

Year: 2018

Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-046/ Fandango

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) **a) Inventory Source:** BLM Wilderness Inventory files for Pacific Power and Light Company (PP&L) Transmission Line: PP&L Roadless Area Inventory Files (1977).

b) **Inventory Unit Number(s)/ Name(s):** OR-010-04-15, 1-46/ Fandango

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** Final Decision - Initial Wilderness Inventory: Public Lands and Islands Which Do Not Have Wilderness Characteristics and Units To Be Intensively Inventoried; USDI BLM - Oregon, August 1979.

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
1-46	14,000	Y	N	N	N/A
1-46*	14,402	Y	N	N	N/A

* The inventory of this unit was updated in 2011. However, due to a State Office-sponsored Wilderness Inventory Consistency Evaluation and subsequent guidance, the 2011 inventory analysis and findings are being replaced by this current 2018 inventory review. Documentation of the 2011 inventory can be found in the wilderness inventory project record.

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

In 1977, the unit was described as gently rolling plateau, broken by a series of low to high rims. Vegetation consisted of desert shrubs and scattered pockets of juniper. It was determined that the unit was natural, with stock water developments and a few “ways” as the only evidence of man’s activities within the unit. Outside impacts included farms and subdivided lands in the distance to the north. It was also determined that the outstanding opportunities for solitude were not present within the unit. Opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation were listed as hunting, hiking, horseback riding, and camping, though none were deemed outstanding. Ultimately, this inventory unit was found lack wilderness values and was dropped from the wilderness review process.

FORM 2

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

Unit Number/Name: OR-015-046/ Fandango

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

Between 2008 and 2016, 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.

The BLM determined that the inventory unit is bounded by BLM Road 6104-00 and private lands on the west; private lands on the north; BLM Road 6104-G0, residential power line right-of-way, and private lands on the east; and a Pacificorp 500-KV power line right-of-way and BLM interim numbered roads 6104-Y0, 6104-YA, 6104-YB on the south. Due to changes in boundary determinations (road and power line rights-of-ways buffer corrections) and cut-outs of unnatural features (private encroachments: pasture, pivot, irrigation ditches, house, outbuildings, well, developed spring, and parking lot) approximately 164 acres were removed from the unit.

Thus, based on these boundary and road determinations, the BLM found the Fandango inventory unit to exceed the minimum size criteria at approximately 14,238 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 unit is located approximately 7 miles southeast of Christmas Valley, Oregon. The unit is approximately 7.5 miles long by 4 miles wide. Topographically, the unit is very diverse with numerous rims, butts, peaks, and drainages. Overall, the unit is dominated by large, broken, rims to the west (Fandango Canyon/Rim, 650 ft. high) and east (850 ft. high), with several low to moderate rims (50 – 200 ft. high) and drainages in-between, running 2 – 4 miles long north to south. The southern end of the unit is dominated by Juniper Top (elev. 5,739 ft.), while the northern end consists of Viewpoint buttes (elev. 4,800 ft.). Approximately 750 acres of the unit is covered in moderate to high-density western juniper stands, along southern rims and buttes. The remaining vegetation is scattered juniper, sagebrush, rabbit brush, and grass.

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

The 1977 inventory found this unit to be in a natural condition with only minor impacts of man present within the unit (stock water developments and a few “ways”). Outside impacts included farms and subdivided lands in the distance to the north.

The unit currently contains the following man-made developments/disturbances: 18 acres of mechanical mowing along routes, 8 miles of fence lines, 5.5 miles of routes, 2 reservoirs, and 2 water holes.

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.

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

The 1977 inventory found the unit lacked outstanding opportunities for solitude.

The BLM determined that there are several outstanding opportunities for solitude across the unit due to topographic and vegetative screening. Topographically, the unit is very diverse with numerous rims, butts, peaks, and drainages. Overall, the unit is dominated by large, broken, rims to the west (Fandango Canyon/Rim, 650 ft. high) and east (850 ft. high), with several low to moderate rims (50 – 200 ft. high) and drainages in-between, running 2 – 4

miles long north to south. The southern end of the unit is dominated by Juniper Top (elev. 5,739 ft.), while the northern end consists of Viewpoint buttes (elev. 4,800 ft.). Vegetatively, western juniper stands have greatly expanded in height, width, and density. Approximately 750 acres of the unit is covered in moderate to high-density western juniper stands, along southern rims and buttes. . Due to the above-described compartmentalized topography and vegetative screening throughout the unit, one would easily be able 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 Fandango 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

The 1977 inventory found that there were opportunities for hunting, hiking, horseback riding, and camping within the unit, though none were deemed outstanding.

