

Year: 2017

Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-85/ Eagle Butte

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.): NA

a) Inventory Source: Wilderness Inventory: Oregon and Washington Final Intensive Inventory Decisions November 1980

b) Inventory Unit Number(s)/Name(s): 1-85/ Eagle Butte

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): U.S. Department of the Interior: Bureau of Land Management Oregon: Intensive Wilderness Inventory Final Decisions November, 1980

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Lakeview District, Lakeview Resource Area, Lakeview, Oregon

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):

Ownership	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
1-85	13,220	N	N	N	N
1-85*	13,899	N	N	N	NA

* The inventory of this unit was updated in 2008. However, due to a State Office-sponsored Wilderness Inventory Consistency Evaluation and subsequent guidance, the 2008 inventory analysis and findings are being replaced by this current 2017 inventory review. Documentation of the 2008 inventory can be found in the wilderness inventory project record.

Summarize any known primary reasons for prior inventory findings listed in this table): In 1980, unit 1-85 was described as sage flats and a few minor rolling hills, which add slight topographic relief to the unit. Eagle Butte is a small butte in the southeast corner of the unit. There are 8 ephemeral lake basins in the unit. The area has 6 ways, which are not very noticeable, 11 lakebed pits scattered throughout the unit (those by Badger Hole Draw are extremely evident). The 11 lakebed pits have significant cumulative effects relative to the size of the unit and dispersion of the developments across the unit. The Eagle Butte inventory area did not meet the naturalness criteria as the works of man were found to be evident throughout the unit. The small size of the of area, its flat terrain, and lack of vegetative screening preclude any opportunity for outstanding solitude. The unit has potential for hunting, trapping, and wildlife observation, but these opportunities are not outstanding. Supplemental values potentially exist for archaeological values.

FORM 2

DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

a. **Unit Number/Name:** OR-015-85/ Eagle Butte

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

In 2005, the BLM received a citizen proposal from the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) for the 67,948-acre Juniper Mountain proposed WSA. ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs and GIS data with their route and photo point data, all of which were considered as part of the wilderness inventory maintenance process for this BLM Unit. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in July of 2004 and June of 2005. Additional photos were provided in 2007. They identified the Juniper Mountain proposed WSA as a large area (comprised of four former inventory units: 1-71, 1-72, 1-85, and 1-86) which they believe have no interior routes which meet the wilderness inventory definition of a boundary road.

In 2008 and 2016, the BLM conducted a field inventory of the area to update its road and wilderness inventory 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.

The BLM's inventory analyses found that several of the routes that ONDA identified as "ways," meet the wilderness definition of a road and, as such, are unit boundaries. Thus, the Juniper Mountain proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is made of several smaller units.

The Eagle Butte unit is bounded by BLM Roads 7155-0-00 and 7155-C0 on the west; BLM Road 6165-0-00 on the south and southeast; BLM Road 6165-C0 on the east.

Interim numbered BLM Road 6165-Q0 was found to be a constructed cherry stem. In addition, the boundary of this unit was changed to remove approximately 45 acres of disturbance including a sunstone mining area, near the eastern boundary, and a pipeline in the southwest corner of the unit. Thus, based on these boundary and road determinations, the BLM identified the Eagle Butte inventory unit to exceed the minimum size criteria at 13,854 acres of BLM administered lands.

Additional background on the process 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 two and one-half miles south of Juniper Mountain proper. The terrain consists largely of large open flats, several ephemeral lakes, a few low, rolling hills, and Eagle Butte. Vegetative cover on the unit is predominantly sagebrush and grasses.

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

In 1980, the unit was described as containing six miles of ways (which were noted as not very noticeable) and 11 lakebed pits in the unit. The waterhole developments at Badger Hole Draw were described as extremely evident imprints of man's work on the landscape. The 1980 inventory concluded the unit as a whole did not appear to be primarily affected by the forces of nature.

ONDA's 2005 Juniper Mountain proposed WSA inventory concluded that Unit 1-85 is contiguous with units 1-71, 1-72, and 1-86, thus forming a 67,948-acre unit. As such, lakebed pits would not have cumulative impact to the area as a whole and therefore appear to be in a natural condition. However, the BLM determined that the ONDA proposal is not one large roadless area, but is in fact several smaller inventory units that must be evaluated individually.

