

Year: 2018

Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-052/ Dry Valley Rim\*

**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):** 1-74/ Juniper Creek; 1-52/ Mack 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.

\*Note: Unit name was changed to better reflect values and features found within the unit, and to reduce confusion of similarly named inventory units.

**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):

<b>Unit#</b>	<b>Size (historic acres)</b>	<b>Natural Condition? Y/N</b>	<b>Outstanding Solitude? Y/N</b>	<b>Outstanding Primitive &amp; Unconfined Recreation? Y/N</b>	<b>Supplemental Values? Y/N</b>
1-52	24,000	Y	N	N	N
1-74	23,280	N	N	N	N
1-52*	20,141	Y	N	N	N/A
1-74*	16,441	Y	N	N	N/A

\* The inventory of this unit was updated in 2013. However, due to a State Office-sponsored Wilderness Inventory Consistency Evaluation and subsequent guidance, the 2013 inventory analysis and findings are being replaced by this current 2018 inventory review. Documentation of the 2013 inventory can be found in the wilderness inventory project record.

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

Unit 1-74 was described as sagebrush covered rolling hills and draws with several small to medium ephemeral lake beds. The highest point in the unit was Turpin Knoll, which rises a few hundred feet above the surrounding terrain. The eastern third of the unit contained one substantial draw known as Mac's Draw and some low hills and ridges. The original inventory noted that the majority of the unit did not appear in a generally natural condition, as the works of man were substantially noticeable. Man-made features in the unit included: 10 miles of fence line, 13 "ways (with 1 very noticeable)," 11 reservoirs, and 1 lakebed water development. Solitude was determined to be available in some locations within the unit due to topography. However, overall these areas were not sufficient in size or quantity to offer outstanding opportunities for solitude. The unit was found to offer some opportunities for hunting, hiking, and nature study. However, within the unit there were no outstanding opportunities for recreational experiences of a primitive nature. Lastly, the area was believed to have some archaeological supplemental values.

Unit 1-52 was described as the west half being a long narrow sage flat (Dry Valley) with a high rim (Dry Valley Rim) rising to sage lands to the east above of the rim. The southern end of the unit had some rolling contours and 3 ephemeral lakebeds. The unit contained 13 miles of "ways," 6 generally unnoticeable reservoirs, and 3 substantial lakebed pits noted to only effect nearby areas. Overall, the works of man were substantially unnoticeable. Other than the rim, the area was found to offer little opportunity to avoid the sights and sounds of others, as each side was essentially flat. The inventory noted limited potential for hunting and hiking, however the narrow shape of the unit precluded any real opportunity to pursue primitive and unconfined recreational experiences. No supplemental values were documented during the inventory, although archeological values were assumed to be present in the area.

**FORM 2**

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY  
CONDITIONS**

**Unit Number/Name:** OR-015-052/ Dry Valley Rim

**(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?** Yes  X  No \_\_\_\_\_

From 2008 to 2016, the BLM conducted a field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventory and to gather additional information. This fieldwork included photo documentation of the boundary and interior routes and a re-evaluation of wilderness characteristics for this area. Using both citizen provided and BLM photos, field logs, and staff field knowledge, the BLM completed route analysis and made boundary determinations within the area in 2017.

The BLM determined that the inventory unit is bounded by BLM Road 6110-00 (Dry Valley), BLM interim numbered roads 1124 and 6110-Q0, state and private lands on the west; and by BLM Road 6165-00 (Corn Lake), and state lands on the north, east, and south.

Based on boundary determinations, historic unit 1-74 was divided into 3 smaller inventory units, with the largest northern unit found to be adjoined with historic unit 1-52. This evaluation focuses on this combined unit. Note: the boundary of this combined unit was changed to remove approximately 0.5 acres of unnatural features (pipelines) near state lands in the center of the inventory area.

Thus, based on these boundary and road determinations, the BLM found the Dry Valley Rim inventory unit to exceed the minimum size criteria at approximately 38,514-acre 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 approximately 15 miles long by up to 9 miles wide and is located approximately 10 miles east of Alkali Lake, Oregon. The unit encompasses Turpin Knoll, Juniper Draw, Macs Draw, Lynch Gulch, Dry Valley Rim, and the upper reaches of Bacon Camp Draw. In addition, the unit contains a portion of Dry Valley, Old Jim Open plateau, and rolling hills. Most of the unit burned in separate wildfires in 1986 and 2001 Revegetation has been successful with sagebrush, rabbit brush, and grass (native and non-native) across the unit.

