

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
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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, 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-034-026 -- Rock Canyon

**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 – BLM Wilderness Inventory Units 3-52 of OR-03-04-03 Rock Canyon (unpublished BLM documents stored in 6-way 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 3-52 of OR-03-04-03 Rock Canyon

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
3-52 of OR-03-04-03 Rock Canyon	7,680	Y	N	N	N
TOTAL	7,680				

**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.*

FORM 2 -- DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: OR-034-026 – Rock Canyon

Note: In February, 2004, the Vale District received from Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) its evaluation of wilderness characteristics for the its named 92,556 acre “Freezeout Ridge Proposed WSA”. For reference, a hard copy of ONDA’s proposal is retained in this unit’s file. OR-034-026 represents only a portion of ONDA’s proposal. Information provided by ONDA’s proposal was considered and incorporated as appropriate for this BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory maintenance. ONDA’s proposal includes basically five 1970’s BLM inventory units (3-52, 3-310, 3-51, 3-50, and 3-65) which, respectively, are currently associated with the following BLM Wilderness Characteristic Inventory maintenance units: OR-034-026, OR-034-030, OR-034-027, OR-034-028, and OR-034-045.

For BLM unit OR-034-026, differences between BLM and ONDA regarding inventory unit boundary features are that, unlike ONDA’s proposal, BLM concludes that BLM 7326-0-00 and 034-RT35 (ONDA route W15), and ONDA’s route W17b are roads (not motorized primitive trails [or which what ONDA terms either as a “way” or “unk”]). Refer to each of the three associated Road Analysis forms, BLM Photo Points Map/Log and associated photos for this BLM inventory unit for additional documentation.

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 Map 1 for the unit’s location. The 18,847 acre unit is longer than the BLM’s 1970’s unit OR-03-04-03 (3-52) because the north boundary now extends to an east-west road and private land parcels, rather than to a rangeland fence of the 1970’s unit. The unit is bounded by private land parcels and BLM roads 7326-0-00 (and that road’s revised routing segment -- BLM route 034-RT35 -- in the SW corner of the unit) and 7327-0-00. These BLM roads receive mechanical maintenance as needed to ensure their ability to provide for regular and continuous use.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: The unit includes low hills in the eastern part of Sand Hollow and the west rim of Negro Rock Canyon; the Hoodoo Creek drainage winds through the center. The sandy soils have resulted in diffuse and meandering creek beds. There are three drainages in the unit; one has notable rim rock. Elevations range from 2,589 to 3,829 feet. The vegetation is sagebrush, and both native and non-native grasses.

Refer to this unit's associated Map 1 and Map 2 for human imprints within the unit. They include 18.5 miles of rangeland fence, 15.5 miles of 17 motorized primitive trails (MPT) which penetrate various areas of the unit, two developed springs and two fence enclosures (see Map 1). A total of 5 disc-drill seedings of both native and non-native grasses were conducted between 1964 and 2005, located in the northern third of the unit (see Map 2). Today, there remains no visual evidence of furrowing or other visually contrasting evidence associated with 4 of the 5 drill seedings. In 2005, along a short segment of the unit's north boundary road, approximately 33 acres of the unit was drill seeded with a non-native grass species. Presently, due partially to heavy livestock use of the seeded area, the seeding displays a very low level of visual contrast. Individually and collectively, due to the types, nominal number and generally wide distribution of the human imprints – relative to the unit's size -- the unit appears to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans being substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

BLM documents the presence of the 17 MPTs within this unit for which no documentation is provided by ONDA. Additionally, ONDA's proposal does not quantify or indicate location of the other known man-made features of its proposed WSA while concluding that it appears primarily affected by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable. For comparative reference, refer to the BLM inventory maps and the ONDA proposal, both located in this inventory unit's file folder.

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: The rectangular shaped unit ranges between 2-3 miles wide and is approximately 11.5 miles long. There is inadequate vegetation height and/or density to provide for visual screening. The low-profiled topography would provide limited screening for visitors. The hills are low and most slopes are gentle and open. The drainages are relatively broad basins. These combined features in association with the unit's narrow width preclude outstanding opportunities for solitude.

