

Wilderness Inventory Unit Index of Documents
Sand Hollow OR-034-023, 20 total pages

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



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

APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION

Evaluation of Current Conditions:

- 1) Document and review the existing BLM wilderness inventory findings on file, if available, regarding the presence or absence of individual wilderness characteristics, using Form 1, below.
- 2) Consider relevant information regarding current conditions available in the office to identify and describe any changes to the existing information (use interdisciplinary (ID) team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc.), and document your findings on Form 2, below.

When Citizen Information has been submitted regarding wilderness characteristics, document the submitted materials including: date of Submission; Name of District(s) and Field Office(s) Affected; Type of material Submitted (e.g. narrative, map, 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-034-023 – Sand Hollow

**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 X 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 – BLM Wilderness Inventory Units partially of 3-314 of OR-03-04-7 Grassy Mountain; and partially of 3-315 of OR-03-04-09 Sand Hollow (unpublished BLM documents in case files)
- () April 1979 – *Wilderness -- Proposed Initial Inventory – Roadless Areas and Islands Which Clearly Do Not have Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington*

Wilderness Decision Documents

- () August 1979 – *Wilderness Review – Initial Inventory, Final Decision on Public Lands Obviously Lacking Wilderness Characteristics and Announcement of Public Lands to be Intensively Inventoried for Wilderness Characteristics, Oregon and Washington* (green document)
- () October 1979 – *Wilderness Review – Intensive Inventory - Oregon, Proposed Decision on the Intensive Wilderness Inventory of Selected Areas* (grey document)
- () March 1980 – *Wilderness Review – Intensive Inventory; Final Decisions on 30 Selected Units in Southeast Oregon and Proposed Decisions on Other Intensively Inventoried Units in Oregon and Washington* (orange document)
- () November 1980 - *Wilderness Inventory – Oregon and Washington, Final Intensive Inventory Decisions* (brown document)
- () November 1981 *Stateline Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decision, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah* (tan document)

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

Partially of 3-314 of OR-03-04-7 Grassy Mountain; and partially of 3-315 of OR-03-04-09 Sand Hollow

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/Malheur Resource Area

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
Partially of 3-314 of OR-03-04-7 Grassy Mountain	15,400	*	*	*	*
partially of 3-315 of OR-03-04-09 Sand Hollow	12,020	*	*	*	*
TOTAL	27,420				

* -- Determinations of these criteria are not specifically described in the two historic (1978) wilderness characteristics inventory files. The files refer the reader to the “PPL Conclusion” which cannot be located in the district office. All 3-300 series wilderness characteristics units of the Vale District were part of an accelerated, separate inventory effort, related to a PP & L 500 kV transmission line proposal of 1977-78. The statewide decision map of the August 1979 document, *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*, identifies the units as previously not meeting wilderness characteristics, thus not subject to further review.

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

APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION

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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.

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-034-023 – Sand Hollow

Note: In February, 2004, the Vale District received from Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) its evaluation of wilderness characteristics for what ONDA names its 13,665-acre –Grassy Mountain proposed WSA”. For reference, a hard copy of ONDA’s proposal is retained in this unit’s file. Information provided by ONDA’s proposal was considered and incorporated as appropriate for this BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory maintenance.

The outer boundaries of ONDA’s proposal and of unit OR-034-023 are nearly identical. A difference between the BLM and ONDA inventory units relative to boundary is that BLM allows for the width of PP & L’s transmission line ROW as a feature of the BLM unit’s boundary.