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

In 1980, the original inventory for unit 1-74 noted that the majority of the unit did not appear in a generally natural condition, as the works of man were substantially noticeable. Man-made features in the unit included: 10 miles of fence line, 13 “ways (with 1 very noticeable),” 11 reservoirs, and 1 lakebed water development. The original inventory unit for 1-52 described the area as containing 13 miles of “ways,” 6 generally unnoticeable reservoirs, and 3 substantial lakebed pits noted to only effect nearby areas. Overall, the works of man were substantially unnoticeable. However, the current inventory unit is much larger, being formed by original inventory unit 1-52 and a portion of 1-74, and now must be evaluated by its own merits for naturalness.

The BLM found the following man-made developments/disturbances within the unit: 31,127 acres of wildfire, 673 acres of chemical treatments, 17 miles of motorized routes, 7 miles of reclaiming routes, 6.5 miles of fence lines, 0.5 miles of ditches, 16 waterholes, 6 reservoirs, 1 developed spring, 2 historic wilderness therapy group campsites, and 1 guzzler.

Presently, almost 4 decades after the original inventory, these developments are weathered and grown over with herbaceous grasses and sagebrush. As a result, developments now fade into the background of the unit and are largely only noticeable at a close distance (1/4<sup>th</sup> mile

or less) and are thus substantially unnoticeable from further distances. The topography of unit, with numerous canyons and rims throughout, plays a large role in screening disturbances and man-made developments. In addition, the majority of the remaining disturbances are located near the perimeter of the unit and, as such, have a small area of influence. Additionally, areas that were allowed to revegetate naturally, 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  No  N/A

In 1980, the original inventory noted both units 1-74 and 1-52 as having limited areas of solitude. Overall, they were found to lack outstanding opportunities for solitude due to the units' size, configuration, and topography. However, the current inventory unit is much larger, being formed by original inventory unit 1-52 and a portion of 1-74, and now must be evaluated on its own merits for solitude.

Considering portions of the two former inventory areas are now adjoined to form a 38,514-acre unit, the BLM determined that there are several outstanding opportunities for solitude across the area due to size and topographic screening. The inventory units is approximately 15 miles long by up to 9 miles wide and encompasses outstanding screening across the area including Turpin Knoll, Juniper Draw, Macs Draw, Lynch Gulch, Dry Valley Rim, and the upper reaches of Bacon Camp Draw.

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 Dry Valley Rim inventory unit possesses outstanding opportunities for solitude where one could avoid the sights and sounds of others in the area.

**(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 described both units 1-74 and 1-52 as having limited opportunities for hunting, hiking, and nature study. Overall, existing opportunities were found to be less than outstanding and the narrow shape of unit 1-52 precluded any real opportunity to pursue primitive and unconfined recreational experiences. However, the current inventory unit is much larger, being formed by original inventory unit 1-52 and a portion of 1-74, and now must be evaluated by its own merits for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Considering portions of the two former inventory areas are now adjoined to form a 38,514-acre unit, the BLM determined that there are now abundant opportunities for all activities listed above in combination with the diversity of camping, backpacking, horse-riding, trapping, sightseeing, exploration, and photography across the unit. The BLM noted that opportunities for hiking along Dry Valley Rim and Lynch Gulch, as well as hiking through Juniper Draw, represent unique opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

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

The BLM noted the presence of archeological values and raptor nesting sites, as well as pronghorn antelope, sage-grouse, pigmy rabbit, mule deer, California bighorn sheep, and golden eagle habitat.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusion:**