ONDA states that its substantially larger "Freezeout Ridge Proposed WSA" possesses outstanding opportunities for solitude. Based on the current results of BLM's wilderness characteristics inventory maintenance, BLM does not have an inventory unit that approaches that of ONDA's in this general area. While drawing no conclusion regarding solitude within ONDA's proposal, BLM recognizes that a unit of the general size, configuration and topography as ONDA's proposal may possibly possess attributes which may result in providing for outstanding opportunities of solitude.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: There are opportunities for hunting of common upland and big game species (chukar, deer and antelope), hiking, horseback riding, photography and general

sightseeing. The unit's width can be crossed by foot within two hours and its length in about 6 hours. There are no unusual or outstanding features to attract recreational visitors. In recognition of afore stated features and characteristics of this inventory unit, primitive and unconfined recreation activity opportunities within the unit do not lend themselves to being outstanding.

ONDA states that due to its substantially larger size, its "Freezeout Ridge Proposed WSA" possesses outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. ONDA also states that BLM indicated the 1970's BLM units "were not listed outstanding because each of the separate units was too small in size or too narrow". In the 1970's, BLM did not recognize any of its five inventory units affected presently by ONDA's proposal as possessing outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation; nor do the current BLM inventory units affecting ONDA's proposal possess outstanding opportunities. BLM makes no determination of whether larger size – alone as ONDA contends and/or considering other possible attributes – equates to outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation within ONDA's "Freezeout Ridge Proposed WSA". Currently, as in the past, public lands associated with unit OR-034-026 do not possess outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation for reasons stated in the opening paragraph, above.

ONDA indicates the presence of riparian zones and sage-steppe habitats within its proposed WSA provide outstanding opportunities for wildlife viewing, bird watching and hunting. BLM does not agree that the presence of these habitats equates to outstanding opportunities for wildlife viewing, bird watching or hunting. While recognizing the presence of varying wildlife/bird habitat niche settings within the BLM inventory unit for viewing and hunting, (e.g., a major ridgeline, rolling terrain, some substantially flat area, and spring sites), BLM has determined the unit's habitats are not so unique or otherwise possess features which – individually or collectively -- result in these recreation activities being outstanding within the inventory unit.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

Description:

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Number/Name: OR-034-026 – Rock Canyon

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>Steve Christensen</u>	<u>2-23-2010</u>
Steve Christensen, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u>Shaney Rockefeller</u>	<u>3/10/10</u>
Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist	Date
<u>Dave Draheim</u>	<u>2/10/10</u>
Dave Draheim, Outdoor Recreation Planner	Date
<u>Jonathan Westfall</u>	<u>02/08/2010</u>
Jon Westfall, Geologist	Date
<u>Brent Grasty</u>	<u>2/8/10</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

(NOTE: Previous team members Botanist Jean Findley (retired 7/2008) and Sandy Vistine-Amdor, Wildlife Biologist Technician (transferred from District), also reviewed this unit.)