The unit currently contains the following man-made developments/disturbances: 14 waterholes, 3 reservoirs, 13 miles of motorized routes, 8.3 miles of fence, 900 feet of constructed ditch line, 68 acres of weed treatments, and 18 acres of wildfire.

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 (1/4th mile or less) and are thus substantially unnoticeable from further distances. Additionally, the largest developed waterholes/reservoirs are located along the boundary of the unit, thus further reducing negative impacts from the majority of the unit. Additionally, the boundary of this unit was modified to exclude approximately 45 acres

of concentrated mining disturbances near Eagle Butte and a short section of pipeline in the southwest corner of the unit.

Based on a review of all the available information including photos, staff knowledge, and field review, the BLM concluded that the natural condition of the unit has improved since the original inventory. The Eagle Butte inventory unit appears in natural condition where the imprint of man is substantially unnoticeable. Thus, the unit overall was found to be primarily affected by the forces of nature.

(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

The 1980 inventory concluded that a person could not avoid the sights and sounds of others within the unit due to flat topography and the lack of vegetative screening. The unit was found not to offer an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

In 2005, ONDA's inventory identified the larger Juniper Mountain proposed WSA as having outstanding opportunities for solitude based on sheer size as their proposal is contiguous with other inventory units and therefore no longer stands alone. However, the BLM determined that the ONDA proposal is not one large roadless area, but is in fact several smaller inventory units that must be evaluated individually.

The BLM acknowledges that there are some opportunities for solitude within the Eagle Butte inventory unit. However, these opportunities are less than outstanding as the area's characteristic landscape completely lacks vegetative screening and existing topographic screening is insufficient to effectively allow those recreating in the area to avoid the sights and sounds of others.

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 Eagle Butte unit does not possess outstanding opportunities for solitude.

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes _____ No X N/A _____

The 1980 inventory described the area as having the potential for hunting, trapping, and wildlife observation. However, these opportunities were not considered outstanding.

ONDA's 2005 inventory states the larger Juniper Mountain proposed WSA has outstanding opportunities for solitude based on sheer size as their proposal is contiguous with other inventory units and therefore no longer stands alone. However, the BLM concluded that the ONDA proposal is not one large roadless area, but is in fact several smaller inventory units that must be evaluated individually. Additionally, ONDA's inventory identified wildlife observation, photography, exploration, sightseeing, hiking,

horseback riding, and backpacking as potential recreation opportunities within the larger Juniper Mountain Proposed WSA

The BLM acknowledges that there are limited opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation within the Eagle Butte inventory unit including all those listed above as well as rock hounding. However, these opportunities fail to provide a single outstanding opportunity nor collectively contribute to outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation as the area lacks any features/attractions of moderate to high recreation interest.

Thus, for the reasons specified above and based on a review of all the available information including (BLM and citizen provided) staff knowledge, and field review, the BLM concluded the Eagle Butte unit does not possess outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

Description:

Supplemental values were not evaluated, as the unit does not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Number and Name: OR-015-85/ Eagle Butte

Summary Results of Analysis:

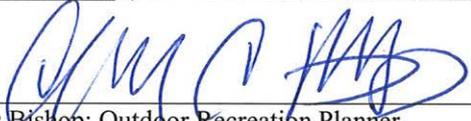
- 1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? X Yes ___ No
- 2. Does the area appear to be natural? X Yes ___ No
- 3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? ___ Yes X No ___ NA
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values? ___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

Conclusion (*Check One*):

