

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Owyhee River Contiguous OR-036-091, 21 total pages

Page 1: Index Cover Sheet

[Page 2: Form 1 – Documentation of BLM Wilderness Inventory: Findings on Record](#)

[Page 5: Form 2 – Documentation of Current Wilderness Inventory Conditions](#)

[Page 14: Form 2 – Summary of Findings and Conclusion](#)

[Page 15: Wilderness Characteristics Overview–Owyhee River Contiguous OR-036-091 Map 1A of 2](#)

[Page 16: Wilderness Characteristics Overview–Owyhee River Contiguous OR-036-091 Map 1B of 2](#)

[Page 17: Wilderness Characteristics Overview–Owyhee River Contiguous OR-036-091 Map 1C of 2](#)

[Page 18: Wilderness Characteristics Overview–Owyhee River Contiguous OR-036-091 Map 1D of 2](#)

[Page 19: Wilderness Characteristics Overview–Owyhee River Contiguous OR-036-091 Map 1E of 2](#)

[Page 20: Wilderness Characteristics-Land Treatments-Owyhee River Contiguous OR-036-091 Map 2A of 2](#)

[Page 21: Wilderness Characteristics-Land Treatments-Owyhee River Contiguous OR-036-091 Map 2B of 2](#)

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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, 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: 2011 **Unit Number/Name:** OR-036-091—Owyhee River 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?

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) 1978-1981 – BLM Wilderness Inventory Unit OR-03-11-01 Owyhee River that includes 3-143 of 3-195 (unpublished BLM documents stored in Vale District 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)
- (X) November 1981 *Stateline Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decision, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah* (tan document).

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

BLM Unit OR-03-11-01 Owyhee River that includes 3-143 of 3-195

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

- (X) Final Decision – Initial Wilderness Inventory Map, August 1979, Oregon
- (X) 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.
- (X) November, 1981 *Stateline Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decision, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah* (tan document).

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

Vale District 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
3-195 of OR-03-11-01 Owyhee River	250,380	Y/NA*	Y/NA*	Y/NA*	Y/NA*
TOTAL					

*-- These criteria were not specifically addressed during the inventory of this unit for areas within the boundaries of the unit that were private inholdings at the time of the 1978-1981 inventories but since have been acquired and are now public lands.

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

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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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FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Name/Number: OR-036-091—Owyhee River 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 BLM's Unit OR-036-091 location. BLM Unit OR-036-091 is comprised of eight areas totaling 7,704 acres of public land that are contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA. Traveling from northwest to southeast through the Owyhee Canyon WSA and along the Owyhee River the northwestern most Area A consists of 636 acres; Area B consist of 447 acres; Area C consist of 31 acres; Area D consists of 6,006 acres; Area E consists of 131 acres; Area F consists of 284 acres; Area G consists of 42 acres; and Area H consists of 126 acres. Although all Areas except Area D do not meet the size requirement, each area is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA Thus -- being contiguous to the WSA -- regardless of its size -- each of the eight contiguous areas meet size criteria. Areas A-E of BLM Unit OR-036-091 were once included within the original BLM Unit 3-143 partial of Unit OR-03-11-01, Owyhee River that was incorporated into Unit 3-195 Owyhee River Canyon with a total of 250,380 acres of which 216,680 are in Oregon and 33,700 acres are in Idaho. Areas F, G, and H were private land parcels acquired in 2006. Many of the Areas in the current inventory were excluded from the 1981 inventory of Unit 3-195. These were Subunits A- E in Unit 3-195. Acreage for Unit OR-036-091 in Form 2 is calculated from BLM GIS information.

The unit boundary for Area A consists of BLM Road 6367-00 on its north side, an unnumbered BLM Road on its northeast side, and is contiguous with the Lower Owyhee Canyon WSA on the area's south side. The unit boundary for Area B is the utility corridor for BLM Road 6366-00 and an unnumbered BLM Road on its east side, private land parcels on its south, north, and west sides and is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA along its southwest boundary. The unit boundary for Area C consists of the utility corridor for BLM Road 6366-00 on its east side, an unnumbered BLM Road on its north side, private land parcels on its west side, and is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA along Area C's southern boundary. The unit boundary for Area D consists of the utility corridor for BLM Road 6366-00 on its northeast side, the utility corridor for Malheur County Road 927 on its east and southeast sides, and is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA on its west and southwest sides.

The unit boundary for Area E consists of the utility corridor for Malheur County Road 927 on its east and southeast sides and is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA on all remaining sides. The unit boundary for Area F consists of Malheur County Road 822

on its east and southeast sides, state land parcels on its southeast side, and is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA on all remaining sides. The unit boundary for Area G is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA on all sides. The unit boundary for Area H consists of a private land parcel on the south side and is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA on all remaining sides. BLM and County boundary roads for all areas are natural-surfaced that receive mechanical maintenance as needed to keep them passable on a regular and continuous (seasonal) basis.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes No N/A

Description: Given each Areas size relative to the evidence of man-made developments within BLM Unit OR-036-091, the northwestern Area A, B, and D appear to be affected primarily not by the forces of nature but with the imprint of humans substantially noticeable to the average visitor; whereas Area C and the southeastern Areas E, F G, and H appear to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

BLM Unit OR-036-091 Area A consists mainly of an elevated bench, in the west/northwest portion of the unit that borders the Owyhee Canyon WSA land adjacent to the Owyhee River Canyon Rim that is 400 to 500 feet above the Owyhee River. Elevation levels within Area A range from a low of 3,870 feet above mean sea level (msl) at the southwest boundary of the area to a high of 4,280 feet (msl) at the extreme southeast tip of the area. Area A is a narrow length of land between BLM Road 6367-00 and the boundary of the Owyhee Canyon WSA. All stream channels that flow through the Area drain southward into the Owyhee River. Vegetation within the unit consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contain mostly non-native and small amounts of native grass species. Human imprints in Area A are 1.93 miles of three motorized primitive trails (MPTs), 2.03 miles of fence line, 0.93 miles of pipeline from one system, one reservoir, 2 corrals, and 9 vegetation treatments consisting of brush sprayings, seed drillings, and aerial seedings conducted from 1960 to 2003.

BLM Unit OR-036-091 Area B consists mainly of an elevated bench of nearly flat terrain that slopes gently to the south toward the Owyhee River. Elevation ranges from 4,520 feet in the northeastern corner of the Area to a low of 4,400 feet at a drainage along the southern boundary that flows into Soldier Creek. Area B is dissected by two small drainages that flow directly to Soldier Creek or to Spring Creek a tributary to Soldier Creek.

Vegetation within Area B consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contains predominately native grass species. Human imprints in Area B are 0.29 miles of two motorized primitive trails (MPTs) and 1.45 miles of fence line.

BLM Unit OR-036-091 Area C consists mainly of an elevated bench sloping down to a stream channel that contains Mud Flat Creek. Elevation within the area ranges from a

high of 4,672 feet at the top of an elevated bench at the western boundary to a low of 4,500 feet at Mud Flat Creek at the north central boundary of the area. Area C contains no human developments. Vegetation within Area C consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contain native grass species.