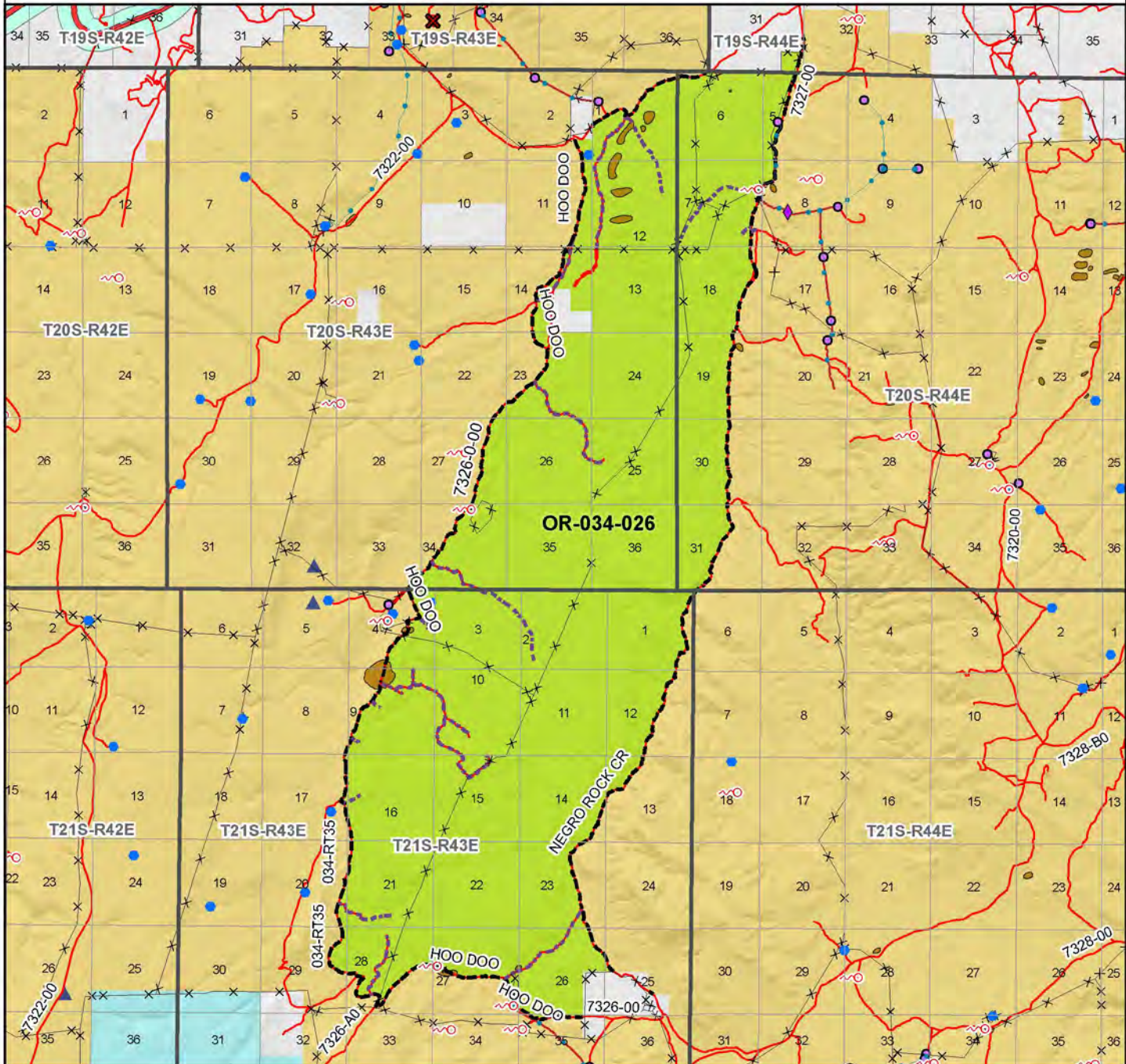
Approved by: Pat Ryan
Pat Ryan, Malheur Resource Area Field Manager

3/30/2010
Date

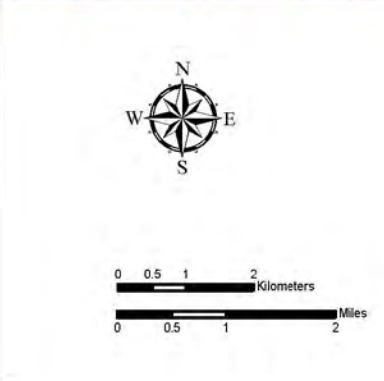
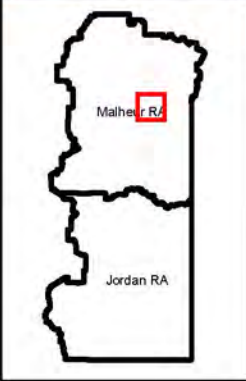
This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.

