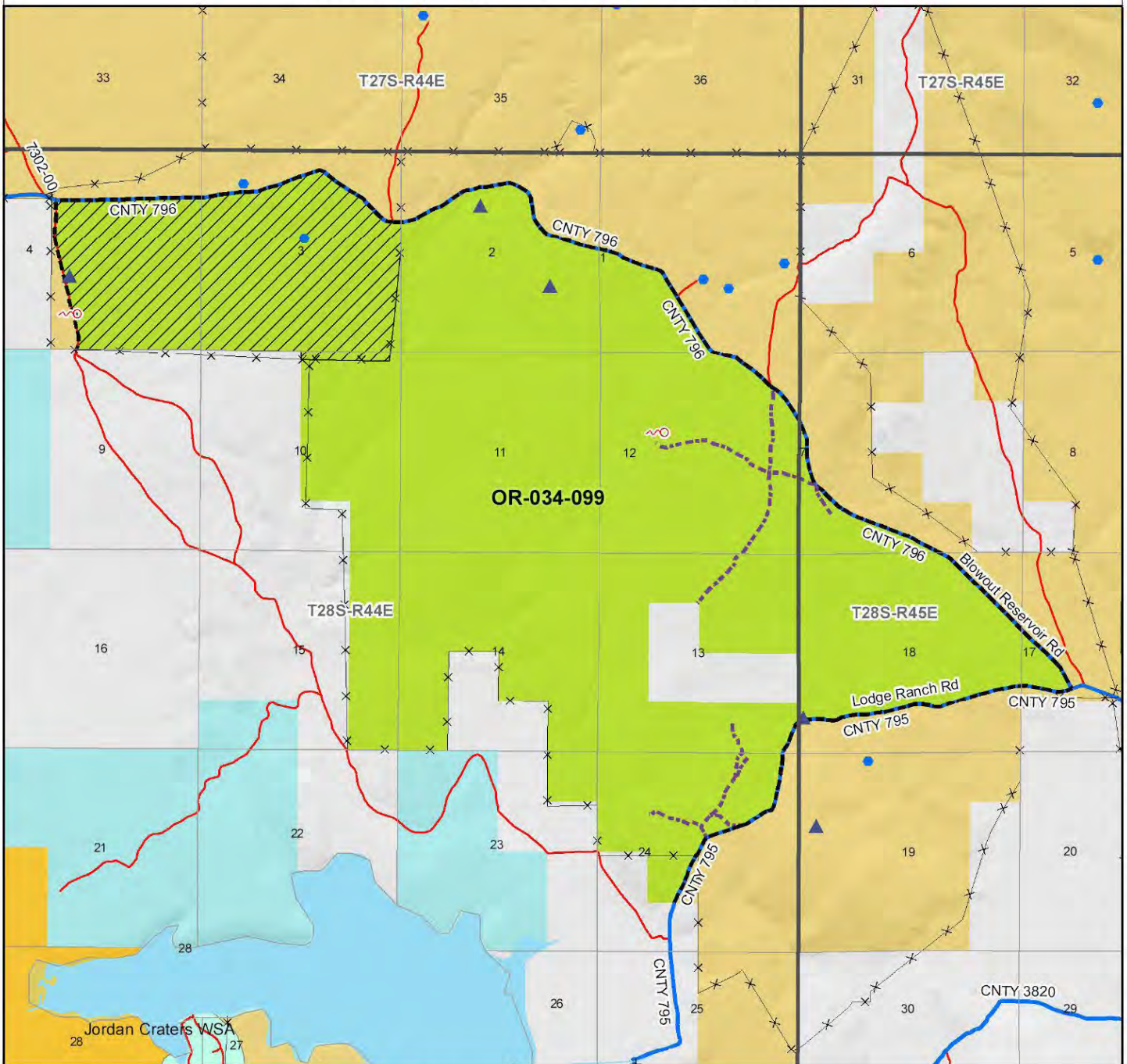
Approved by:

Pat Ryan 7/11/10
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.

