

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
McGraw Creek Contiguous OR-035-020, 12 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: 2010 **Unit Number/Name:** OR-035-020 – McGraw Contiguous

**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?

(If yes, and if more than one unit is within the area, list the names of those units.):
 Yes X No

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 – BLM Wilderness Inventory
- (X) April 1979 – **BLM Wilderness Inventory Unit in Oregon: OR-6-1**
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)
BLM McGraw Creek OR-6-1

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

Baker 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
Contiguous parcels dropped in 1980 Final	620 acres	*	*	*	*
McGraw OR-6-1 final acreage	497 acres	Y	Y	Y	Y
TOTAL	497				

* These criteria were not addressed during the inventory of the unit since natural condition criteria was not met.

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FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: OR-035-020 – McGraw Contiguous

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 its location. The 1,707 acre unit includes the historic unit of OR-6-1 (McGraw Creek WSA) plus additional public lands contiguous with the existing WSA boundary. The unit consists of one parcel that is contiguous with the McGraw WSA boundary. For this inventory maintenance, this parcel is termed McGraw contiguous (1,210 acres). The boundaries with the WSA are contiguous predominately due to a WSAs prior boundary being either (a) a contour elevation, or (b) drainage (creek/stream) or (c) a road which in the late 1970's BLM described as a road but since then has changed status to a motorized primitive trail (MPT) due to no mechanical maintenance performed since then and BLM not intending to conduct such maintenance. For this wilderness characteristic inventory maintenance, none of those three features constitute a qualifying boundary feature for an inventory unit. Thus, being contiguous to the WSA, the public land of this inventory unit regardless of size, meets size criteria.

Boundaries of the unit's parcels, in addition to private lands include the power transmission line right-of-way (ROW) along the southern boarder power transmission line ROW to the east, BLM road #7649-0-00 (Hess Road) to the northwest and southeast, and the Homestead creek road which creates the perimeter of the unit. Boundary roads of the unit receive mechanical maintenance as needed to keep them passable on a relatively regular and continuous basis.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No

Description: The inventory unit is eastward-facing and dominated by very steep gradient slopes, moderately sloped to rugged ridge tops, cut by 3 primary drainages flowing toward the unit's east boundary that abut the south and west WSA boundary and drops continually and as you get closer to the eastern boundary features, drops significantly in a short distance to the east boundary.

The parcel ranges in elevation from 1,780 at the eastern boundary near the mouth of Copper Creek, to 5,186 feet at the west boundary. The dominate vegetation ranges from both native and nonnative grasses and sagebrush on the eastern half of the unit, to pockets of dense conifer stands in the western portion of the unit, primarily in the higher elevations and north facing slopes.

See this unit's associated Map 1 for locations of human imprints associated with this inventory unit.

The unit has 7 MPTs totaling 3.1 miles existing primarily in the central section of the unit. These MPTs are a result of historic skid trails from logging activities that have been softened over time by lack of use. These impacts, although noticeable, are localized to a small area and do not significantly detract from naturalness of the area as a whole. Overall, there remains no visual contrast in the vegetation of the area to the average visitor.

In summary this parcel appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor. In addition, this unit is further enhanced by the congruous natural condition of the contiguous WSA, the same as the WSA enhancing the wilderness characteristics of this parcel.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes No N/A

Description: The unit does not, by itself, provide for outstanding opportunities for solitude where the sights, sounds and works of man cannot be easily avoided. This is somewhat qualified by the unit's transmission line boundary along its east and northern sides, where the overbearing visual presence of the large power line in conjunction with human activities associated with the Hess road diminishes the solitude experience as a visitor approaches boundary features to the west and south. While the eastern sector of the parcel does provide some vegetation and topography screenings where a person may feel isolated, this portion of the unit is too small for a visitor to have outstanding opportunities for solitude.