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 the inventory unit’s location. The 12,272-acre unit is bounded by BLM road 7320-0-00, the Oxbow Basin Road, the wide PP & L 500 kV transmission line corridor right-of-way (ROW), and by a private land parcel in its eastern-most location. The approximate 3-acre portion of the BLM’s Twin Springs Recreation Site enclosed by rangeland fence east of 7320-0-00 is excluded from the inventory unit. The unit’s boundary roads are mechanically maintained as needed to provide for relatively regular and seasonally continuous use. Since the 1970’s wilderness characteristics inventory, the transmission line has been constructed, substantially altering the north boundary from the original BLM 3-314 and 3-315 inventory units. In the late 1970’s, BLM determined the vehicular route separating units 3-314 and 3-315 met road criteria. The route was bladed to assist wildfire suppression activities in 2000, but, since the fire, BLM has not and does not intend to conduct mechanical maintenance of the route to provide for relatively regular and continuous use. Therefore, the route is presently determined to be a motorized primitive trail (MPT), but which presently possesses observable features and attributes which once characterized it as a road. See the BLM Road Analysis form, Photo Log Map and affiliated route Log and photographs for this route (alias ONDA’s route W36) of this inventory unit for additional information.

2. Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No N/A

Description: The unit's northern reaches are dominated by the upper slopes of Grassy Mountain, a complex of steep, rugged draws and drainages which extend towards the unit's PP & L ROW. Portions of the unit bordering its south boundary possess more so slightly undulating, but gradually elevating terrain cut by predominately shallow drainage channels (e.g. Oxbow Basin). Elevations within the unit range from 2,460 to 4,520 feet. The vegetation consists predominantly of sagebrush and various native and non-native grass species.

Refer to this unit's associated Maps 1 and 2 for human imprints within the unit. They include 3.2 miles of rangeland fence (very close to and paralleling current boundary features), one reservoir, 5 developed springs, a windmill/trough site, two enclosure fences associated with developed springs near the unit's west boundary, and 8.9 miles of 6 MPTs. There is remnant evidence of one 0.2-mile long abandoned vehicle route and of a dated mineral prospecting site within the unit. The north-south vehicular route (a MPT) bisecting the unit -- and on which mechanical maintenance was performed in 2000 for wildfire suppression but currently does not meet road criteria (see Size, above) -- remains characterized in part by segments of readily recognized earthen cut and fill which were elements of the route's original construction (date unknown).

In late 2000, within the unit, a 1,150 acre strip area of about two thirds the unit's length along its southern boundary was treated with aerial seeded sagebrush, and approximately 800 acres of drill-seeded native species following a wildfire. Visual evidence of the drilled seeding is no longer substantially noticeable as a human imprint to the average visitor of the unit. Due to their height, the PP & L transmission lines and towers, while being outside of the unit's boundary, can be visually evident as viewed from within the unit in varying locations along the unit's higher elevations of its northern and northwestern reaches. However, the nature of the steep, rugged draws which branch from the orientation of the transmission line typically quickly directs visitors away from the unit's affected view shed of these outside manmade features.

Due to the unit's topographic screening properties, appearance and wide distribution of its natural features (e.g., the complex of steep, rugged draws and drainages and some of the extended shallower cut terrain settings), combined with the distribution, extent and types/nature of the few human developments within the unit in context of the unit's size, the developments' presence -- when considered individually and collectively -- result in the unit appearing to be affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of humans substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.

While concluding that its proposed WSA appears primarily affected by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, ONDA does not

acknowledge the presence of fences or of four of the five developed springs of the unit, and does not identify location of its mentioned one developed spring or of some declared ~~other ways~~ (excepting its W37 and W35 ~~ways~~ – i.e. MPTs).

3. Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: The unit is approximately 7 miles long and averages 2.5 miles wide. Elevations range from approximately 2,460 to 4,520 feet. The unit's vegetation is not of sufficient height or density to support outstanding opportunities for solitude. The unit's fairly narrow width affects opportunities for solitude, but given the directional orientation, extent and distribution of the unit's rugged, broken and sufficiently deep cut draws and drainages branching along much of the unit's length, adequate topographic screening for outstanding opportunities for solitude is available within the unit.

