CITIZEN PROPOSAL EVALUATION FORM (EVALUATION OF NEW INFORMATION REGARDING WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS ON AN AREA OF PUBLIC LANDS)

Directions: Keep this record as part of the inventory file. Use these findings as part of the wilderness resources discussion in any subsequent NEPA document. Notify the proponent of your findings.

Date of Review or Submission: Interdisciplinary (ID) Team Meeting held on 1/10/2007

Proponent: NA - Internally Identified by BLM ID Team

Name of Area Identified by the Proponent: Stockade Unit (Subunit 2-1M)

BLM Field Office(s) Affected: Three Rivers RA, Burns DO

EVALUATION

1) Does the submission include the required:

a) map which identifies the specific boundaries of the area in question? NA - BLM Identified Unit (Subunit 2-1N)

Yes No

b) detailed narrative that describes the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics of the area and documents how that information differs significantly from the information in prior inventories conducted by the BLM regarding the wilderness values of the area? NA - BLM Identified Unit (Subunit 2-1M)

Yes No

c) photographic documentation? NA - BLM Identified Unit (Subunit 2-1M)

Yes _____ No _____

2. Is there an existing wilderness inventory on this area?

Yes X

Reference: March 1980 Wilderness Review -Intensive Inventory (Unit 2-1M) Unit: Unit 2-1 - Coleman Creek, Subunit Unit 2-1M

Existing inventory findings

Has wilderness character

X Doesn't have wilderness character

- Evaluation of the proposal based on relevant information available in the office (prior BLM inventories, interdisciplinary team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc.). <u>Explain the basis for each conclusion (</u>use additional space as necessary).
 - a) Are the boundary roads and any roads separating subunits still roads? Yes X____ No_____

Explanation: The boundaries for the current Stockade Unit and the 1980 inventory subunit 2-1M were reviewed and compared by the ID team (see attached map) and found to be very similar. The general boundary descriptions are as follows:

- To the north unit boundaries are defined by the Warm Springs/Stinkingwater Road that is a non-paved road that is maintained when needed to ensure relatively regular and continuous use.
- To the east unit boundaries are defined by Warm Springs Creek Road which is maintained when needed to ensure relatively regular and continuous use.
- To the south unit boundaries are defined by private land.
- To the west unit boundaries are defined by Opie Homestead Road which is maintained when needed to ensure relatively regular and continuous use.
- b) Does the unit/subunit meet the minimum acre requirements? Yes X No

No

Explanation: The Stockade Unit as defined above, contains approximately 11,939 acres of BLM-administered lands.

c) Have there been changes in the area since the initial/intensive inventory that may affect naturalness?

Yes X

Explanation: Since the 1980 subunit 2-1M was inventoried, the following changes were identified by the ID-team:

- In 1996 approximately 666 acres was seeded, however, the seeding has been taken over extensively by Medusahead.
- One new reservoir/water hole has been constructed.
- Two new spring developments have been constructed.
- Approximately 0.75 mile of new power line has been constructed along the northeast side of the unit.
- Approximately 4.5 miles new fence line has been constructed, primarily down the middle of the unit.
- Approximately 3.5 miles of new roads/routes have been added within the unit, three miles of which are noticeable.
- Medusahead has established significantly throughout the Warm Springs Watershed and in isolated parcels thoughout the unit.
- Gold mineral exploration occurred throughout the 1980's and early 1990's, however most of the pits have been reclaimed.

d) Does the unit/subunit appear to meet the definition of naturalness? Yes X No

Explanation: The existing developments and non-native vegetation are still dispersed throughout the unit and are substantially unnoticeable.

e) Does the unit/subunit appear to contain outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined *recreation*?

Yes <u>No X</u> Explanation: The 1980 inventory found that the opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation in subunit 2-1M were not outstanding. The ID-team did not identify any new unusual or unique features or other changes that would modify the inventory findings. The ID-team confirmed that today, the Stockade Unit (subunit 2-1M) continues to offer opportunities for several types of primitive recreational activities including hunting, horseback riding, hiking and rock collecting, but they are not outstanding.

f) Does the unit/subunit contain appear to have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes _____ No ___X

Explanation: The 1980 inventory found that opportunities for solitude in the subunit 2-1M were not outstanding. The ID-team did not identify any changes that would modify the inventory findings. The opportunity for a visitor to achieve solitude continues to be limited by a lack of topographic and vegetative screening. The ID-team identified that since the 1980 inventory vehicle traffic in the Stockade Unit (Subunit 2-1N) has likely increased due to the additional road/routes across the unit as well as increased traffic associated with extended hunting seasons.

g) Does the unit/subunit contain appear to have supplemental values?

Yes X No_

Explanation: The 1980 inventory found that the northern end of subunit 2-1M is inhabited by wild horses and the subunit provides crucial winter range for mule deer and antelope. The ID-team found that the northern end of the unit is still inhabited by wild horses and may still be considered crucial winter range for mule deer and antelope, however, the encroachment medusahead is altering the vegetative community that originally made up the winter range.

4. From the evidence presented by the proponent, as well as other relevant information (prior BLM inventories, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc.), does the WSA Inventory Team conclude that the information *is significantly different* from the information in prior inventories conducted by BLM regarding the wilderness values of the area or a portion of the area?

Yes _____ No _ X ____

5. From the evidence presented by the proponent and from other relevant information (prior BLM inventories, aerial photographs, field observations, maps), the undersigned WSA Inventory Team concludes: (Check a or b below.)

(or)

b) there is a reasonable probability that the area in question (or a significant portion(s) thereof) may have wilderness characteristics and a field inventory is necessary.

The Stockade Unit (subunit 2-1M) was found to be natural, however, it does not possess outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation. Therefore, no wilderness characteristics were found to be present.

Interdisciplinary Team

Dowlan, Outdoor Recreation Planner (Wilderness Specialist) - Burns District

Lisa Grant, Rangeland Management Specialist - Burns District

Rick Hall, Natural Resource Specialist (Botany) - Burns District

re Ecologist - Burns District

Bill Andersen, District Range Management Specialist

Mr. Geesle Terri Geisler, Geologist (Hazmat) -- Burns District

Del indsay Davies, Fisheries Biologist - Burns District

Douglas Linn, Botakist - Burns District

1/30/07

1/30/07 Date

1/30/0

a) the decision reached is that the area lacks wilderness characteristics and should not X be considered further.

~hin 203 C Scott Thomas, Archeologist - Burns District

I Concur:

on

Field Manager / Three Rivers Resource Area

1/20/07

Date

This determination is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal resource inventory process and does not constitute an appealable decision.