Wilderness Characteristics - Overview

Rock Canyon - OR-034-026 - Map 1 of 2



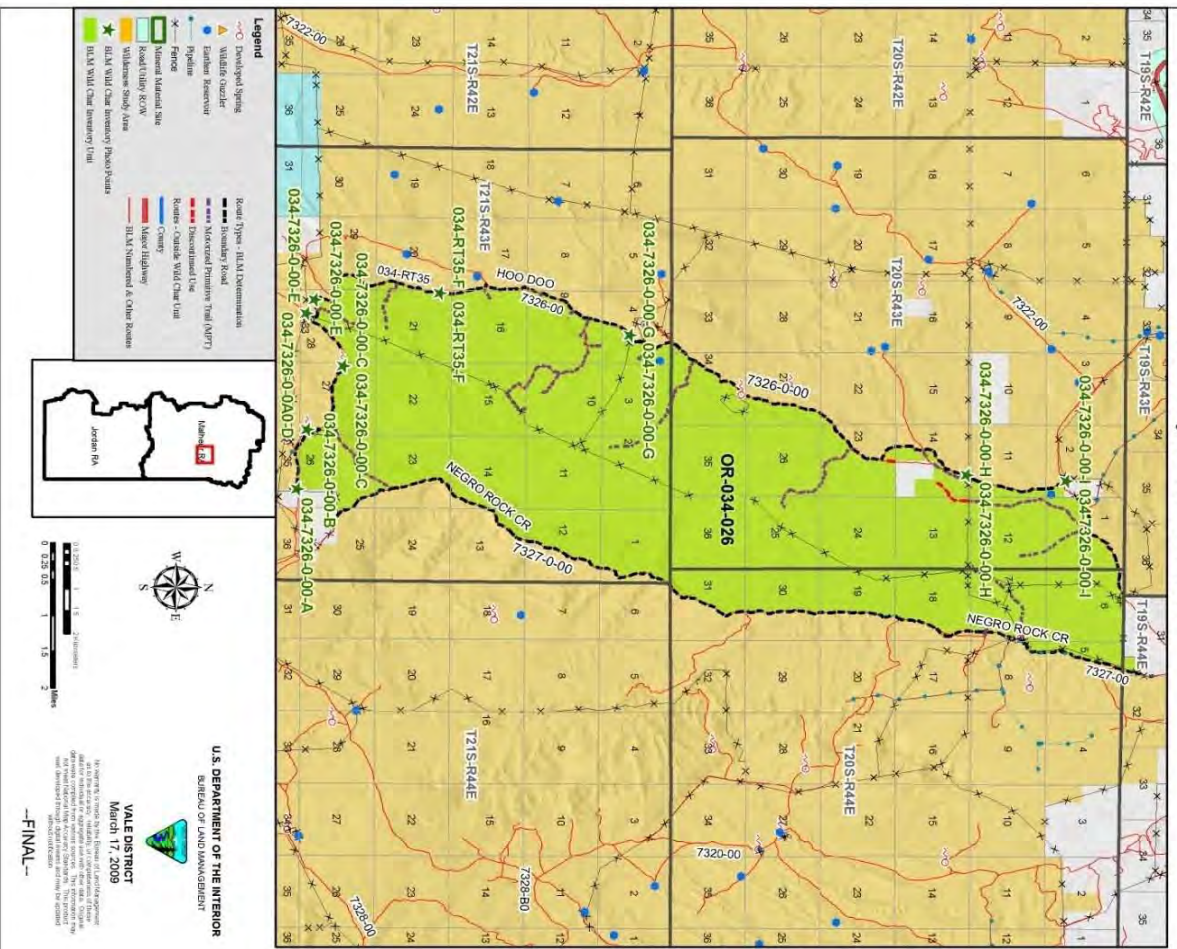
Legend	
	Developed Spring
	Wildlife Guzzler
	Earthen Reservoir
	Pipeline
	Fence
	Trough
	Storage Tank
	Surface Mining Disturbance
	Sage Grouse Lek
	Special Status Plant
	BLM Wild Char Inventory Unit
	Wilderness Study Area
	Mineral Material Site
	Road/Utility Right-of-Way
	Major Water Body
Route Types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



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

VALE DISTRICT
December 10, 2008
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 - BLM Photo Points Rock Canyon - OR-034-026