___ The area- or a portion of the area- has wilderness character (items 1, 2 and 3 are checked "yes").

X 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

9/15/2017
Date


Jami Ludwig: Assistant Field Manager

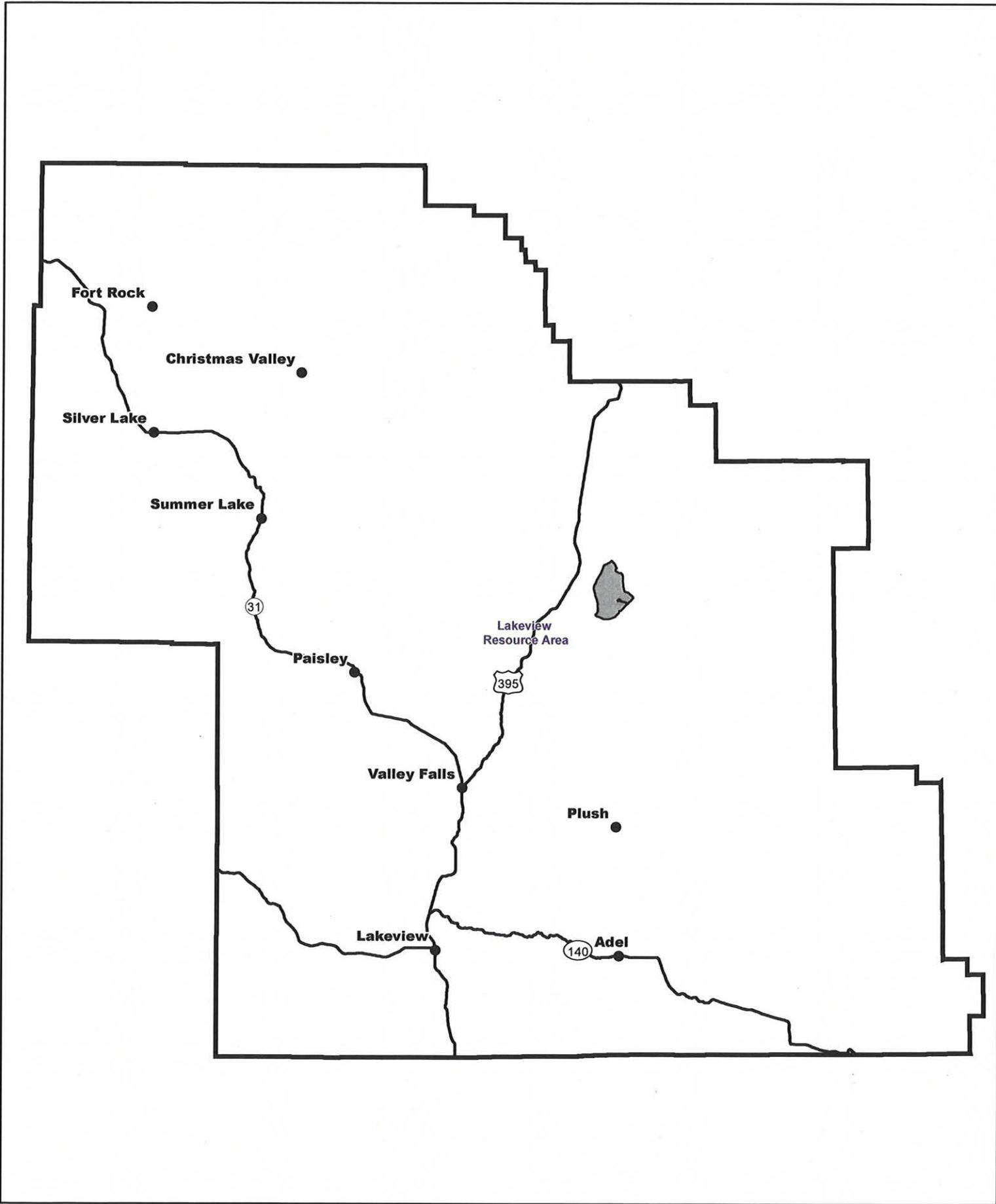
9/15/2017
Date

Approved by:

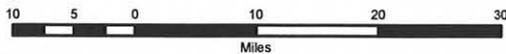

J. Todd Forbes
Field Manager

9/15/2017
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 Character Inventory Unit



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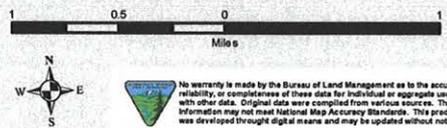
Wilderness Character Inventory Unit
Ownership
 Bureau of Land Management
 U.S. Forest Service
 State
 Private/Unknown

Roads/Trails
 Motorized Routes
 Closed Routes
 Reclaiming Routes
 Motorized and Non-Motorized Trails

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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