

Year: 2020 Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-118/ Collins Rim – Deep Creek

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?

No _____ Yes X (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units):

a) **Inventory Source:** Wilderness Inventory – Final Intensive Inventory Decisions; USDI BLM - Oregon and Washington, November 1980.

b) **Inventory Unit Number(s)/ Name(s):** 1-118/ Wakefield Cabin

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** Intensive Wilderness Inventory - Final Decisions; USDI BLM - Oregon, November 1980.

d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Lakeview District, Lakeview 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):

Unit #	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
1-118	28,880	N	N	N	Unknown
1-118*	24,333	N	N/A	N/A	N/A

* The inventory of this unit was updated in 2009. However, due to a State Office-sponsored Wilderness Inventory Consistency Evaluation and subsequent guidance, the 2009 inventory analysis and findings are being replaced by this current 2018 inventory review. Documentation of the 2009 inventory can be found in the wilderness inventory project record.

Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table:

The unit was describes as being on a high plateau, with 4 miles of Deep Creek Canyon passing through the northwest corner. The remaining portion of the unit consisted of a large sage flat surrounding Big Lake, a large ephemeral lake approximately 2,400 acres in size, with low juniper covered hills to the south and southwest. The southwest corner also contains some very low basalt rims and Juniper Lake. The unit contained approximately 25 miles of “ways” and 15 reservoirs. The reservoirs were substantially noticeable within the unit. The 500-KV power line along the eastern border of the unit was a dominant feature over the vast majority of the unit. The unit also contained approximately 13 miles of fence line, which were substantially noticeable, while in other areas with junipers they were found to not readily visible. Due to these disturbances and their distribution, the unit did not appear to be primarily affected by the forces of nature. The vast majority of the unit was found to be a large sage flat, which offered little opportunity for solitude. The southwest portion of the unit with small rims and juniper cover and the portions of the unit in Deep Creek Canyon did offer some opportunities for solitude. However, areas offering solitude were restricted and thus opportunities were not outstanding. The unit offered opportunities for recreation in the Deep Creek area and on the southwest, but these opportunities were limited to a very small area and were not outstanding. The unit offered a high potential for archaeological values, though none were documented.

FORM 2

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

Unit Number/Name: OR-015-118/ Collins Rim – Deep Creek

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size? Yes No

In 2018, the BLM received a citizen inventory from the Houret and Crane Creek Ranches Ranch. All these materials were considered during the BLM’s wilderness inventory process for this area.

Between 2008 and 2019, BLM staff conducted field inventory in the area as part of a process to update its road and wilderness inventories and to gather additional information to supplement ONDA’s wilderness information. This fieldwork included photo documentation of the boundary and interior routes and a re-evaluation of wilderness characteristics for this area. Using both ONDA and BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, the BLM completed route analysis within the area in 2017 and revised this information in 2019 based on new citizen submitted information submitted.

The BLM determined that the inventory unit is bounded by State Highway 140 and power line rights-of-ways, and private lands on the north; two Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) rights-of-ways for a 500-KV power line and a cherry stemmed access route along BLM Road 7132-00 on the east; and rights-of-ways for County Road 3-14A and Ruby Pipeline, BLM Road 7122-00, and private property on the west and south. Due to changes in boundary determinations (roads, residential power lines, Ruby Pipeline, and BPA rights-of-ways buffer corrections, and a gravel pit, approximately 994 acres were removed from the unit. BLM also reviewed the Houret/Crane Creek Ranch submission and made a change to one route that had previously been misidentified (7172-00). Based on this route change, the size of the unit is reduced by 234 acres to 23,095 acres.

Thus, based on these boundary and modified road determinations, the BLM found the Collins Rim – Deep Creek inventory unit to exceed the minimum size criteria at approximately 23,095 acres of BLM-administered lands.

Additional background on the process that the BLM followed during this evaluation is contained in the document, *Wilderness Inventory Maintenance Process for the Lakeview Resource Area, BLM* and in the *Route Analysis Forms*. Both documents can be found in the wilderness inventory file.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

The inventory unit is located about 6 miles west of Adel, Oregon. This unit is approximately 11 miles long and 7 miles wide. Topography across the unit is very diverse, dominated by the broken, steep rims of deep Creek Canyon (aprx. 800 ft. deep) running approximately 5 miles in the northern portion of the unit. The northern portion of the unit also contains 3 miles of Camas Creek Canyon (aprx. 150-415 ft. deep) and approximately 4 miles of the southern rim of Parsnip Creek Canyon (aprx. 400 ft. deep). The western-central portion of the unit is comprised of a 5 mile long ridge, rising aprx. 350 feet above lands to the south. The eastern-central portion of the unit is a largely comprised of Big Lake, a large, shallow, sagebrush flat. The southern third of the unit is comprised of rolling low to moderate terrain (Collins Rim, 4.5 miles and aprx. 150 ft. tall), Juniper Lake, and 1.5 miles of Twentymile Creek. Vegetatively, the western, southern, and northern portions of the unit contain numerous moderate to high-density stands of western juniper (aprx. 9,000 acres), stands of ponderosa pine (along Deep Creek, Parsnip Creek, Camas Creek), and groupings of mountain mahogany among upper ridges and rims. The eastern plateau is largely covered with sagebrush, grasses, and scattered junipers. A combination of fuel reduction and prescribed burn projects (2013-2017) have treated approximately 10,000 acres in the western two-thirds of the unit. The inventory unit also contains about 1,330 acres of private land inholdings located in the center of the unit.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition? Yes No N/A