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

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

Description: Hunting predominately by foot of common upland and big game species (chukar, deer and antelope) is the primary recreational use within the unit. The game species hunted are not recognized by the State as being unique or rare to the area, thus hunting of game species is not considered outstanding. Although most of the unit has the northerner-most extent of a much large bighorn sheep habitat area, the species does not occupy any of this area within this inventory unit. Thus, no hunting of this prized Oregon game species occurs in this inventory unit. Other activities include general hiking, horseback riding and photography. While the unit's length and associated variances of topography avail the area to opportunities for backpacking and its associated primitive and unconfined recreational activities, the unit is not noted for this type of recreational pursuit and does not have outstanding quality of hiking, backpacking or other primitive recreational opportunities.

Unlike ONDA's conclusion, BLM has determined that neither individually nor in combination within the unit does the unit's natural features or the known recreational activities possess attributes which represent or provide for outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

5. Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description: Paleontological resources provide for scientific and educational study. The Cusick's pincushion, a BLM special status plant species, is found in the southwest corner of the unit. Most of the unit has suitable bighorn sheep habitat, but to date the species does not occupy the public lands of this inventory unit.

BLM disagrees with ONDA's statement that the SEORMP indicates the presence of sage grouse leks within the unit. The RMP does not indicate the presence of leks within this unit and leks are not known to be present within the unit.

ONDA states that their proposed Grassy Mountain WSA "may also be home to Mojave Black-collared Lizard, Desert Horned Lizard, Ground Snake, Ferruginous Hawk, Pygmy Rabbit, and White-tailed Antelope Squirrel," which ONDA's February 2004 submission to the Vale District declares are listed as "sensitive species" in Oregon. As of 2009, the Ground Snake and White-tailed Antelope Squirrel were not considered sensitive by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, BLM, or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. BLM has documented the occurrence of the Mojave Black-collared Lizard and Desert horned Lizard within this proposed unit. BLM acknowledges that habitat requirements may exist for the Ground Snake, Ferruginous Hawk, Pygmy Rabbit, and White-tailed Antelope Squirrel; however, neither ONDA nor any other entity has provided BLM with official documentation confirming the presence of these species within this inventory unit.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: OR-034-023 – Sand Hollow

Summary Results of Analysis:

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

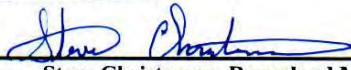
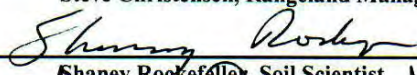

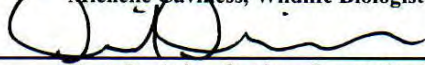
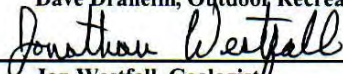

Conclusion -- check one:

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

The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by: 
Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner, contractor

Team Members:

<u></u>	<u>2-23-2010</u>
Steve Christensen, Rangeland Management Specialist	Date
<u></u>	<u>3/10/10</u>
Shaney Rockefeller, Soil Scientist	Date
<u></u>	<u>2/23/10</u>
Michelle Caviness, Wildlife Biologist	Date
<u></u>	<u>2/10/10</u>
Dave Draheim, Outdoor Recreation Planner	Date
<u></u>	<u>02/08/2010</u>
Jon Westfall, Geologist	Date
<u></u>	<u>2/9/10</u>
Brent Grasty, GIS Coordinator	Date

(NOTE: Previous staff members who reviewed this unit include Botanist Jean Finley (retired 7/2008), and Wildlife Biologist Technician Sandy Vistine Ambor (transferred 8/2008)).