The BLM finds the combination and diversity of hiking, horseback riding, backpacking, camping, wildlife observation, exploration, scenery, photography, stargazing, trapping, and hunting are exceptional. The BLM determined options for hiking 14 miles up Fandango Canyon/Rim to Juniper Top and back up the eastern rim of the unit represents a unique opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation.

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

The BLM found the unit to possess archaeological and geological values as well as the presence of pronghorn antelope, pigmy rabbits, mule deer, golden eagle, California bighorn sheep, and sage-grouse habitat.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Number and Name: OR-015-046/ Fandango

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):

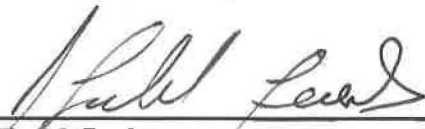

Chris Bishop: Outdoor Recreation Planner

 4/4/18
Date


Jami Ludwig: Assistant Field Manager

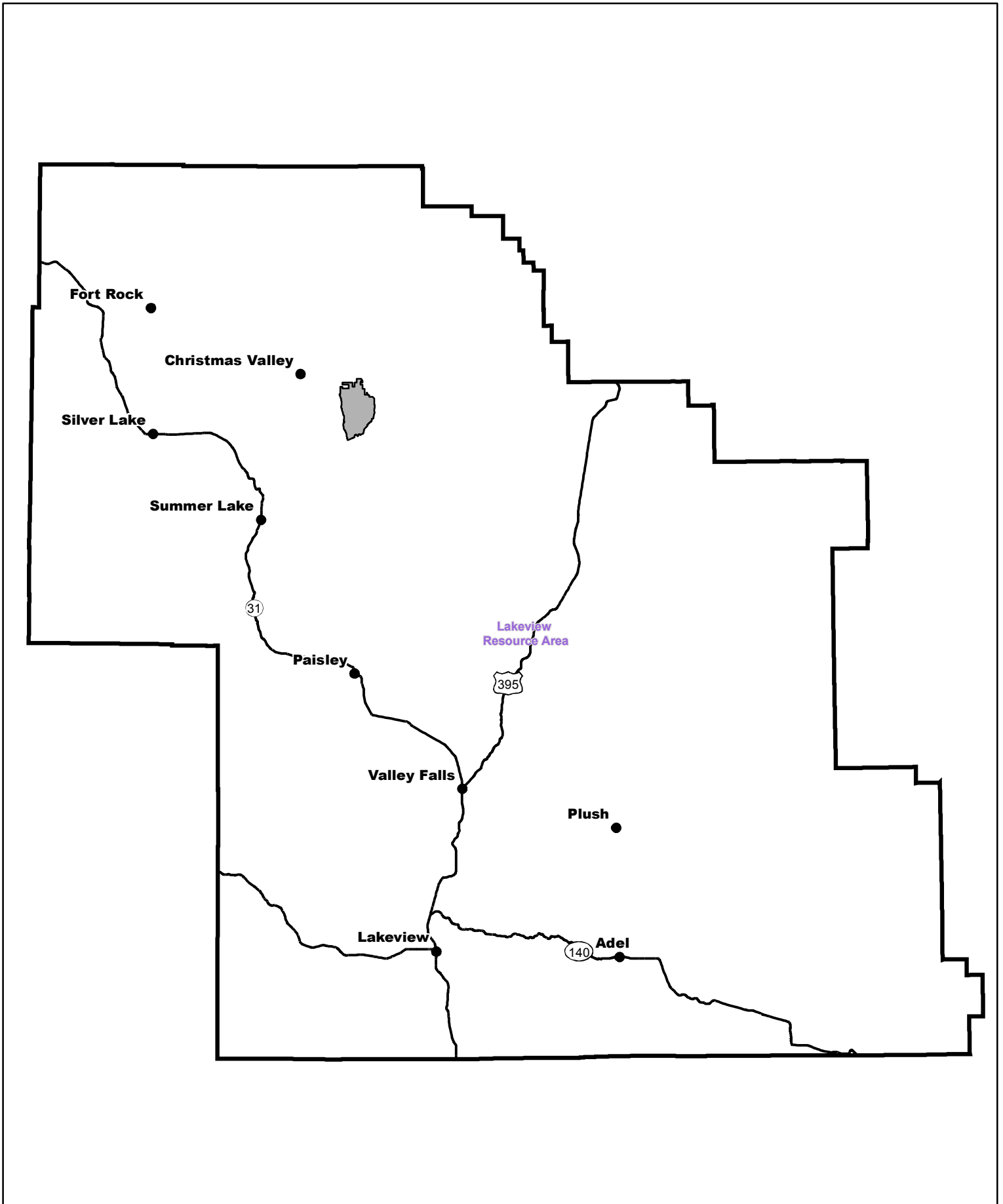
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Approved by:

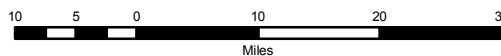

J. Todd Forbes
Field Manager


 6/4/18
Date

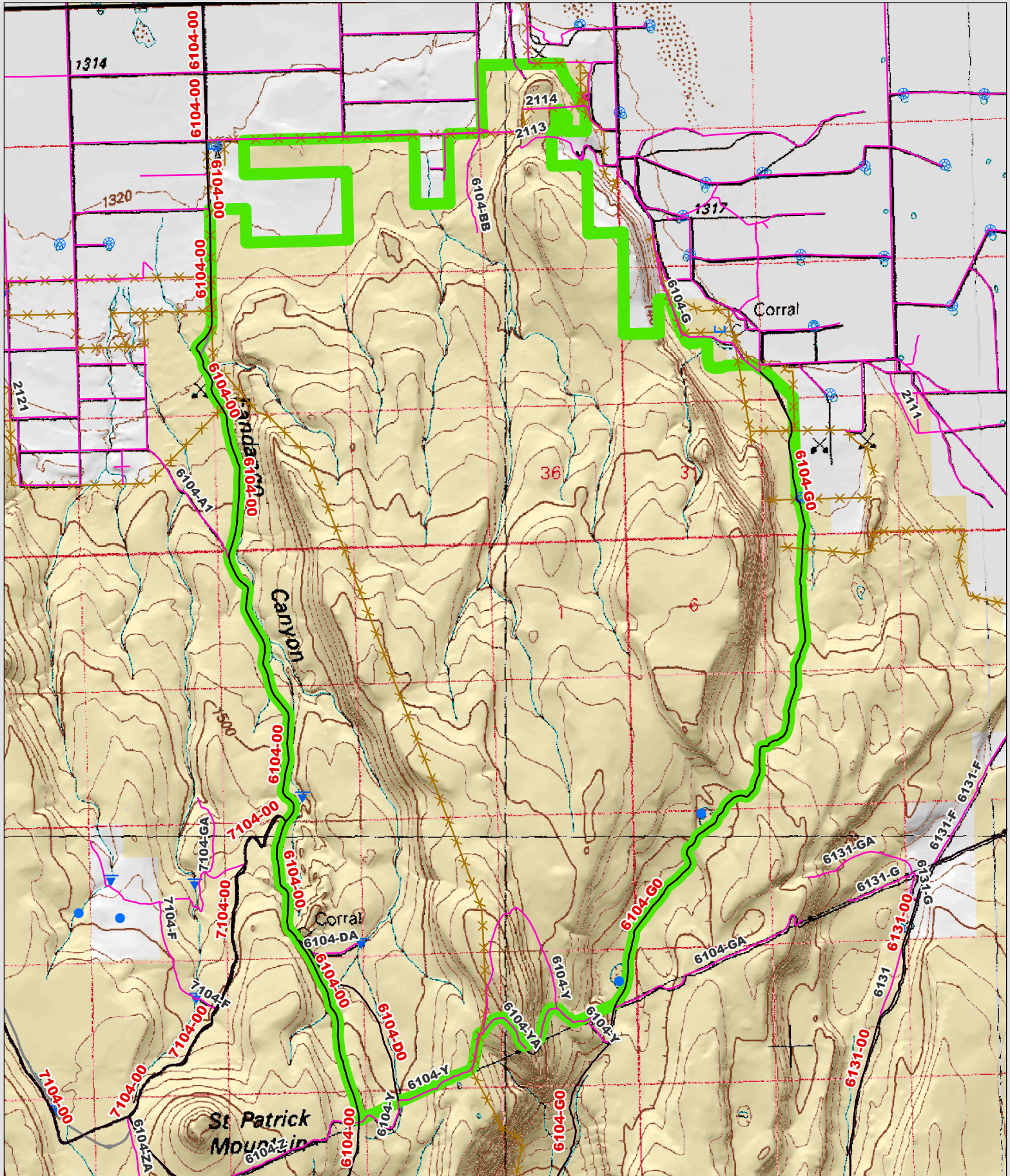
This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under 43 CFR parts either 4 or 1610.5-2.



 Wilderness Character Inventory Unit



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Wilderness Character Inventory Unit

Ownership

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

Roads/Trails

- Motorized Routes
- Highways
- Reclaiming Routes
- Interim Routes

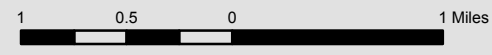
Pipelines and Ditches

- Ditch
- Water Pipeline
- Guzzler
- Fences

Water Developments

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

- Water Tank
- Waterhole
- Well - Water



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