

Year: 2020

Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-128/ Long Lake

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 (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):** 1-128/ Long Lake

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
1-128	9,000	N	N	N	N
1-128*	7,552	N	N/A	N/A	N/A

* The inventory of this unit was updated in 2012. However, due to a State Office-sponsored Wilderness Inventory Consistency Evaluation and subsequent guidance, the 2012 inventory analysis and findings are being replaced by this current 2018 inventory review. Documentation of the 2012 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, this unit was described as a sagebrush flat with low hills providing minor topographic relief. There were 10 ephemeral lakes/ shallow depressions. Long Lake was the most significant. The unit contained a number of manmade features including four miles of

“ways,” five miles of fence line, and eight reservoirs. The unit was affected by the works of man and did not meet the naturalness criteria. The narrow shape and relatively small size of the unit, in conjunction with its limited topography and low-growing vegetation, made it difficult to avoid the sights and sounds of others. As a result, the unit offered only a limited opportunity for solitude. The unit offered some opportunities for hiking, hunting, and horseback riding, however, these were not found to be outstanding. The unit offered some potential for the presence of archaeological values, but none were specifically identified at the time.

FORM 2

DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: OR-015-128/ Long Lake

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

In 2005, the BLM received a citizen proposal from the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) for the 424,570-acre Hart Mountain Proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA). ONDA included in their information a narrative report, maps, photos, photo and route logs, and GIS data. All of these materials were considered during the BLM’s wilderness inventory update for this area. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in 2004. They identified this large area as having no interior routes, which met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (see Map, p. 96 of ONDA 2005). In 2018, the BLM received an additional citizen inventory from the O’Keeffe 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 the citizen submitted inventories mentioned above. This fieldwork included photo documentation of the boundary and interior routes and a re-evaluation of wilderness characteristics for this area. Using the submitted citizen inventories mentioned above 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 several of the routes ONDA identified as “ways” are boundary roads. Hart Mountain proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units, which must be evaluated individually. Based on a review of the O’Keeffe citizen inventory submitted, the BLM revised portions of routes 6162-G and 6162-BA.

The BLM determined that the inventory unit is bounded by BLM Roads 6162-00 on the west; 6162-B0 on the east and southeast; and private lands on the southwest. Additionally, due to changes in road determinations in the northern tip of the area, approximately 7 acres were removed from the unit.

Thus, based on these boundary and road determinations, the BLM found the Long Lake inventory unit was found to exceed the minimum size criteria at approximately 7,545 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 12 miles northeast of the town of Adel, Oregon. The inventory unit is approximately 6.5 miles long by 2.5 miles wide and is largely covered with sagebrush, grass, and a few scattered juniper. Topography within the unit is characterized by shallow (10-35ft. deep) ephemeral lakebeds. The northern third of the unit is flat with low rolling hills and 3 ephemeral unnamed lakebeds. The western-central portion of the unit is comprised of Long Butte, a low angle domed butte, with shallow, ephemeral lakebed depression atop. The eastern-central portion of the unit is dominated by Long Lake, 2.5 miles long by a third of a mile wide. While the southern third of the unit has low rolling hills and 1 ephemeral lakebed at Heads Waterhole. Additionally, the entire unit is within the High Lakes Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), which was established in 2003 to protect unique cultural values.

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

In 1980, the unit contained four miles of “ways,” five miles of fence line, and eight reservoirs. The unit was found to be affected by the works of man and did not meet the naturalness criteria.

ONDA’s 2005 inventory concluded that their Hart Mountain Proposed Wilderness Study Area appears in a natural condition, primarily affected by the forces of nature. “Many of the manmade developments [are]...deteriorated making them appear more natural in the landscape, they do not have a cumulative impact to the area (p. 92-93 of ONDA 2005).” However, as noted above, the BLM found that this proposed WSA is not one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units, within which the natural character must be evaluated individually.

The O’Keeffe Ranch 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 changes to this unit based on this information.

The unit currently contains the following man-made developments/disturbances: 533 acres of seeding (88 acres of which was plowed and disked), 4 miles of motorized routes, 3.75 miles of closed routes, 11.5 miles of fence lines, 15 reservoirs, 13 waterholes, and 2 small dams.

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. The topography of the area also plays a large role in screening disturbances and man-made developments.

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 X N/A ___

In 1980, the unit was found to offer only a limited opportunity for solitude due to the narrow shape and relatively small size of the unit, in conjunction with its limited topography and low-growing vegetation. The inventory concluded that it difficult to avoid the sights and sounds of others within unit.

In 2005, ONDA's inventory identified the larger 424,570-acre Hart 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. As such, the sights and sounds of others could easily by avoided. ONDA noted that there are still flat and exposed slopes, but they do not dominate the entirety of the proposed WSA and one could easily find areas that have topographic screening. However, the BLM did not find this proposal to be one large roadless area, but is comprised of a number of smaller inventory units that must be evaluated individually.

The BLM determined that opportunities for solitude across the area are limited due to shallow topographic relief and sparsely scattered vegetative screening. Overall, the inventory unit is comprised of low rolling hills, a few shallow (10-35ft. deep) ephemeral lakebeds, one low angle butte, and a few, small, pockets of low-density western juniper. Due to the above-described lack of compartmentalized topography and vegetative conditions within the unit, one would not be able to avoid the sights and sounds of others within the inventory unit.