Approved by:

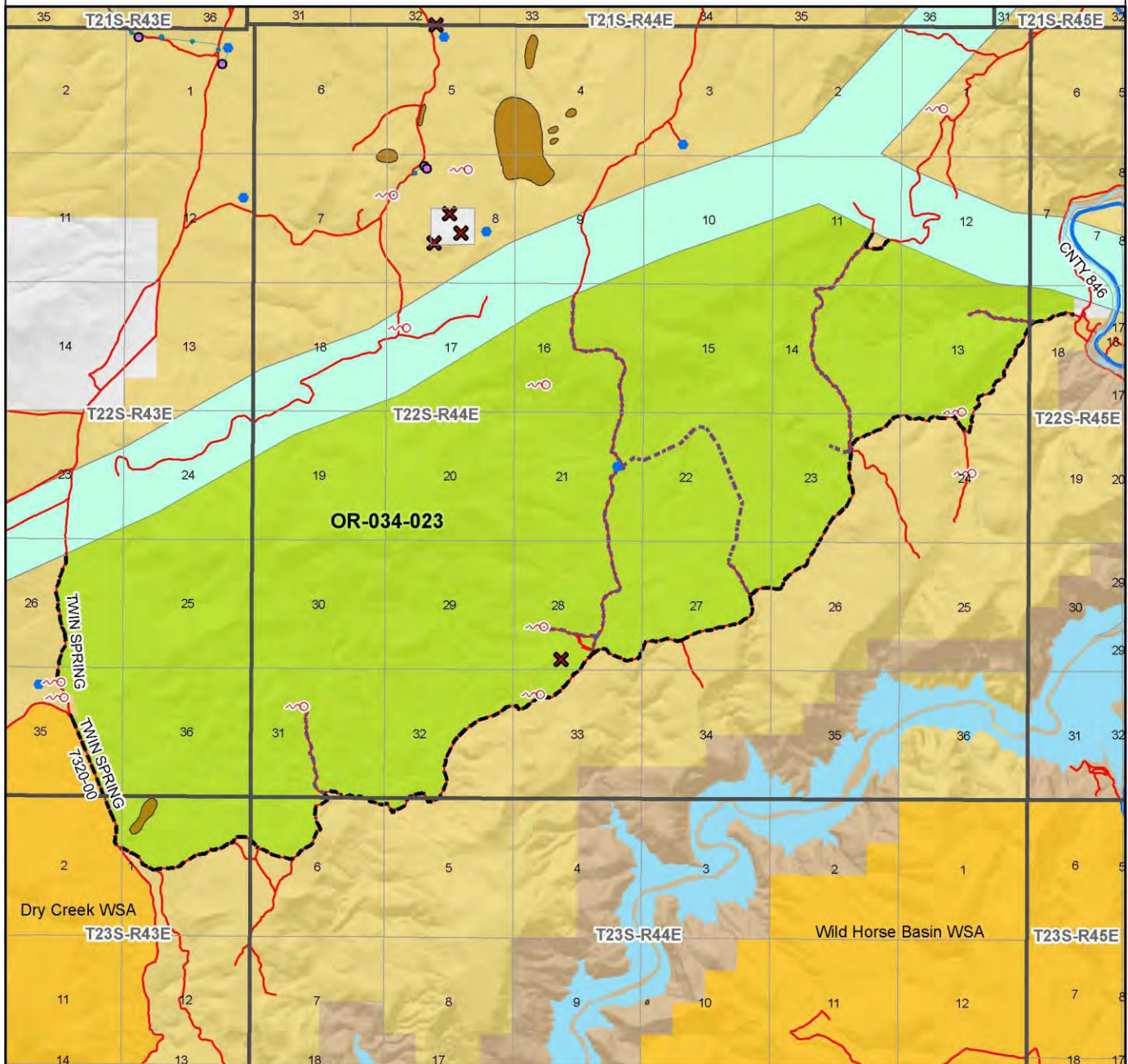

Pat Ryan, Malheur Resource Area Field Manager

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

Sand Hollow - OR-034-023 - Map 1 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