In 1980, the original inventory noted approximately 25 miles of “ways” and 15 reservoirs. The reservoirs were substantially noticeable within the unit. The 500-KV power line along the eastern border of the unit was a dominant feature over the vast majority of the unit. The unit also contained approximately 13 miles of fence line, which were substantially noticeable, while in other areas with junipers they were found to not be readily visible. Due to these disturbances and their distribution, the unit did not appear to be primarily affected by the forces of nature.

The Houret/Crane Creek Ranch submission noted that several of the manmade structures in the area were visible from long distances. The BLM reviewed all the information submitted but did not make any additional changes to this unit.

The unit currently contains the following man-made developments/disturbances: 11,581 acres of fuel treatments/prescribed burns, 7,092 acres of chemical treatments, 199 acres of seeding, 31.5 miles of motorized routes, 3 miles of reclaiming routes, 26 miles of fence lines, 0.5 miles of ditches, 156 feet of pipelines, 32 waterholes, 13 reservoirs, 1 trough, 1 developed spring, and 2 historic cabin sites.

Presently, almost 4 decades after the original inventory, these developments are weathered and grown over with herbaceous grasses, sagebrush, and juniper. As a result, developments now fade into the background of the unit and are largely only noticeable at a close distance (1/4th mile or less) and are thus substantially unnoticeable from further distances. The topography and vegetation of the area also plays a large role in screening disturbances and man-made developments. Furthermore, many of the disturbances are located near the perimeter of the unit and, as such, have a small area of influence. Recent juniper reduction projects for sage-grouse habitat improvement have been successfully planned and executed to reduce impacts to visual and naturalness. Additionally, areas that were seeded or allowed to revegetate naturally after prescribed burns have been invaded by rabbit bush, sagebrush, and grasses and have returned to a natural, post fire, appearing condition.

Based on a review of all the available information including photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the BLM concluded that the unit appears in a natural condition where the imprints of man are substantially unnoticeable.

(3) Does the unit (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) **have outstanding opportunities for solitude?** Yes X No N/A

In 1980, the original inventory noted that the majority of the unit was found to be a large sage flat, which offered little opportunity for solitude. The southwest portion of the unit with small rims and juniper cover and the portions of the unit in Deep Creek Canyon did offer some opportunities for solitude. However, areas offering solitude were restricted and thus opportunities were not outstanding.

The BLM determined that there are several outstanding opportunities for solitude across the unit due to both topographic and vegetative screening. Topography across the unit is very diverse, dominated by the broken, steep rims of Deep Creek Canyon (aprx. 800 ft. deep) running approximately 5 miles in the northern portion of the unit. The northern portion of the unit also contains 3 miles of Camas Creek Canyon (aprx. 150-415 ft. deep) and approximately 4 miles of the southern rim of Parsnip Creek Canyon (aprx. 400 ft. deep). The western-central portion of the unit is comprised of a 5 mile long ridge, rising aprx. 350 feet above lands to the south. The eastern-central portion of the unit is largely comprised of Big Lake, a large, shallow, sagebrush flat. The southern third of the unit is comprised of rolling low to moderate terrain (Collins Rim, 4.5 miles and aprx. 150 ft. tall), Juniper Lake, and 1.5 miles of Twentymile Creek. Vegetatively, the western, southern, and northern portions of the unit contain numerous moderate to high-density stands of western juniper (aprx. 9,000 acres), stands of ponderosa pine (along Deep Creek, Parsnip Creek, Camas Creek), and groupings of mountain mahogany among upper ridges and rims. Due to the above-described compartmentalized topography and vegetative conditions within the unit, one would easily be able to avoid the sights and sounds of others within the unit.

Thus, for the reasons specified above and based on a review of all the available information including (BLM and citizen provided) photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the BLM concluded the Collins Rim – Deep Creek inventory unit possesses outstanding opportunities for solitude.

(4) Does the unit (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes No N/A

In 1980, the original inventory noted opportunities for recreation in the Deep Creek area and on the southwest, but these opportunities were limited to a very small area and were not outstanding.