BLM Unit OR-036-091 Area D consists mainly of an elevated bench sloping mostly to the south and draining into the Owyhee River. Elevation within the area ranges from a high of 4,861 feet south of Long Canyon to a low of 4,540 feet at Indian Canyon just downstream from Short Canyon. Vegetation within Area D consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contain mostly non-native and small quantities of native grass species. Human imprints in Area D are 9.85 miles of 12 motorized primitive trails (MPTs), 7 earthen reservoirs, 3.42 miles of fence line, and 5 vegetation treatments consisting of chemical brush spraying, a controlled burn, and the drilling of non-native grass species that were conducted from 1960 to 1963.

BLM Unit OR-036-091 Area E consists mainly of a steep side slope that extends from the top of the Owyhee River Canyon and downward to the Owyhee River. Elevation ranges from 4,540 feet in the northeastern corner of the Area to a low of 3,980 feet at the southeast corner of the Area just above the Owyhee River. Area E is dissected by numerous small drainages that flow directly the Owyhee River. Vegetation within Area E consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contains predominately native grass species. Human imprints in Area E are 0.61 miles of two motorized primitive trails (MPTs) and 0.05 miles of fence line.

BLM Unit OR-036-091 Area F consists mainly of steep canyon side slopes of the Owyhee River Canyon that startle two section of the Owyhee River. Elevation ranges from 4,620 feet in the southeastern corner of the Area to a low of 3,960 feet at the northeast corner of the Area on the Owyhee River. Area F is dissected by numerous small drainages that flow directly the Owyhee River. Vegetation within Area F consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contains predominately native grass species in the uplands and woody riparian species along the banks of the Owyhee River. Human imprints in Area F are 0.62 miles of one motorized primitive trail (MPTs) and numerous undeveloped hot springs along the Owyhee River.

BLM Unit OR-036-091 Area G consists mainly of steep side slopes of the Owyhee River Canyon that startles the Owyhee River. Elevation ranges from 4,320 feet in the northwestern corner of the Area to a low of 3,960 feet on the Owyhee River. Area G is dissected by numerous small drainages that flow directly the Owyhee River. Vegetation within Area G consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contains predominately native grass species in the uplands and woody riparian species along the banks of the Owyhee River.

BLM Unit OR-036-091 Area H consists mainly of steep side slopes of the Owyhee River Canyon that startles the Owyhee River. Elevation ranges from 4,660 feet in the southeastern corner of the Area to a low of 3,980 feet on the Owyhee River. Area H is dissected by numerous small drainages that flow directly the Owyhee River. Vegetation

within Area E consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contains predominately native grass species in the uplands and woody riparian species along the banks of the Owyhee River.

Refer to BLM Unit OR-036-091 inventory associated Map 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, and Map 2A and 2B for its human developments. Overall, given Area A, B, and D's size relative to the evidence of man-made developments, these Areas appear to be affected primarily not by the forces of nature but with the imprint of humans substantially noticeable to the average visitor.

Overall, given Area C, E, F, G, and H's small size relative to the evidence of man-made developments, these Areas appear to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes No N/A

Description: BLM concludes that Area C, E, F, G, and H in BLM Unit OR-036-091 provide outstanding opportunities for solitude whereas Areas A, B, and D in BLM Unit OR-036-091 do not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Area A is a narrow length of land between BLM Road 6367-00 and the boundary of the Owyhee Canyon WSA. This strip of land varies in width over its nearly six mile length from a low of 80 feet to over 1,700 feet. Area A consists mainly of a relatively flat elevated bench landform that borders the Owyhee Canyon WSA land adjacent to the Owyhee River Canyon Rim to the south and is about 400 to 500 feet above the Owyhee River. Elevation levels within Area A range from 3,870 feet to a high of 4,280 feet. All stream channels that flow through Area A drain southward into the Owyhee River.

Vegetation within the unit consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contain mostly non-native and small amounts of native grass species. Sagebrush in over 50 percent of the landscape within Area A has been reduced by chemical spraying and almost 100 percent of the sagebrush has been reduced in the Area from either chemical spraying or from natural wildfire. The reduction of sagebrush in Area A either by natural means or by human induced treatments has had a huge effect on the landscape appearance and reduces any possibility of shrub heights providing screening or seclusion from others for visitors within the Area. The present reduced sagebrush and other woody upland shrub species that can be found within Area A will remain sparse across the landscape for numerous decades beyond the four or five decades that have passed since chemical treatments were conducted and natural wildfire ran through this Area. Visitors to Area A can expect increased visibility across the landscape because of vegetation limiting climatic conditions that exist in this ecoregion. Existing temperatures during the growing season in and near Area A are quit high and precipitation amounts are usually low. These two climatic conditions restrict the natural ability for shrubs to become reestablished and expand once the species are reduced or eradicated from the landscape. In addition to the reduction of vegetation in Area A this strip of land that is contiguous to

the Owyhee Canyon WSA contains numerous human intrusions. As a result of the area's size relative to its shape, the area's limited quality of vegetative screening, the lack of diversity in relief over the entire terrain, and the number of human intrusion, Area A does not contain outstanding opportunities for solitude and would detract from the existing values of solitude provided by lands within the contiguous Owyhee Canyon WSA.

Area B is an elevated bench of nearly flat terrain that slopes gently to the south toward the Owyhee River. Elevation ranges from 4,520 feet to a low of 4,400 feet. Area B is dissected by two small drainages that flow directly to Soldier Creek or to Spring Creek a tributary to Soldier Creek. Vegetation within Area B consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contains predominately native grass species that have not been altered by recent natural wildfire or by human vegetation treatments. The only human imprints in Area B are 0.29 miles of two motorized primitive trails (MPTs) and 1.45 miles of fence line. Visitors can view the entire landscape of Area B from any boundary because Area B is virtually flat and provides very limited geographic terrain diversity throughout the entire Area. Area B does not provide any vegetative or geographic diverse opportunities for seclusion or solitude to visitors but is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA and does not affect the existing outstanding opportunities for solitude identified with the Owyhee Canyon WSA. Therefore, because Area B is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA, Area B's outstanding opportunities for solitude values are those identified for the Owyhee Canyon WSA.

Area C is an elevated bench of nearly flat terrain that slopes down to the Mud Flat Creek stream channel that flows to the south toward the Owyhee River. Elevation ranges from 4,672 feet to a low of 4,500 feet. Area C contains no human developments and vegetation within Area C consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contain native grass species that have not been altered by human or natural events. Visitors can view the entire landscape of Area C from any boundary because Area C is virtually only a steep side slope that provides very limited geographic terrain diversity throughout the small acreage. Area C does not provide any vegetative or geographic diverse opportunities for seclusion or solitude to visitors but is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA and does not affect the existing outstanding opportunities for solitude identified with the Owyhee Canyon WSA. Therefore, because Area C is contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA, Area C's outstanding opportunities for solitude values are those identified for the Owyhee Canyon WSA.