**Unit Number and Name:** OR-015-052/ Dry Valley Rim


**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):**


  
Chris Bishop: Outdoor Recreation Planner

  6/4/18    
Date

  
Jami Ludwig: Assistant Field Manager

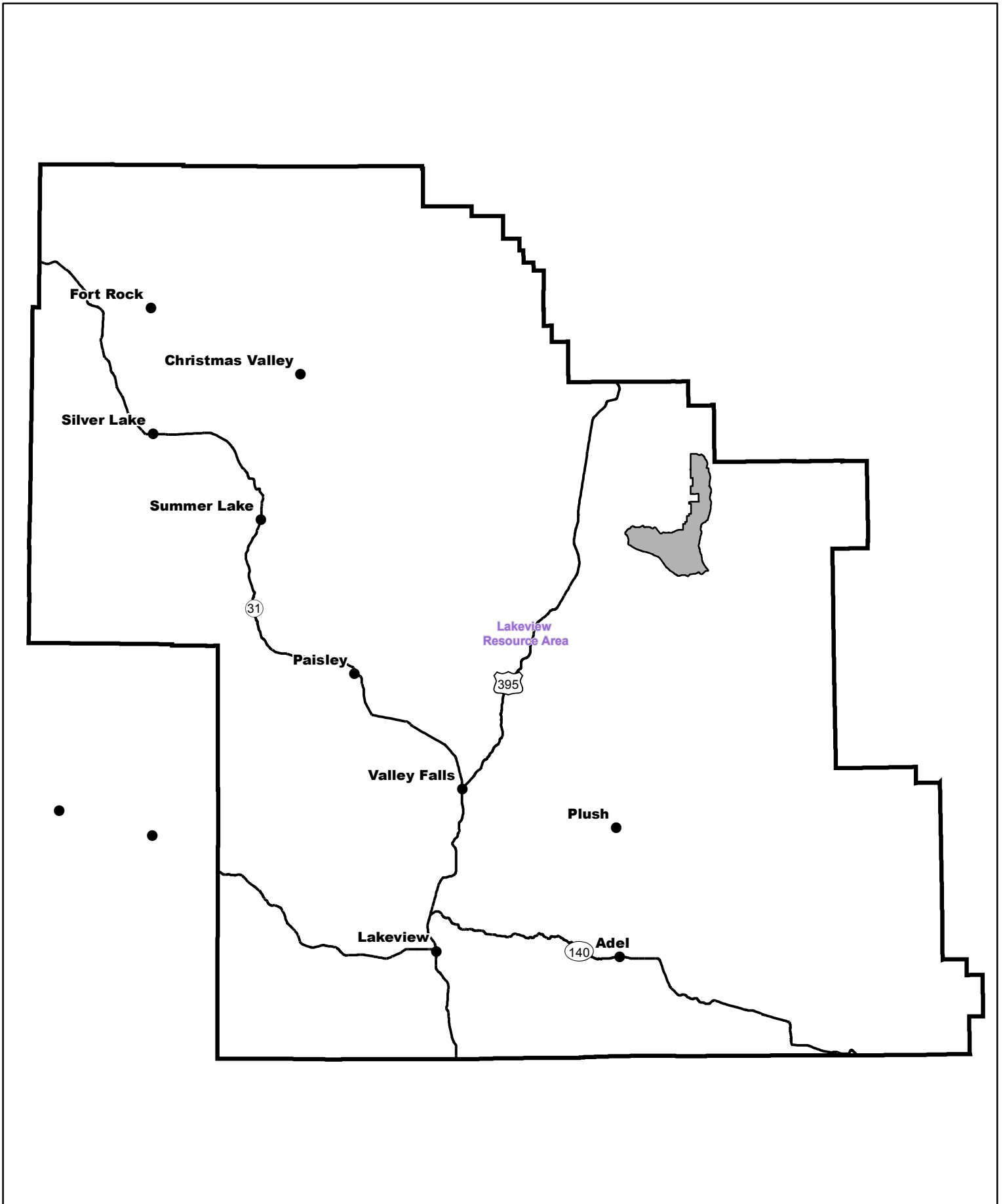
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**Approved by:**