The BLM finds the combination and diversity of hiking, horseback riding, backpacking, camping, wildlife observation, exploration, scenery, photography, fishing, trapping, hunting, and stargazing, are exceptional. The BLM determined that fishing in Deep Creek and Camas Creek, along with hiking atop the rims of these canyons, represent unique opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values? Yes No N/A

The BLM found the unit to possess archaeological, geological, and cultural (historic cabin sites) values, as well as, the presence of various bat/ amphibian/mollusk species, golden eagle, redband trout, pronghorn antelope, warner sucker, mule deer, elk, California bighorn sheep, and sage-grouse habitat.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Number and Name: OR-015-118/ Collins Rim – Deep Creek

Summary Results of Analysis:

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

Conclusion (Check One):


- X The area- or a portion of the area- has wilderness character:
(items 1, 2 and 3 must be checked "yes").
- The area does not have wilderness character: *(any of items 1, 2 and 3 are checked "no")*.

Prepared by (Member Names and Titles):


Shane Garside: Outdoor Recreation Planner

9/24/20
Date

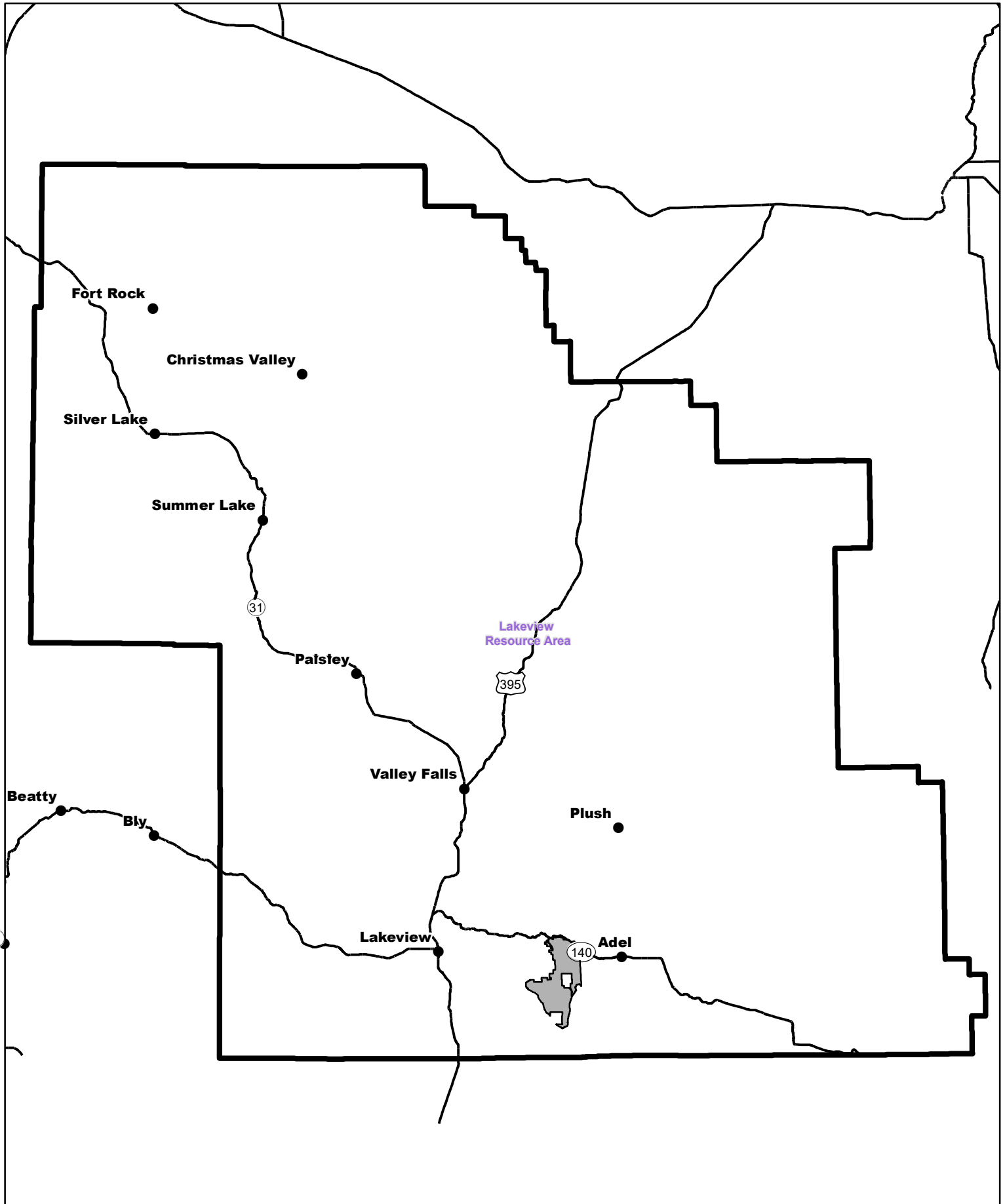
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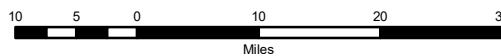
Jami Ludwig
Field Manager