Area D consists of an extended elevated bench sloping mostly to the south and draining into the Owyhee River. Elevation within the area ranges from a high of 4,861 feet to a low of 4,540 feet. Vegetation within Area D consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contain mostly non-native and small quantities of native grass species. Human imprints in Area D are 9.85 miles of 12 motorized primitive trails (MPTs), 7 earthen reservoirs, 3.42 miles of fence line, and 4 vegetation treatments consisting of chemical brush spraying and drilling of non-native grass species that were conducted from 1960 to 1963. Three of the vegetation treatments were chemical spraying of shrubs on over 90 percent of Area D's acreage. Presently most of the shrubs eradicated by the 1960-1963 chemical spray treatment have not been able to recover from this action five

decades later. Therefore, the reduction of sagebrush in Area D by human induced treatments has had a huge effect on the landscape appearance and reduces any possibility of shrub heights providing screening or seclusion from others for visitors within the Area. The present reduced sagebrush and other woody upland shrub species that can be found within Area D will remain sparse across the landscape for numerous decades beyond the five decades that have passed since chemical treatments were conducted through this Area. Visitors to Area D can expect increased visibility across the landscape because of vegetation limiting climatic conditions that exist in this ecoregion. Existing temperatures during the growing season in and near Area D is quit high and precipitation amounts are usually low. These two climatic conditions restrict the natural ability for shrubs to become reestablished and expand once the species are reduced or eradicated from the landscape. In addition to the reduction of vegetation in Area D this large strip of land that is contiguous to the Owyhee Canyon WSA contains numerous human intrusions. As a result of the area's size relative to its shape, the area's limited quality of vegetative screening, the lack of diversity in relief over the entire terrain, and the number of human intrusion, Area D does not contain outstanding opportunities for solitude and would detract from the existing values of solitude provided by lands within the contiguous Owyhee Canyon WSA.

Areas E, F, G, and H consist of steep side slopes that extend from the top of the Owyhee River Canyon and downward to the Owyhee River. Elevation ranges from 4,660 feet at the bench above the Owyhee Canyon Rim to a low of 3,960 feet above the Owyhee River. All Areas are dissected by numerous small drainages that flow directly the Owyhee River. Vegetation within the Areas consists primarily of either big or low sagebrush that contains predominately native grass species in the uplands and woody riparian species along the banks of the Owyhee River. Human imprints in Area E are 0.61 miles of two motorized primitive trails (MPTs) and 0.05 miles of fence line and in Area F are 0.86 miles of two motorized primitive trails (MPTs) and use of numerous undeveloped hot springs along the Owyhee River.

The meandering character of the Owyhee River Canyon and water courses provides excellent topographic screening between visitor groups traveling close together. The depth of the canyons, combined with limited viewing distances, create a tremendous sense of seclusion or separation for visitors. The length of canyon in the Areas when combined with the existing lands of the Owyhee River Wild and Scenic River corridor within the contiguous Owyhee Canyon WSA allow visitor groups to easily find campsites which are out of sight and sound of other groups and to adjust their rates of travel to avoid other groups while floating or hiking. Because of the geographic terrain diversity throughout the Areas, outstanding opportunities for solitude can be attributed to the isolated, intimate seclusion of canyon lands within the confines of the Wild and Scenic River boundaries of the Owyhee River. These Areas provide vegetative or geographic diverse opportunities for seclusion or solitude to visitors and are contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA and enhance the existing outstanding opportunities for solitude identified with the Owyhee Canyon WSA. Therefore, because these Areas are contiguous with and are surrounded by the Owyhee Canyon WSA, these Areas outstanding opportunities for solitude values are those identified for the Owyhee Canyon WSA.

Much of the character of the entire inventory unit has not changed since the 1970's and early 1980's. Diversity in landscape relief occurs throughout the Areas along the Owyhee River and its associated rim and break lands of the river corridor. BLM concludes that Areas A and D do not contain outstanding opportunities for solitude and do not enhance those values identified for solitude for lands in the Owyhee Canyon WSA that are contiguous with these Areas. BLM also concludes that Areas B and C that are contiguous with the Owyhee Canyon WSA and Areas E, F, G, and H within the confines of the Wild and Scenic River boundaries of the Owyhee River provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

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

Yes No N/A

Description: BLM concludes that unit OR-036-091 provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation in limited Areas along the Owyhee River. Within the boundaries of BLM Unit OR-036-091, Areas E, F, G, and H are sections of the Owyhee River that have been included within the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The most dominate dispersed recreation activity within the Areas of the unit would be whitewater rafting throughout the sections containing the northward flowing river. The scenic natural features and diversity of rugged landforms along the Owyhee River within these Areas as well as the canyon side slopes in Area E attract people interested in river running and secondary activities of sight-seeing, outdoor photography, wildlife viewing, botanical studies, float boating, and fishing.

The 1.9 miles of Owyhee River and more than 2.5 miles of canyon side walls and slopes of Areas E, F, G, and H present a diverse and eroded rock landscape with steep slopes to create a sense of isolation or solitude, thereby enhancing the primitive recreation experience. Talus slopes of the canyon encourage water travel along the river and hiking near the plateau rim that overlooks the river. Recreational use of the limited plateau areas above the break lands of the river concentrate visitors near the canyon rim. The rimrock area offer less arduous hiking conditions than those in the canyons and provide opportunities for spectacular vistas of the canyon below making visitors traveling along the Owyhee River Canyon constantly aware of the forces of nature.

Whitewater rafting opportunities on the Owyhee River are of exceptionally high quality and considered nationally significant. The challenge and excitement of whitewater rapids in the Owyhee River add significantly to the boating experience.

Also within Areas E through H California Bighorn sheep habitat was identified by the Southeast Oregon Resource Management Plan. The bighorn is a species dependent upon wild lands habitat for survival. The opportunity to hunt Bighorn sheep within the unit exist and BLM finds it to be outstanding due to the vast terrain within four of the eight Areas that Bighorn sheep occupy and utilize on a regular basis (e.g., rugged, rocky, cliffy or steep-sloped terrain). Moreover, while these areas are included within the identified potential habitat for Bighorn sheep, local herds are known to inhabit and move through the Areas within the unit. Areas E through H of this unit provides outstanding hunting of

big horn sheep which qualifies them as providing opportunities for outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation.

Although potential California Bighorn sheep habitat was identified for Areas A, B, C, and D within BLM Unit OR-036-091 and the opportunity to hunt Bighorn sheep within the unit may exist BLM does not find it to be outstanding in these Areas of the Unit. These four Areas are on the outer edge of the habitat and contain limited terrain that Bighorn sheep occupy and utilize on a regular basis (e.g., rugged, rocky, cliffy or steep-sloped terrain).