Wilderness Characteristics - BLM Photo Points Rock Canyon - OR-034-026

PHOTO_LOCATION*	DIRECTION	PHOTO_TYPE	PHOTO_DATE	COMMENTS
034-7326-0-00-A	E	Route	20080620	Cattle gate, recent route use.
034-7326-0-00-A	W	Route	20080620	Sign of route use.
034-7326-0-00-B	SE	Route	20080620	Signs of usage.
034-7326-0-00-B	N	Route	20080620	Signs of usage, speed limit sign, 35m ph.
034-7326-0-00-B	E	Route	20080620	Well
034-7326-0-00-C	E	Route	20080620	Sign for flowing well.
034-7326-0-00-C	W	Route	20080620	Visible usage, Speed limit sign, 35mph.
034-7326-0-00-C	E	Route	20080620	Visible usage, Speed limit sign, 35mph.
034-7326-0-00-G	N	Route	20080620	Cattle guard, fence, signs of vehicle use.
034-7326-0-00-G	S	Route	20080620	Signs of vehicle use.
034-7326-0-00-H	N	Route	20080620	Cattleguard, fence, signs of vehicle use.
034-7326-0-00-H	S	Route	20080620	Signs of vehicle use, Speed limit sign, 25mph.
034-7326-0-00-I	W	Route	20080620	Intersection, signs of vehicle use.
034-7326-0-00-I	E	Route	20080620	Signs of vehicle use.
034-7326-0-00-D	E	Route	20080620	Cattle gate fencing, visible signs of use (tracks)
034-7326-0-00-D	N	Route	20080620	Used corral, ranchers truck and trailer
034-RT35-F	N	Route	20080620	Visible signs of use (vehicle tracks)
034-RT35-F	N	Route	20080620	Signs of vehicle use.
034-RT35-F	S	Route	20080620	Signs of vehicle use.

Note: The BLM Wild Char PhotoPoints displayed on the map are labeled with their Photo Locations. The BLM Photo Log table shown above lists the photos taken at their respective Photo Locations. Multiple photos may be taken at each Photo Location. Scenery and Project Photo Type pictures have their photo names provided in the Comments field.



034-7326-0-00-A-E.jpg



034-7326-0-00-B-N.jpg



034-7326-0-00-C-E1.jpg



034-7326-0-00-A-W.jpg



034-7326-0-00-B-SE.jpg



034-7326-0-00-C-W.jpg



034-7326-0-00-B-E.jpg



034-7326-0-00-C-E.jpg



034-7326-0-00-G-N1.jpg



034-7326-0-00-G-S1.jpg



034-7326-0-00-H-N.jpg



034-7326-0-00-H-S.jpg



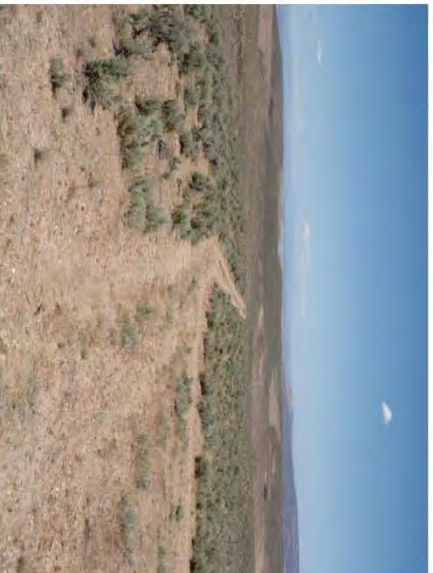
034-7326-0-00-E.jpg



034-7326-0-00-L-W.jpg



034-7326-0-0A0-D-E.jpg



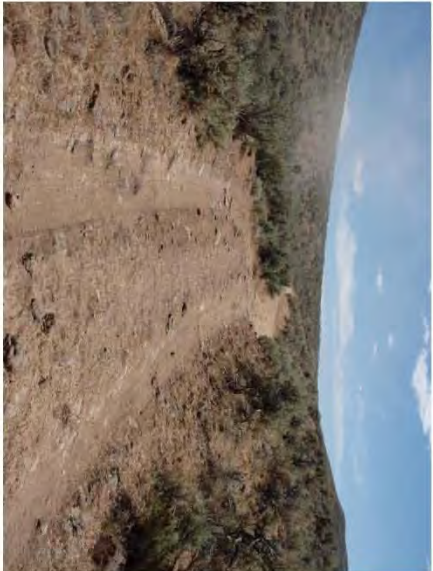
034-7326-0-0A0-D-N.jpg



034-7326-0-0A0-D-S.jpg



034-RT35-F-N.jpg



034-RT35-F-S.jpg

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

APPENDIX C – ROAD* ANALYSIS

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road for wilderness inventory purposes.)