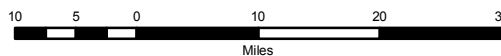
  
J. Todd Forbes  
Field Manager


  6/4/18    
Date

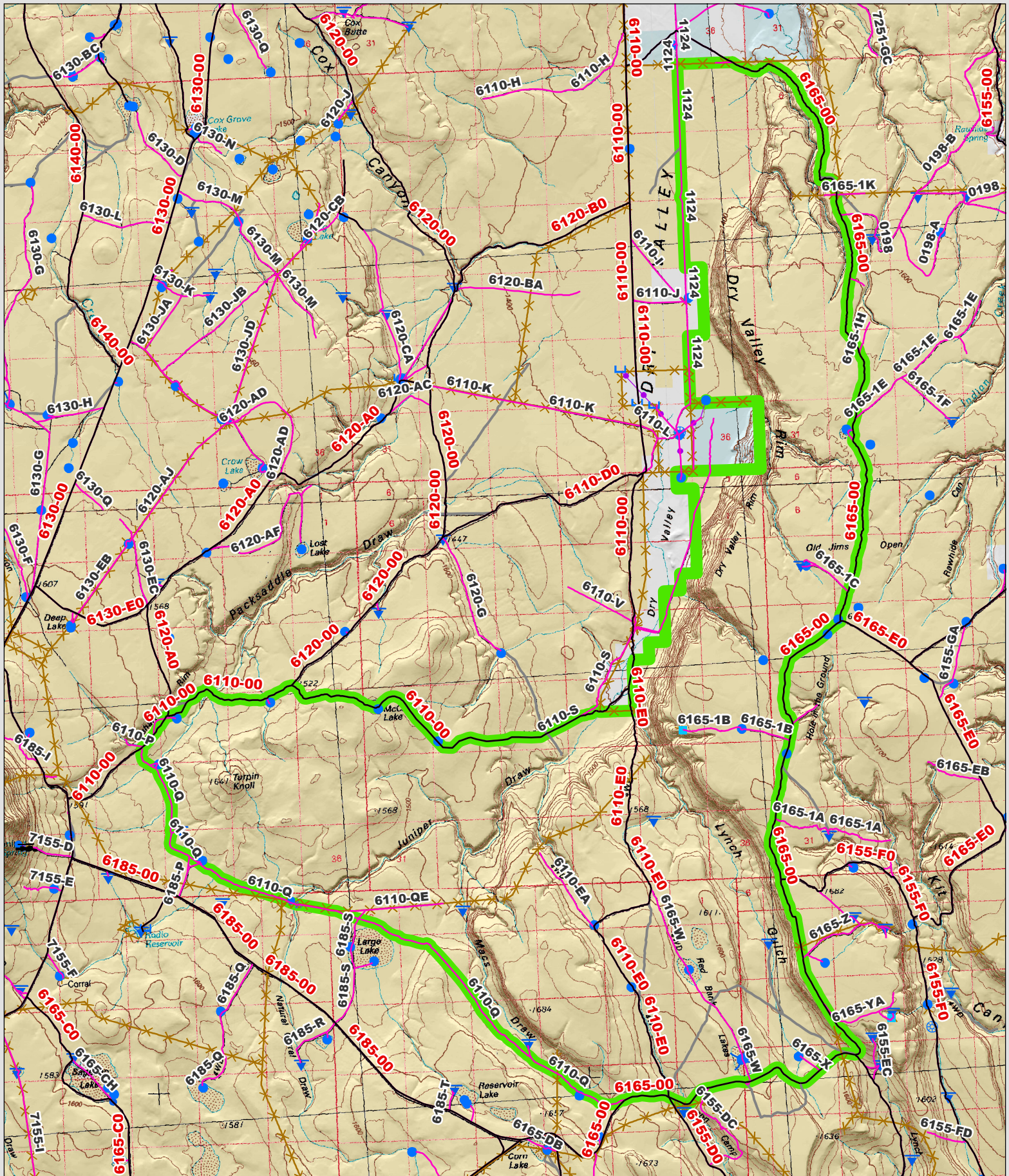
*This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under 43 CFR parts either 4 or 1610.5-2.*



 Wilderness Character Inventory Unit



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**Wilderness Character Inventory Unit**

**Ownership**

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

**Roads/Trails**

- Motorized Routes
- Highways
- Reclaiming Routes
- Interim Routes

**Pipelines and Ditches**

- Ditch
- Water Pipeline
- Guzzler
- Fences

**Water Developments**

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

**Water Features**

- Water Tank
- Waterhole
- Well - Water

2 1 0 2 Miles

**North Arrow**

**Disclaimer**

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