10/14/2020
Date

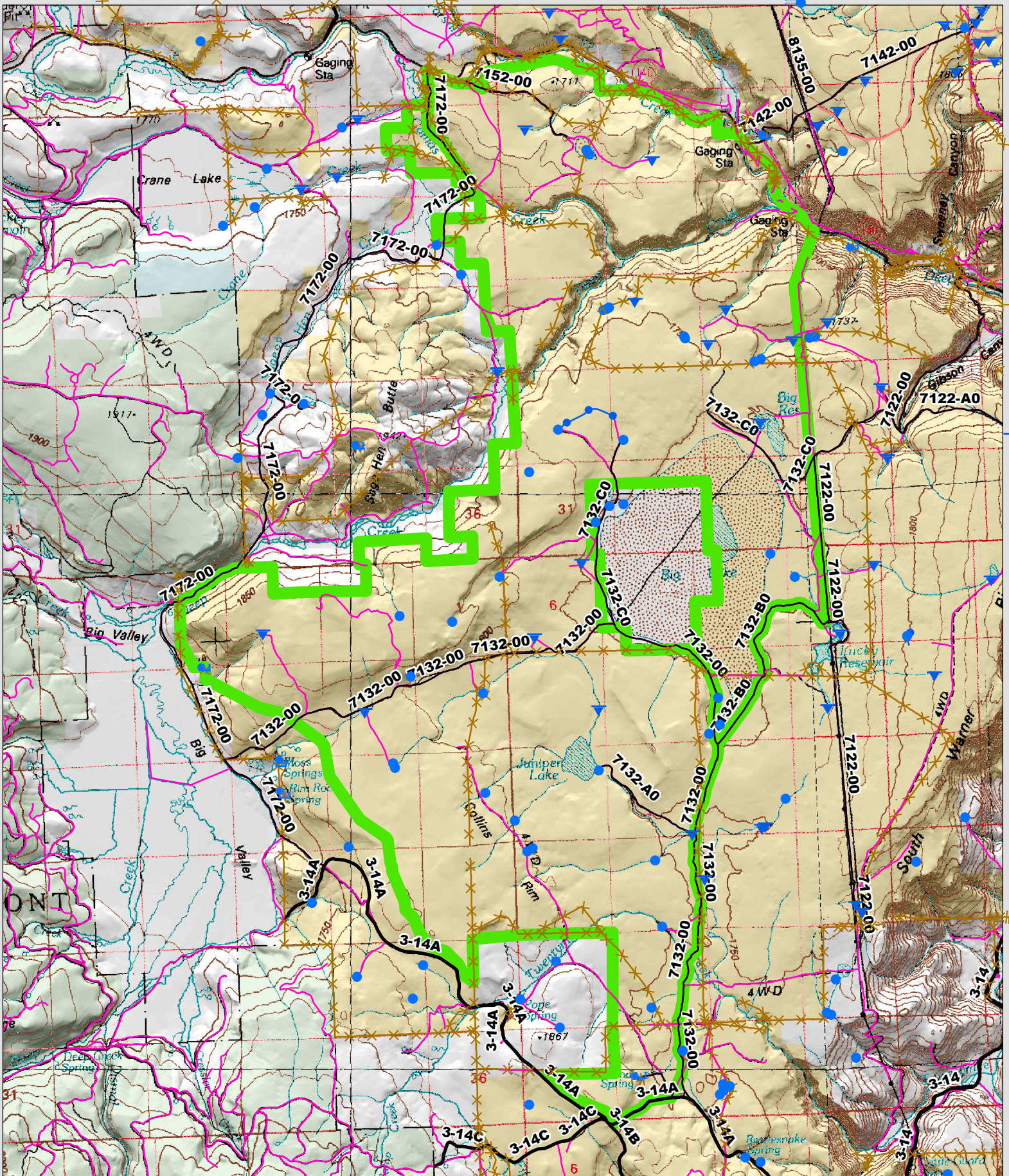
This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under 43 CFR parts either 4 or 1610.5-2.



Wilderness Character Inventory Unit



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Ownership

- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Forest Service
- State
- Private/Unknown

Roads/Trails

- Motorized Routes
- Highways
- Reclaiming Routes
- Interim Routes
- Closed Routes

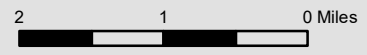
Pipelines and Ditches

- Ditch
- Water Pipeline
- Guzzler
- Fences

Water Developments

- Dam
- Reservoir
- Spring Development
- Trough
- Water Diversion

- Water Tank
- Waterhole
- Well - Water



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