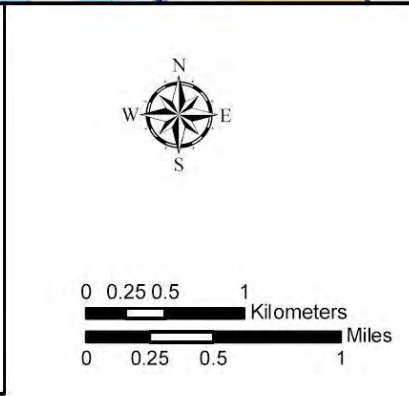
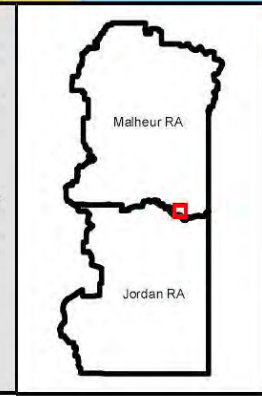
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

McCain Springs - OR-034-099 - Map 1 of 2



Legend

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Route Types - BLM Determination Boundary Road Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT) Discontinued Use Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit Major Highway BLM Numbered & Other Routes County <p>Land Ownership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bureau of Land Management State Private Other Federal Land Unnatural Areas
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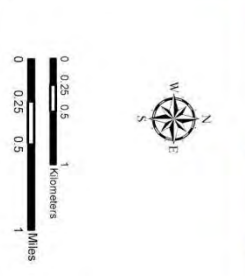
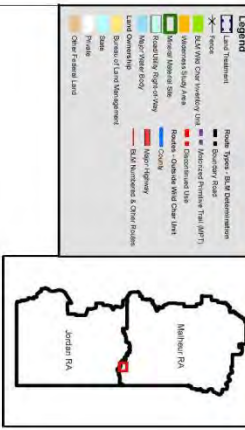
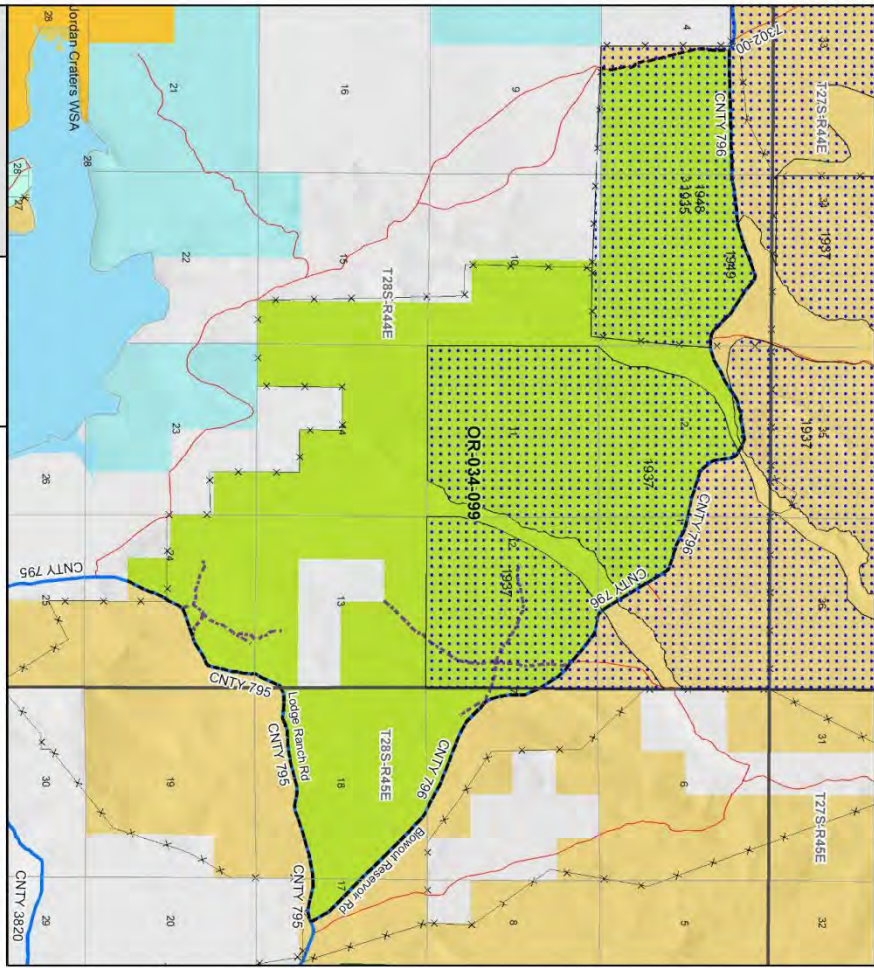
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VALE DISTRICT
November 9, 2009

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--FINAL--

Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
McCain Springs - OR-034-099 - Map 2 of 2



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 -FINAL-

Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
McCain Springs - OR-034-100 - Map 2 of 2

OBJECTID *	NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE
1935	SCHNAEL CREEK SEEDING	Prescribed Burn	Not Applicable	1963
1937	SHEL ROCK BURSH CONTROL	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1968
1948	SCHNAEL CREEK SEEDING	Plow/Disc	Not Applicable	1963
1949	SCHNAEL CREEK SEEDING	Drill Seeding	Unknown	1963

Note: The Land Treatments represented by many 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.