The present inventory agrees with the initial 1978-80's inventory in that while opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation exist in Areas A, B, C, and D, they are not considered outstanding. The remaining Areas, E through H, of the unit contain unique or special features of the Owyhee River, the Wild and Scenic river corridor and its steep side slopes that attract visitors who are seeking a primitive and unconfined recreational experience. Therefore, recreational pursuits in the Areas outside of the Wild and Scenic River corridor, individually or collectively, are not outstanding in character or nature.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No X N/A

Description: Owyhee Wild and Scenic River Corridor in Areas A, E, F, G, and H.
None in Areas B, C, and D

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-036-091— Owyhee River Contiguous

Summary Results of Analysis:

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

Conclusion -- check one:

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

 The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by: Jack R Wenderoth 11-16-11
 Jack Wenderoth, Planning Contractor

Team Members:

<u>Keri Fredrick</u>	<u>11-16-11</u>
Keri Fredrick, Outdoor Recreation Planner	Date
<u>Shirley Huff</u>	<u>11/16/2011</u>
Shirley Huff, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Eian Ray</u>	<u>11-16-11</u>
Eian Ray, GIS Specialist, Contractor	Date
<u>Garth R. Ross</u>	<u>11/16/2011</u>
Garth Ross, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	<u>11/16/11</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

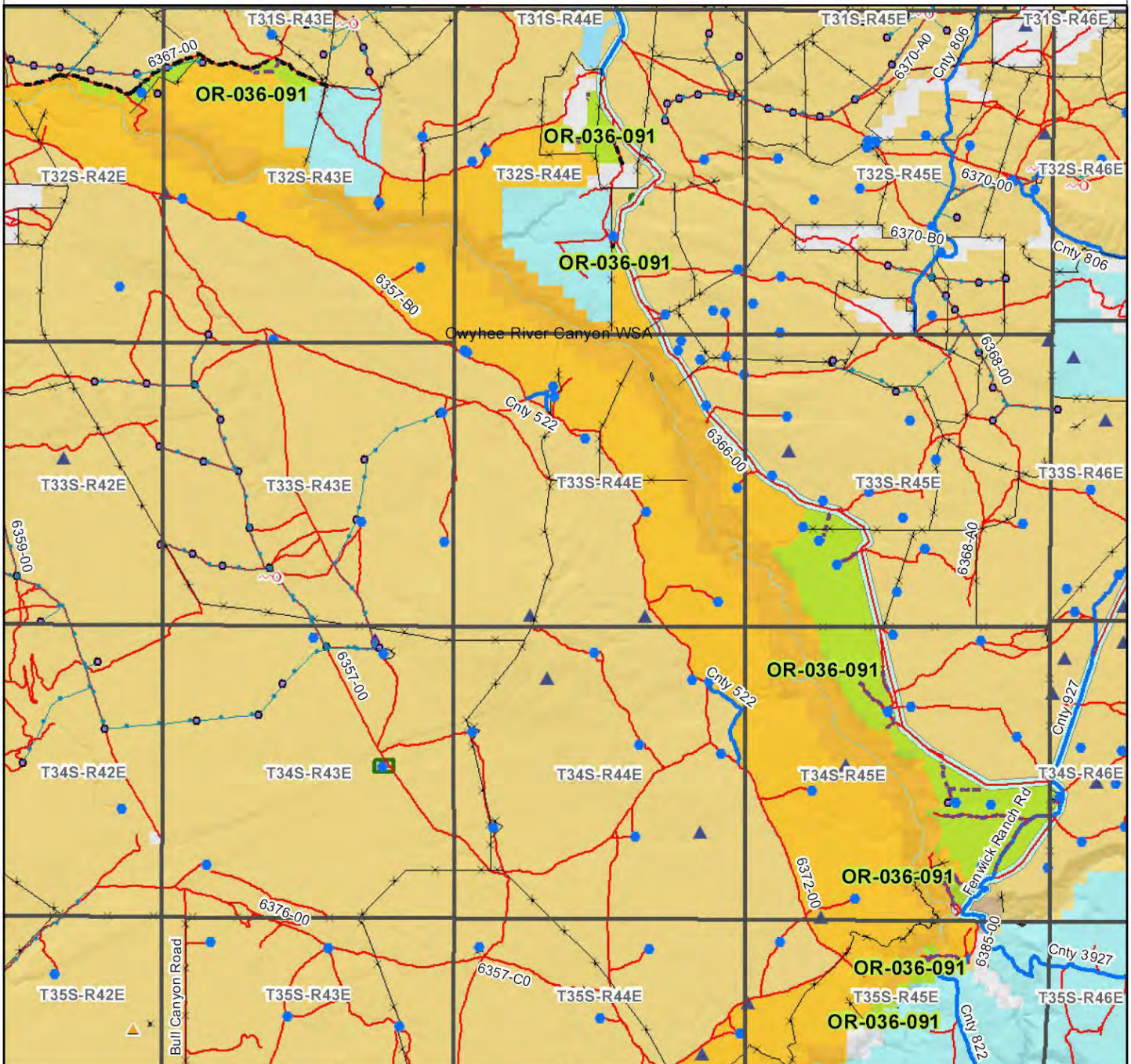
Approved by:

Carolyn R. Chas 11/28/2011
 Carolyn Freeborn, Jordan 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.