Wilderness Inventory Unit Name/Number: OR-034-026 -- Rock Canyon

NOTE: This BLM unit is affected by ONDA’s proposal, “Freezeout Ridge proposed WSA”.

Route Name and/or Identifier (*Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known; include route number supplied by citizen information when available*):

O34-RT35 (Is a replacement segment of BLM’s 7326-0-00 road.)

(Is a portion of ONDA’s “W15” route, a “vehicular way” [i.e., motorized primitive way].)

I. LOCATION: See attached map. Is a replacement segment of BLM’s 7326-0-00 in the southwest area of this BLM inventory unit. **List photo point references (if applicable):** Refer to this BLM inventory unit’s associated hard copy of its BLM Photo Points map, and affiliated Photo Log and photos (specially the two photos at O34-RT35-F) -- retained in this unit’s permanent hard copy file, and electronically retained under this unit’s subfolder Final Findings/GIS Products. Any applicable ONDA map, photos and affiliated Photo Log are electronically retained under Wilderness Characteristics/Citizen Proposals.

II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE:

(Examples: Rangeland/Livestock Improvements (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment).)

Describe: This route is a replacement segment of BLM’s 7326-0-00, serving as a continuous connector of that road. This route provides needed ongoing and regular access to rangeland/livestock improvements (spring and earthen reservoir developments) by allotment permittees and the BLM for management of livestock, maintenance of the projects, and BLM monitoring of associated activities. Also, this route provides regular and continuous use for concentrated recreational activities of camping associated with Kane Springs.

III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route?

Yes _____ No X Unknown _____

IV. CONSTRUCTION

Yes X No _____

Examples: Paved _____ Bladed X Graveled _____
Roadside Berms X Cut/Fill _____ Other _____

Describe: Date of original construction is unknown. Evidence of being bladed and berms present, although they be more so presently be result of more recent maintenance of the route.

V. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes _____ No X

By Hand Tools _____ By Machine _____

Examples: Culverts _____ Stream Crossings _____ Bridges _____
Drainage _____ Barriers _____ Other _____

Describe: None present.

VI. MAINTENANCE:

A. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery? Yes X No _____

If yes: Hand Tools (Y/N) _____ Machine (Y/N) Y

Explain: This route receives mechanical maintenance as needed to insure the ability to provide for regular and continuous when not water saturated. (Also see the Road Analysis form for the 7326-0-00 BLM route).

B. If the route is in good condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM in the event this route became impassable?

Yes X No _____

b. **“Mechanical means”** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.

c. **“Relatively regular and continuous use”** – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.

Following is the definition from Glossary of OSO 7-3-2007 Draft H-6300-1:

road: The BLM will continue to base the definition of what constitutes a “road” from the FLPMA’s legislative history. The language below is from the House of Representatives Committee Report 94-1163, page 17, dated May 15, 1976, on what became the FLPMA. It is the only statement regarding the definition of a road in the law or legislative history.

“The word ‘roadless’ refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.”

The BLM previously adopted and will continue to use the following sub-definitions of certain words and phrases in the BLM road definition stated above:

a. **“Improved and maintained”** – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.

b. **“Mechanical means”** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.

c. **“Relatively regular and continuous use”** – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.

A road that was established or has been maintained solely by the passage of vehicles would not be considered a road, even if it is used on a relatively regular and continuous basis. Vehicle roads constructed by mechanical means but that are no longer being maintained by mechanical methods are not roads. Sole use of hands and feet to move rocks or dirt without the use of tools or machinery does not meet the definition of “mechanical means.” Roads need not be “maintained” on a regular basis but rather “maintained” when road conditions warrant actions to keep it in a usable condition. A dead-end (cherry-stem) road can form the boundary of an inventory area and does not by itself disqualify an area from being considered “roadless”.

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

APPENDIX C – ROAD* ANALYSIS

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road for wilderness inventory purposes.)

Wilderness Inventory Area Name and Number: OR-034-026 – Rock Canyon

NOTE: This unit is affected by ONDA as part of its proposed “Freezeout Ridge proposed WSA”, which encompasses a much larger area than this inventory unit.

Route Name and/or Identifier:

BLM 7326-0-00 --- of Vale District’s current version of transportation plan map.