However, the described opportunities that are not present in the identified unit alone are enhanced and increased in conjunction with the contiguous association of the McGraw Creek WSA and the McGraw Creek Wilderness areas. The opportunity for outstanding solitude can occur, primarily in the central and northwestern portion of the unit directly adjacent to the boundaries of the WSA and Wilderness. The WSA and the Wilderness reduces the influences and impacts from the sights and sounds of man as a result of the restrictions on uses in those areas. By example, experiences of solitude are enhanced by the unit's association with the Wilderness, which possesses these outstanding characteristics. Additionally, the unit provides enhancement of the WSA and the Wilderness areas characteristics and increases opportunities for outstanding solitude.

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

Yes X No N/A

Description: There are opportunities for hiking, camping, hunting, sightseeing and photography. Individually or in combination, these opportunities are not outstanding within the parcels of the unit itself. There are no unique sights or attractions within the unit to draw visitors to them specifically for pursuing recreational activities. However, the described opportunities are enhanced and increased in the unit and the contiguous WSA due to their contiguous association with each other. By example, hiking opportunities are enhanced by the unit's association with the WSA, which possesses outstanding hiking and photography opportunities. Additionally, the unit provides enhancement of the WSA characteristics and opportunities by providing additional outstanding primitive recreational opportunities.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No N/A

Description: Bartonberry (*Rubus bartonianus*), a BLM special status plant species, is documented within the inventory unit.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-035-020 -- McGraw Contiguous

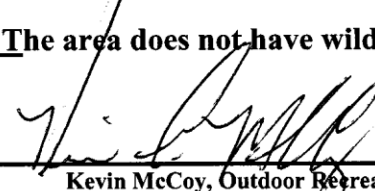
Summary Results of Analysis:

- 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

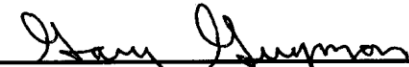

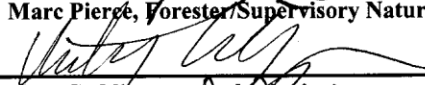
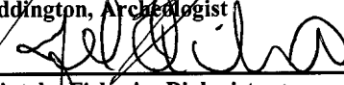
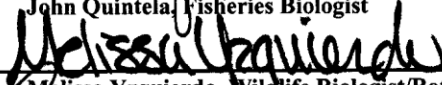
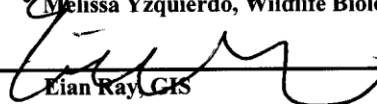
Conclusion -- check one:

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


The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by:  10-3-11
Kevin McCoy, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Team Members:

<u></u>	<u>10/3/11</u>
Gary Guymon, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u></u>	<u>10/03/11</u>
Marc Pierce, Forester/Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist	Date
<u></u>	<u>10/5/2011</u>
Katy Coddington, Archeologist	Date
<u></u>	<u>10/3/11</u>
John Quintela, Fisheries Biologist	Date
<u></u>	<u>10/8/11</u>
Melissa Yzquierdo, Wildlife Biologist/Botanist	Date
<u></u>	<u>10-6-11</u>
Eian Kay, GIS	Date