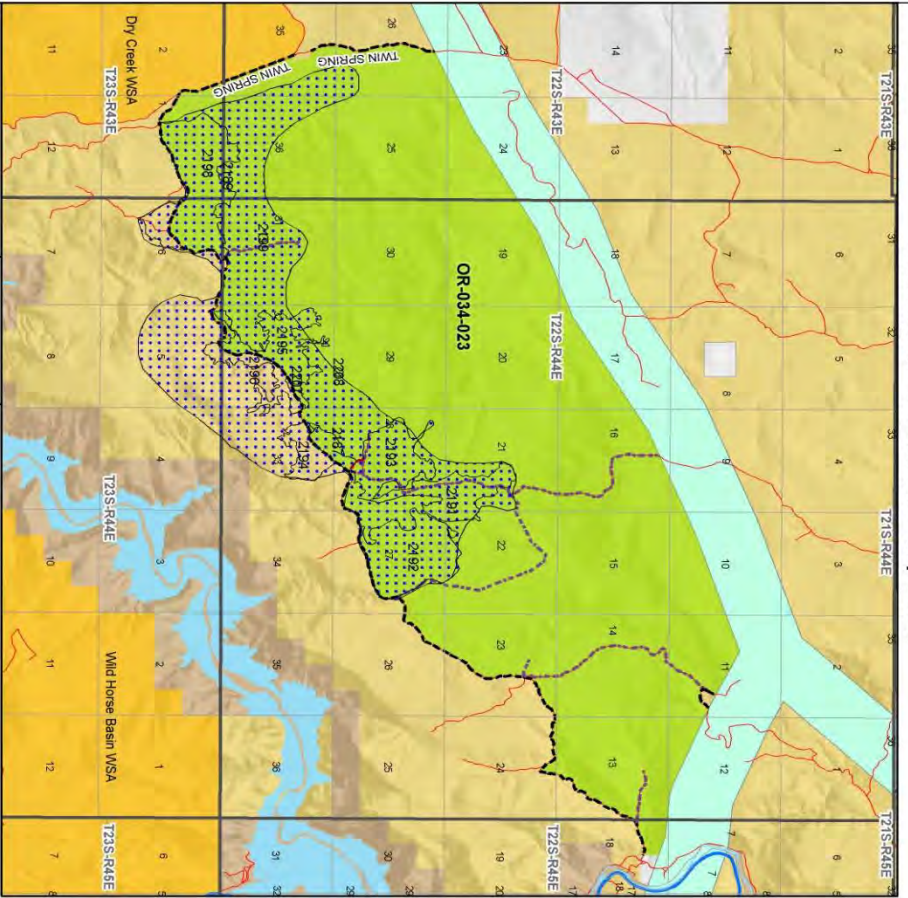
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VALE DISTRICT
December 29, 2008

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--FINAL--

**Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Sand Hollow - OR-034-023 - Map 2 of 2**



Legend

- Wilderness Characteristics
- Land Treatments
- Wild Horse Basin WSA
- Dry Creek WSA
- Other Federal Land
- State
- Private
- Boundary
- Boundary Point
- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- Section Boundary
- Quarter Section Boundary
- Quarter Section Boundary (Not Part)
- Quarter Section Boundary (Part)
- Quarter Section Boundary (Not Part)
- Quarter Section Boundary (Part)
- Quarter Section Boundary (Not Part)
- Quarter Section Boundary (Part)

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

**VALE DISTRICT
December 29, 2008**

FINAL

**Wilderness Characteristics - Land Treatments
Sand Hollow - OR-034-023 - Map 2 of 2**

OBJECTID*	NAME	TREATMENT TYPE	SEED GROUP	DATE
2187	KERN FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	A mix of native grasses	2000/1201
2188	KERN FIRE REHAB	Aerial Seeding	Shrubs	2001/0101
2191	KERN FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	A mix of native grasses	2000/1201
2192	KERN FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	A mix of native grasses	2000/1201
2193	KERN FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	A mix of native grasses	2000/1201
2194	KERN FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	A mix of native grasses	2000/1201
2195	KERN FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	A mix of native grasses	2000/1201
2196	KERN FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	A mix of native grasses	2000/1201
2198	KERN FIRE REHAB	Drill Seeding	A mix of native grasses	2000/1201
2199	KERN FIRE REHAB	Planting	Shrubs	2001/0408
2207	KERN FIRE REHAB	Planting	Shrubs	2001/0408
2208	KERN FIRE REHAB	Planting	Shrubs	2001/0408

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.