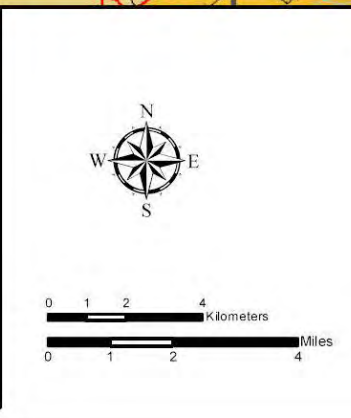
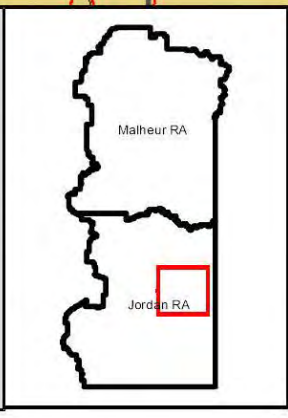
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Owyhee River Contiguous - OR-036-091 - Map 1A 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 	<p>Route Types - BLM Determination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary Road Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT) Discontinued Use Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit 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
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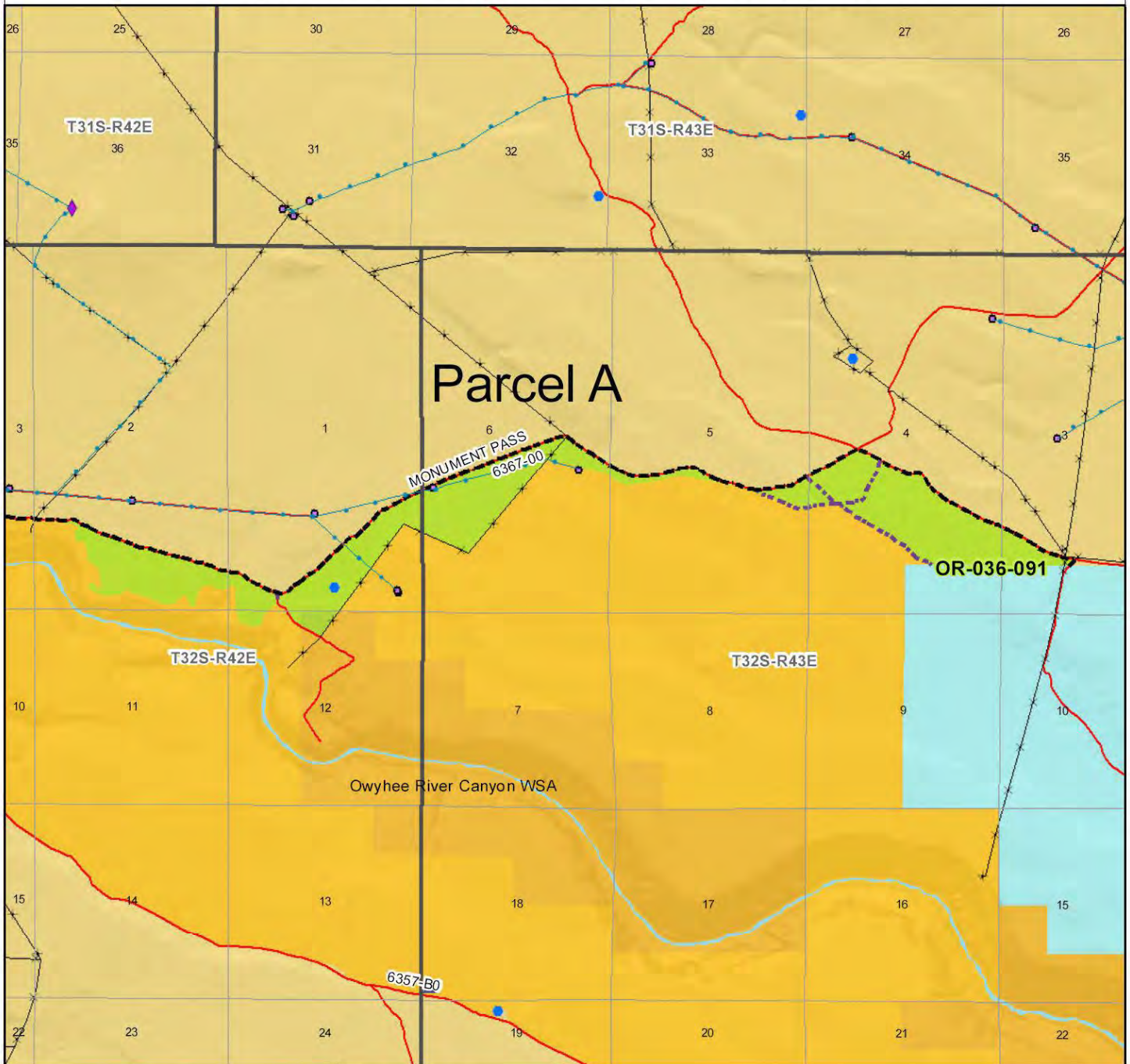
VALE DISTRICT
October 20, 2011

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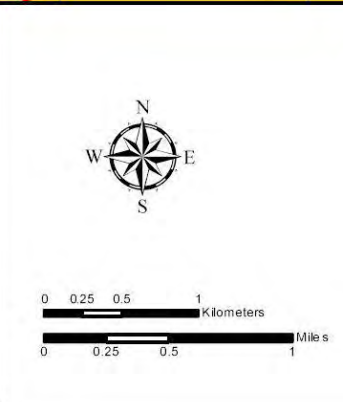
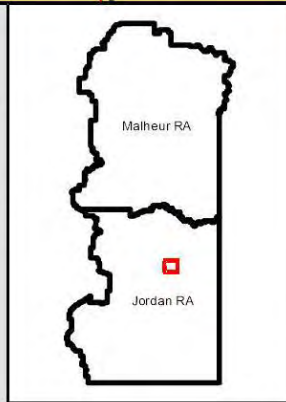
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Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Owyhee River Contiguous - OR-036-091 - Map 1B 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
	Mineral Material Site
	Road/Utility Right-of-Way
	Major Water Body
	Route Types - BLM Determination
	Boundary Road
	Moblized Primitive Trail (MPT)
	Discontinued Use
	Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit
	County
	Major Highway
	BLM Numbered & Other Routes
	Land Ownership
	Bureau of Land Management
	State
	Private
	Other Federal Land



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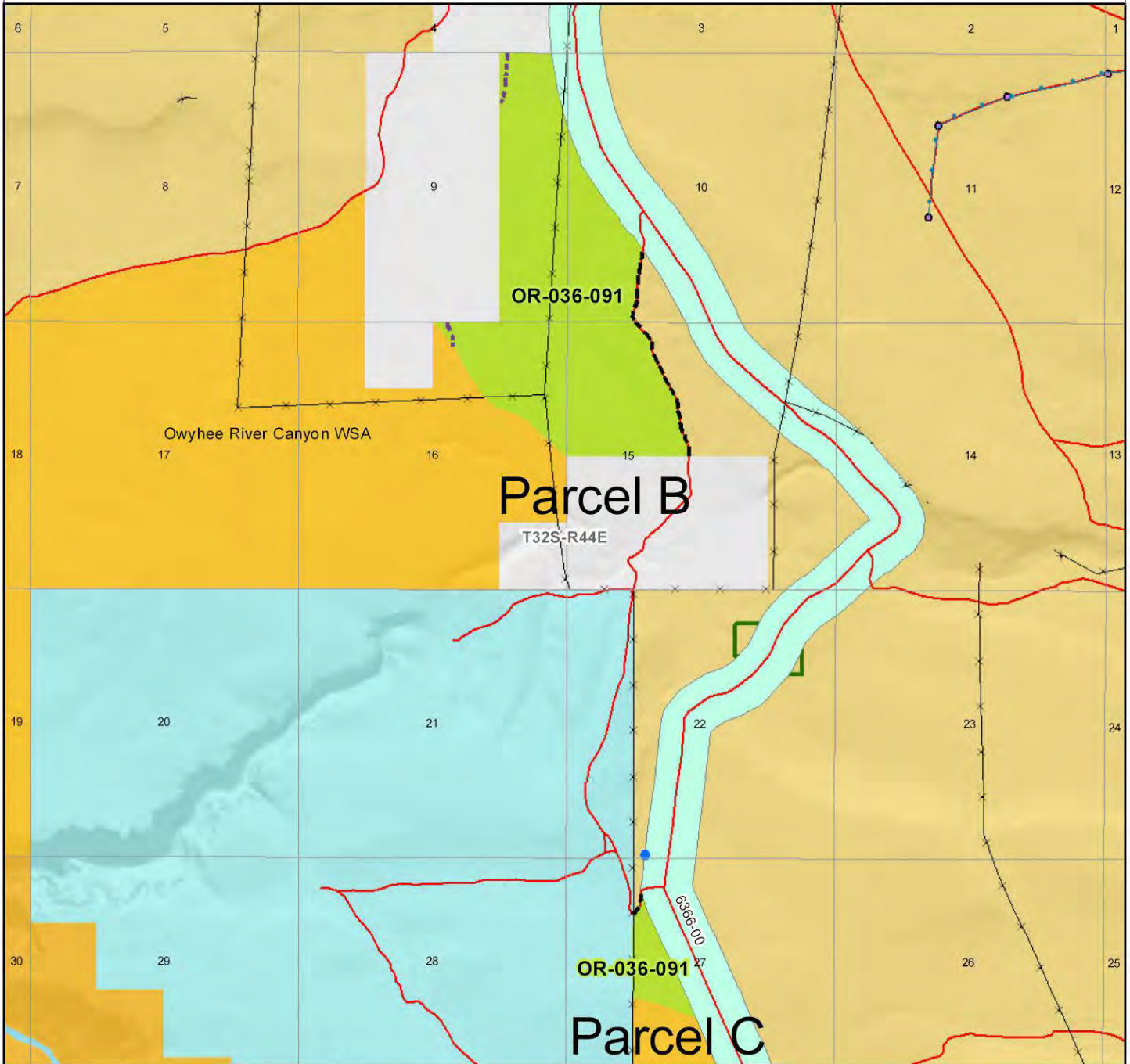
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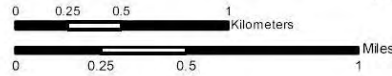
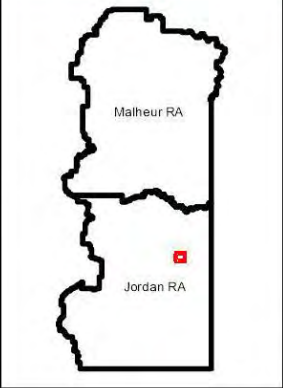
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Owyhee River Contiguous - OR-036-091 - Map 1C 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 | <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"> County 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 |
|---|--|