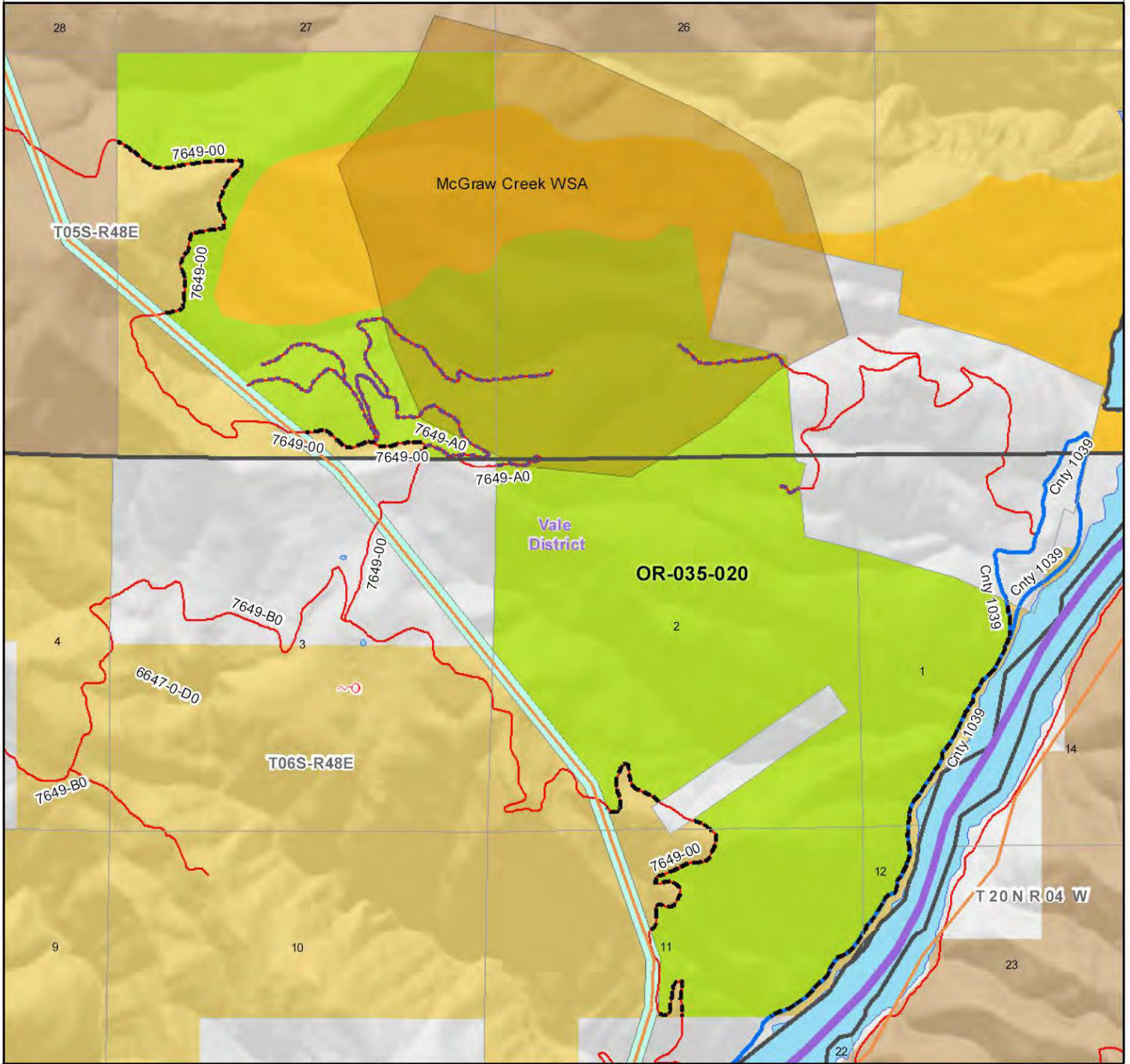
Approved by:

 10-11-11
Ted Davis, Baker Field Office 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.

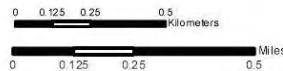
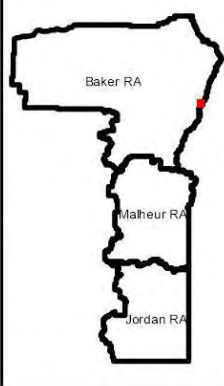
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

McGraw Creek Contiguous - OR-035-020 - Map 1 of 1



Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed Spring Wildlife Guzzler Earthen Reservoir Pipeline Trough Fence Storage Tank Surface Mining Disturbance PowerLine 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 | <p>Route Types - BLM Determination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary Road Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT) Discontinued Use <p>Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major Highway BLM Numbered & Other Routes <p>Land Ownership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bureau of Land Management State Private Other Federal Land District Boundary |
|---|---|



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



VALE DISTRICT
October 28, 2011

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