**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 (UNIT_ID): OR-034-023 -- Sand Hollow

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

I. LOCATION: North-south oriented route through central portion of the unit; goes to Oxbow Reservoir and north to transmission line ROW (is ONDA's route W36 --see attached photo. **List photo point references (if applicable):** As of 11/7/2007, there are no photos of this route for this unit's file. (Post Note: 9-5-08 update—See attached ONDA photo (1, dated 7/20/03) and map which depicts appearance of the route at its south end.)

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: Was re-constructed during August 2000 Kern Fire. Goes to Oxbow Reservoir and north to transmission line ROW, Extends through the unit. Since the fire, there is no BLM administrative need for the route.

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 X Other _____

Describe: In 1978, BLM identified this as a "road" between unit 3-315 and 3-314. Was bladed by BLM during the 8/2000 Kern Fire. Original date of route construction is unknown, but did occur prior to the District's late 1970's wilderness characteristics inventory.

V. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes _____ No X

By Hand Tools _____ By Machine _____

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

Describe: Was bladed during 8/2000 Kern Fire, but without improvements.

VI. MAINTENANCE:

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

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

Explain: Was bladed during 8/2000 Kern Fire for fire suppression purposes, but nothing since that time. At this time, it is not BLM’s intent for the the route to receive intentional maintenance for through route vehicle passage.

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 _____ No X

Comments: Route is not in good condition. BLM has no intention to conduct maintenance on the route in the future; therefore, the route (although it has visual evidence of some maintenance due to the fire activities,), does not meet the definition of road.

VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes _____ No X

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

No evidence of tracking, although is possibly used during hunting seasons.

VIII. 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 _____ No X

Explanation: No evidence of regular and continuous use. BLM does not intend to provide mechanical maintenance to insure regular and continuous use.

Note for file: See additional information in this unit’s six-way folder file -- Initially during this WC update for this unit, this route was considered to meet the definition of road, but under further review -- due to above stated rationale -- this route does not meet the definition of road, after all.

Evaluator(s): Robert L Alward Date: 11/7/2007
Robert Alward, Wilderness Planner contractor

Steve Christensen Date: 11/7/2007
Steve Christensen, Range Management Specialist

Brandon Knapton Date: 11/7/2007
Brandon Knapton, Wildlife Biologist

Note to 6-way file: See hand written copy of this doc, attached. When this document was filled out electronically for BLM’s electronic records, Knapton had already transferred out of Vale District.

* **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 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”.

Attachment:

VIII. 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 _____ No X

Explanation: No evidence of regular & continuous use. BLM does not intend to provide mechanical maintenance to ensure regular & continuous use.

Evaluator(s):	<u>R-L Howard</u>	Date:	<u>5/13/07; reaffirmed 11/7/07</u>
	<u>Steve Overton</u>		<u>11/7/2007</u>
	<u>BrL JH</u>		<u>11/7/07</u>

¹ Note: The following definition of road is quoted from OSO Draft (4/19/07) H-6300-1, Wilderness Inventory Maintenance in BLM Oregon/Washington:

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

RE: OR-034-023 - Sand Hollow ~
 THIS IS ONDA'S ONLY PHOTO (TAKEN 7/29/03)
 OF ROUTE THAT SPLITS THE
 UNIT IN HALF (East-West) — IT
 IS ONDA'S PHOTO POINT ND 024
 FOR ITS GRASSY MOUNTAIN PROPOSED
 WSA. SEE ATTACHED ONDA
 MAP FOR THIS PHOTO'S LOCATION

9/5/08
 RGA.