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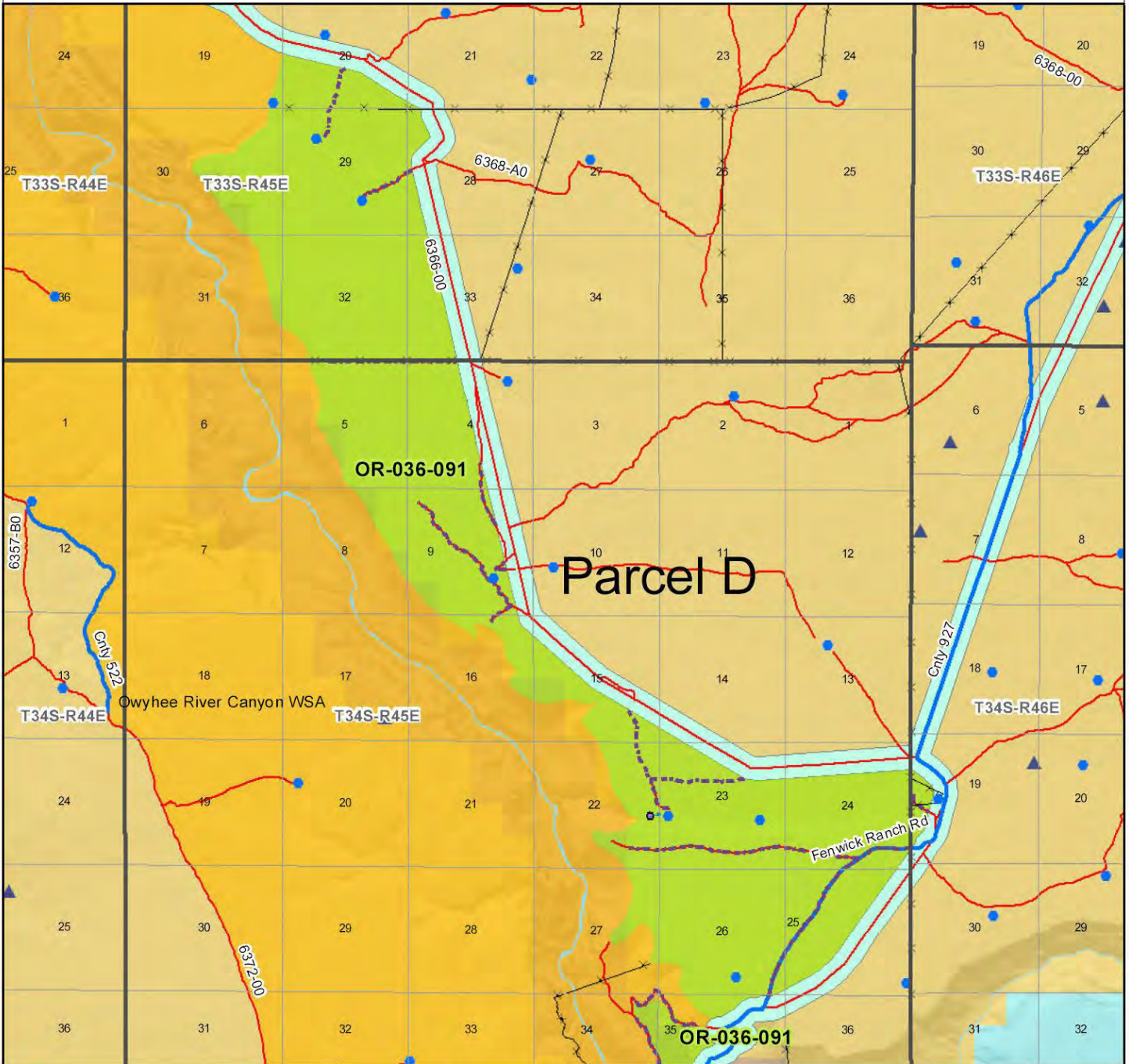
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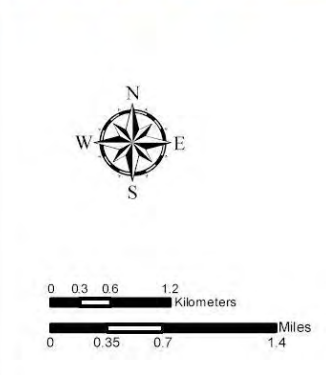
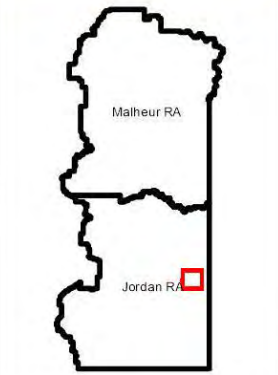
Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Owyhee River Contiguous - OR-036-091 - Map 1D 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 County Major Highway BLM Numbered & Other Routes Land Ownership Bureau of Land Management State Private Other Federal Land |
|---|--|