(This route constitutes ONDA’s route “W14b”, identified as “und” in its Inventory Road Log form, but partially as a road and as a “subunit boundary” on its Freezeout Ridge proposed WSA map.)

VIII. LOCATION: Refer to attached map. Is the south boundary of this BLM WC inventory unit. **List photo point references (if applicable):** Refer to this BLM inventory unit’s associated hard copy of its BLM Photo Points map, and affiliated Photo Log and photos -- retained in this unit’s permanent hard copy file, and electronically retained under this unit’s subfolder Final Findings/GIS Products. Any applicable ONDA map, photos and affiliated Photo Log are electronically retained under Wilderness Characteristics/Citizen Proposals.

IX. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE:

Examples: Rangeland/Livestock Improvements (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment).

Describe: Provides access from the west to two developed springs (both are fence enclosed—Upper and Lower Flowing Wells) on public land without crossing private land from the east. Also serves as an approach route from the west to a corral on its west end; to a private parcel in sections 25, 26 and 35 on its east end; as access from the east to Kane Spring on public land and the Hoodoo State Block, both which are visited by recreating campers, hunters and fisherman during various seasons of the year; and as a primary connector to BLM 7327-0-00 at its east terminus.

X. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route?

Yes _____ No X Unknown _____

XI. CONSTRUCTION

Yes X No _____

Examples: Paved _____ Bladed X Graveled _____
Roadside Berms _____ Cut/Fill X Other _____

Describe: Date of construction is unknown, but was present in the late 1970's during BLM's WC inventory work at that time. Some cut/fills; evidence of blading may also be the result of maintenance activities conducted since the route's construction.

XII. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes _____ No X _____

By Hand Tools _____ By Machine _____

Examples: Culverts _____ Stream Crossings _____ Bridges _____
Drainage _____ Barriers _____ Other _____

Describe: None present.

XIII. MAINTENANCE:

A. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery? Yes X No _____

If yes: Hand Tools (Y/N) _____ Machine (Y/N) Y _____

Explain: This BLM route receives mechanical maintenance as needed to insure their ability to provide for regular and continuous use. Nature of the route's topographic features (largely flat) does not necessitate maintenance.

B. If the route is in good condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM in the event this route became impassable?

Yes X No _____

Comments: BLM would authorize maintenance as needed to provide for vehicle access for the purposes stated above, so to ensure regular and continuous use.

XIV. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes X No _____

Describe evidence (vehicle tracks observed) and other rationale for whether use has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis.

There is regular seasonal evidence of vehicle tracks on this route for a variety of reasons, as indicated above. This use is expected to be continuous through time.

XV. CONCLUSION:

To meet the definition of a road, items IV or V, and VI-A or B, and VII must be checked yes.

Road: Yes X No _____

Explanation: The route meets road criteria, as described and explained above,

Evaluator(s): Steve Christensen Date: 4-6-2009
 Steve Christensen, Range Management Specialist

Shaney Rockefeller Date: 4/6/09
 Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist

* **road:** An access route which has been **improved and maintained** by **mechanical means** to insure **relatively regular and continuous use**. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

a. **“Improved and maintained”** – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.

b. **“Mechanical means”** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.

c. **“Relatively regular and continuous use”** – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.

Following definition from Glossary of OSO 7-3-2007 Draft H-6300-1:

road: The BLM will continue to base the definition of what constitutes a “road” from the FLPMA’s legislative history. The language below is from the House of Representatives Committee Report 94-1163, page 17, dated May 15, 1976, on what became the FLPMA. It is the only statement regarding the definition of a road in the law or legislative history.

“The word ‘roadless’ refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.”

The BLM previously adopted and will continue to use the following sub-definitions of certain words and phrases in the BLM road definition stated above:

- a. **“Improved and maintained”** – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.
- b. **“Mechanical means”** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.
- c. **“Relatively regular and continuous use”** – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.

A road that was established or has been maintained solely by the passage of vehicles would not be considered a road, even if it is used on a relatively regular and continuous basis. Vehicle roads constructed by mechanical means but that are no longer being maintained by mechanical methods are not roads. Sole use of hands and feet to move rocks or dirt without the use of tools or machinery does not meet the definition of “mechanical means.” Roads need not be “maintained” on a regular basis but rather “maintained” when road conditions warrant actions to keep it in a usable condition. A dead-end (cherry-stem) road can form the boundary of an inventory area and does not by itself disqualify an area from being considered “roadless”.