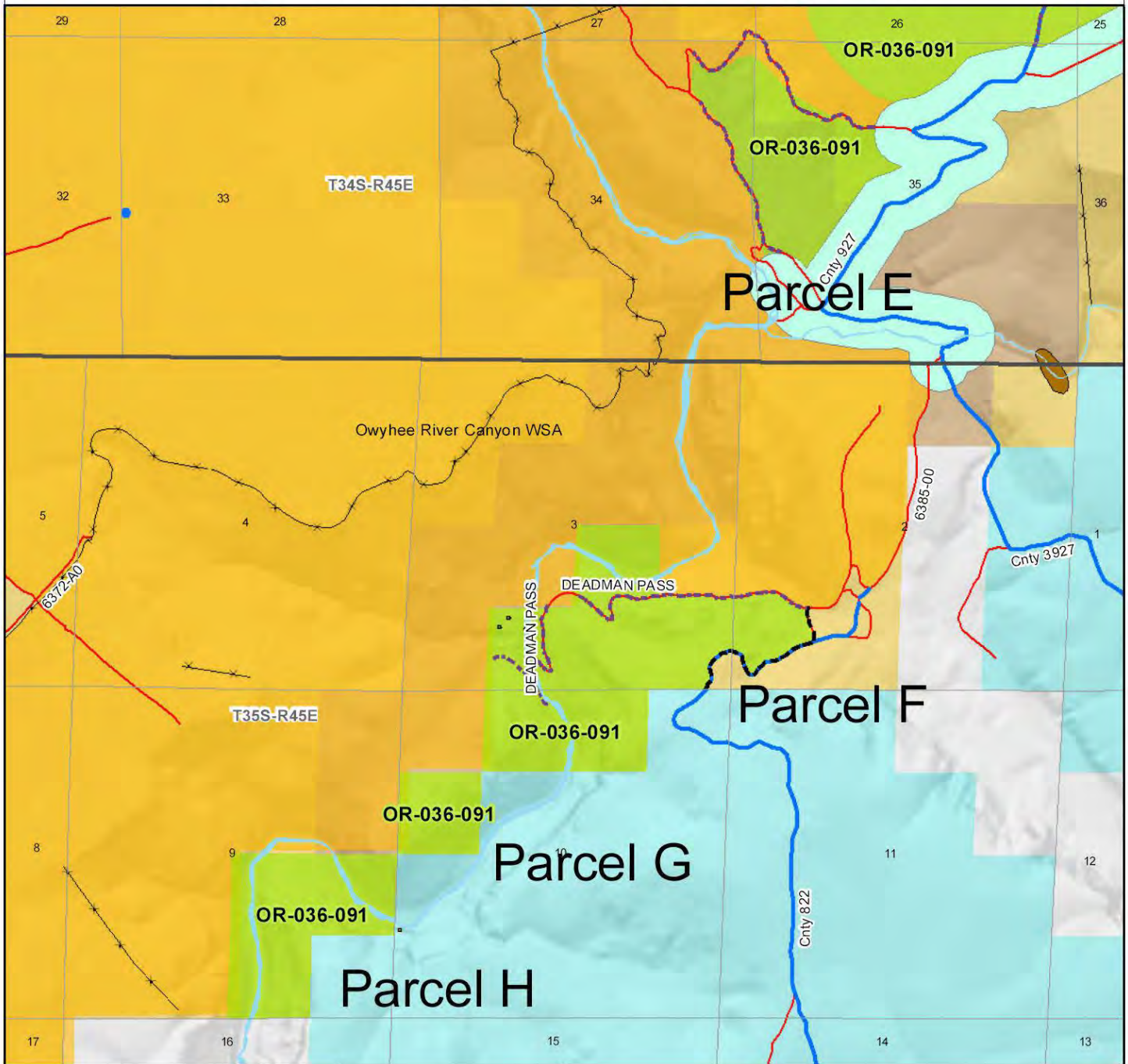


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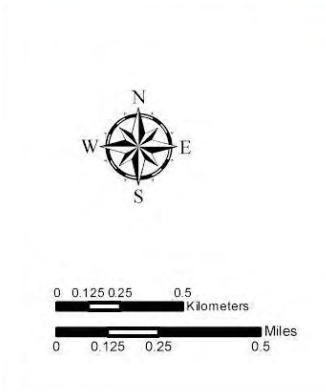
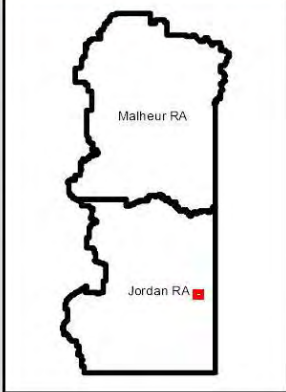
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Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Owyhee River Contiguous - OR-036-091 - Map 1E 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
	Motorized Primitive Trail (MPT)
	Discontinued Use
Routes - Outside Wild Char Unit	
	County
	Major Highway
	BLM Numbered & Other Routes
Land Ownership	
	Bureau of Land Management
	State
	Private
	Other Federal Land



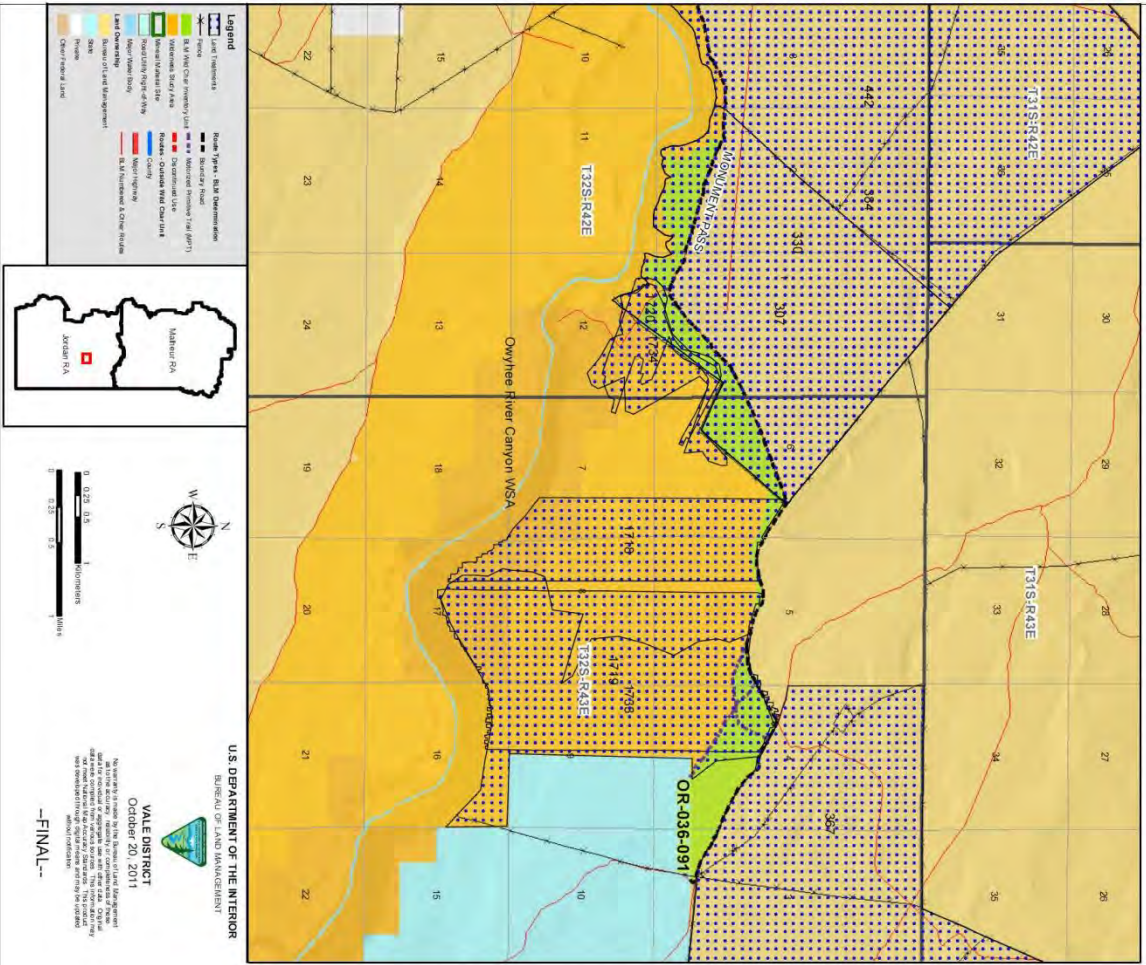
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Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
 Owyhee River Contiguous - OR-036-091 - Map 2A of 2

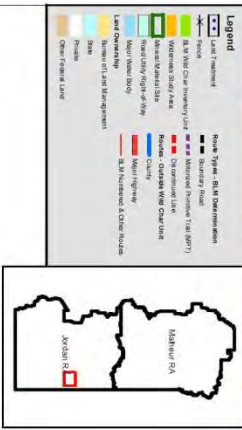
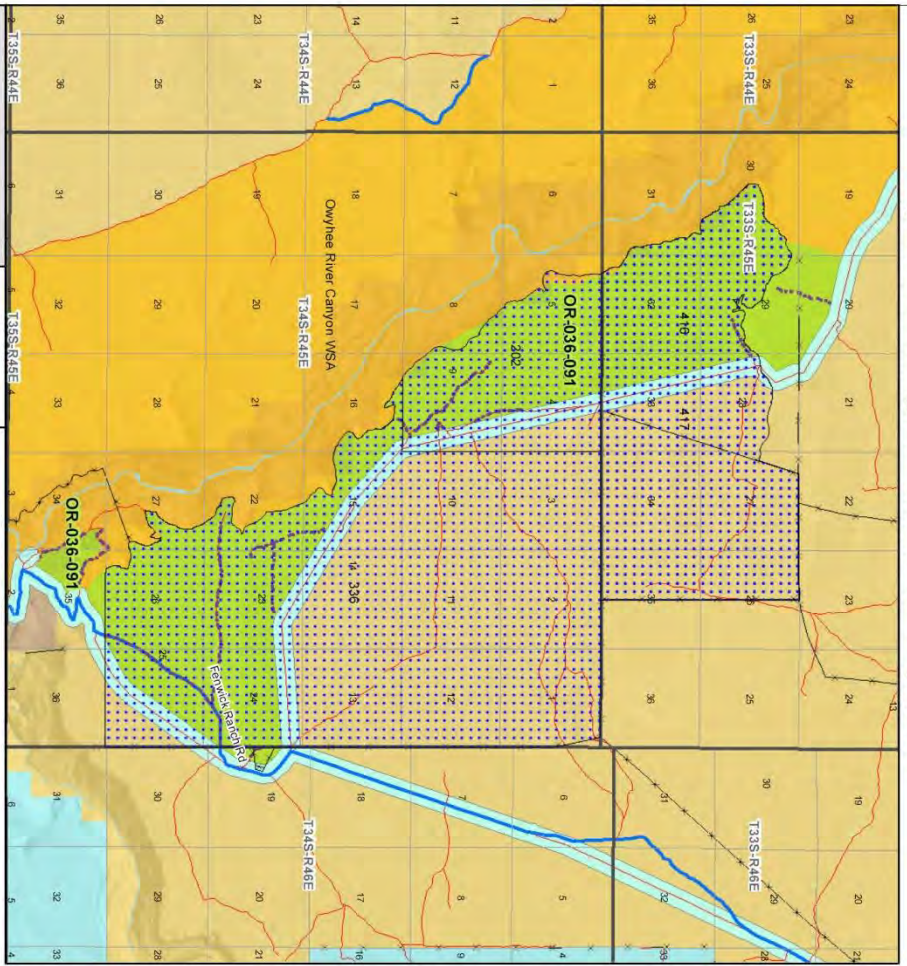


Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
 Owyhee River Contiguous - OR-036-091 - Map 2A of 2

OBJECTID*	PROJ_NAME	PROJ_TYPE	SEED_GROUP	DATE_COMP
307	OWYHEE RESDGS	Drill Seeding	Non-native Grasses	1960
330	OWYHEE B.C.	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1960
387	MONUMENT B.C.	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1962
384	FIELD FIVE B.C. & SDG	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1968
442	FIELD FIVE B.C. & SDG	Drill Seeding	Non-native Grasses	1968
1718	PINTO HORSE ESR	Aerial Seeding	Shrubs	20030101
1719	PINTO HORSE ESR	Aerial Seeding	Shrubs	20030101
1720	PINTO HORSE ESR	Aerial Seeding	Shrubs	20030101
1733	PINTO HORSE ESR	Drill Seeding	Native Grasses	20020906
1734	PINTO HORSE ESR	Drill Seeding	Native Grasses	20020906

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.

Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Owyhee River Contiguous - OR-036-091 - Map 2B of 2



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VALE DISTRICT
 October 20, 2011

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This map was prepared by the Bureau of Land Management, Vale District, in cooperation with the Owyhee River Contiguous Watershed Partnership. The map shows the results of a field survey conducted in 2011. The map is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a legal document. The Bureau of Land Management is not responsible for any errors or omissions on this map.

Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Owyhee River Contiguous - OR-036-091 - Map 2B of 2

OBJECTID *	PROJ. NAME	PROJ. TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE COMPLETED
202	WHITEHORSE BRUSH SPRAY	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1960
336	WHITEHORSE B.C.	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1961
416	INDIAN CANYON SDG	Chemical Treatment	Not Applicable	1963
417	INDIAN CANYON SDG	Drill Seeding	A mix of non-native grasses	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.