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

APPENDIX C – ROAD* ANALYSIS

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road for wilderness inventory purposes.)

Wilderness Inventory Unit Name/Number: OR-034-026 – Rock Canyon

NOTE: This unit is affected by ONDA as part of its proposed “Freezeout Ridge proposed WSA”, which encompasses a much larger area than this inventory unit.

Route Name and/or Identifier (*Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known; include route number supplied by citizen information when available*):

BLM 7326-0-00 --- of Vale District’s current version of transportation plan map.

(This route constitutes ONDA’s routes “W15” and “W17b”. ONDA states W15 is a “way” (i.e., motorized primitive trail) and W17b is an “unk”. ONDA indicates that its W17b route serves as a boundary for its proposed WSA.)

XVI. LOCATION: Refer to the attached map (predominately west [with mostly north-south orientation] boundary route of this inventory unit). **List photo point references (if applicable):** Refer to this BLM inventory unit’s associated hard copy of its BLM Photo Points map, and affiliated Photo Log and photos -- retained in this unit’s permanent hard copy file, and electronically retained under this unit’s subfolder Final Findings/GIS Products. Any applicable ONDA map, photos and affiliated Photo Log are electronically retained under Wilderness Characteristics/Citizen Proposals.

XVII. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE:

(Examples: Rangeland/Livestock Improvements (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment).)

Describe: This route provides needed ongoing and regular access to rangeland/livestock improvements (spring and earthen reservoir developments) by allotment permittees and the BLM for management of livestock, maintenance of the projects, and BLM monitoring of associated activities. Also, this route provides regular and continuous use for concentrated recreational activities of camping associated with Kane Springs.

XVIII. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route?

Yes _____ No _____ Unknown X

XIX. CONSTRUCTION

Yes X No _____

Examples: Paved _____ Bladed X Graveled _____
Roadside Berms _____ Cut/Fill X Other _____

Describe: Date of construction is unknown. Cut/fills and evidence of blading are spatially dispersed along this route. Cut/fill likely occurred during construction; present evidence blading may more so be associated with maintenance activities since the route was constructed.

XX. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes _____ No X

By Hand Tools _____ By Machine _____

Examples: Culverts _____ Stream Crossings _____ Bridges _____
Drainage _____ Barriers _____ Other _____

Describe: None present.

XXI. MAINTENANCE:

A. Is there evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery? Yes X No _____

If yes: Hand Tools (Y/N) _____ Machine (Y/N) Y

Explain: This route receives mechanical maintenance as needed to insure the ability to provide for regular and continuous when not water saturated. A segment of this route associated with the southwest area of the inventory unit was re-located on some unknown past date so to continue to insure provision for regular and continuous use over the long term ((see also the Road Analysis form for 034-RT 35 of this continuous route).

B. If the route is in good condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM in the event this route became impassable?

Yes X No _____

Comments: This route is recognized by the BLM as a primary access route associated with a number of nearby range improvement projects, is recognized as a significant access route for both rangeland administration and public recreational access.

XXII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes X No _____

Describe evidence (vehicle tracks observed) and other rationale for whether use has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis:

BLM: personnel and allotment permittees use this road many times throughout the summer to maintain projects, administer grazing, and access other areas. Additionally, this route leads to Kane Spring (and areas south of it) which are desirable by some visitors for concentrated camping activities, and hunting during various periods of the year.

XXIII. CONCLUSION:

To meet the definition of a road, items IV or V, and VI-A or B, and VII must be checked yes.

Road: Yes X No _____

Explanation: Meets criteria of road, as described and explained above.

Evaluator(s): Shaney Rockefeller Date: 4/6/09
Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist

Steve Christensen Date: 4-6-2009
Steve Christensen, Rangeland Management Specialist

Dave Draheim Date: 4/6/09
Dave Draheim, Outdoor Recreation Planner

* **road:** An access route which has been **improved and maintained** by **mechanical means** to insure **relatively regular and continuous use**. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

- a. **“Improved and maintained”** – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.
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- b. **“Mechanical means”** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.
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