(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 X No ___ N/A ___

In 1980, the unit was found to possess some opportunities for hiking, hunting, and horseback riding. However, ultimately, the unit was determined to lack outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

In 2005, ONDA's inventory identified the larger 424,570-acre Hart Mountain Proposed WSA as having outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation based on sheer size as their proposal is contiguous with other inventory units and therefore no longer

stands alone. ONDA considered potential opportunities for hunting, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, wildlife observation, and photography as outstanding (p. 93 of ONDA 2005). However, the BLM did not find this proposal to be one large roadless area, but is comprised of a number of smaller inventory units that must be evaluated individually.

The BLM finds that all activities listed above in combination with the diversity of camping, exploration, and sightseeing are exceptional. The BLM determined that opportunities for viewing petroglyphs (some of the highest concentrations in the world) along the lakebed rims of Long Lake represent 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 golden eagle, pigmy rabbit, pronghorn antelope, mule deer, and sage-grouse habitat.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Number and Name: OR-015-128/ Long Lake

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

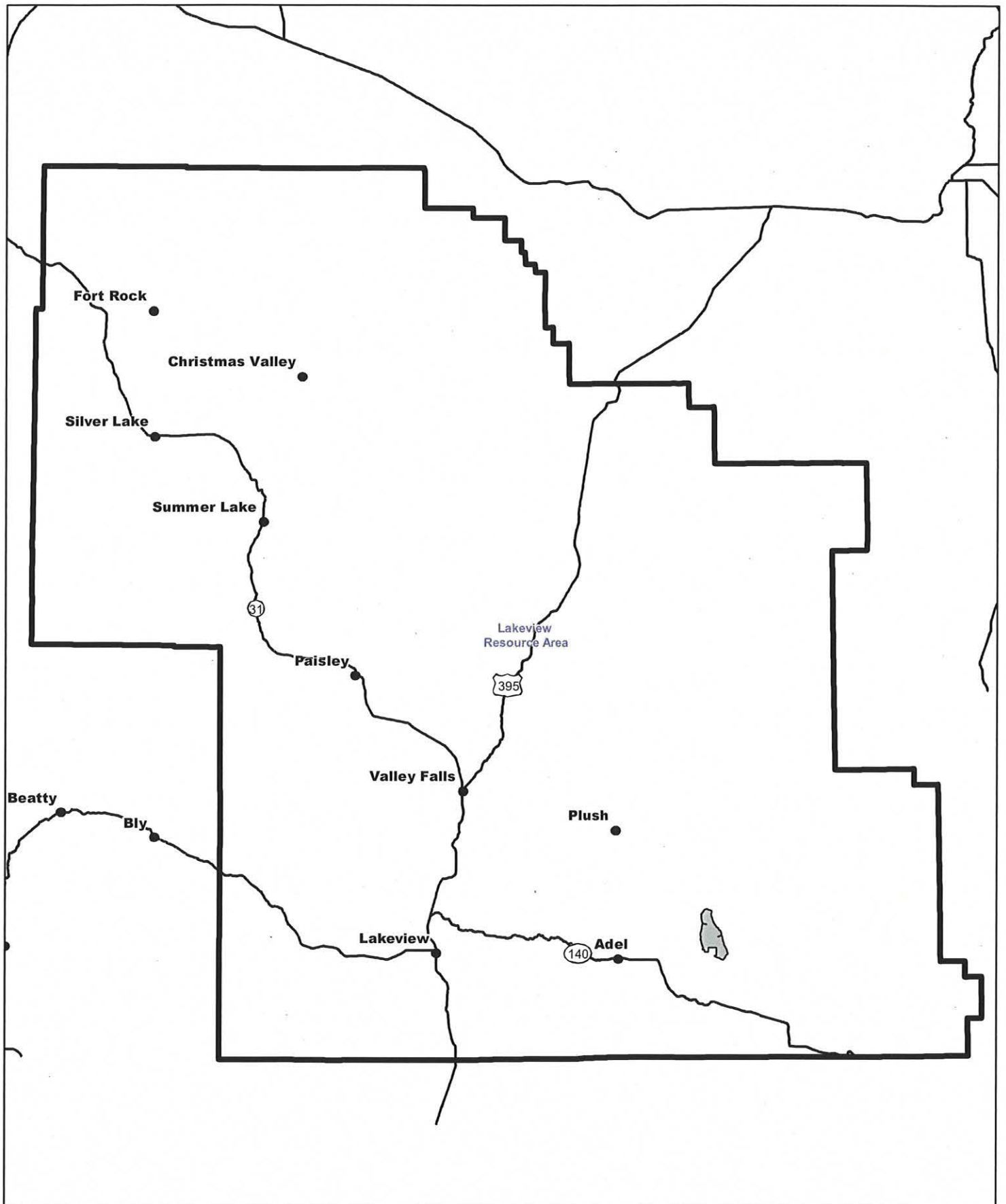
 2/14/2020
Date

Approved by:


Jami Ludwig
Field Manager


 2/14/20
Date

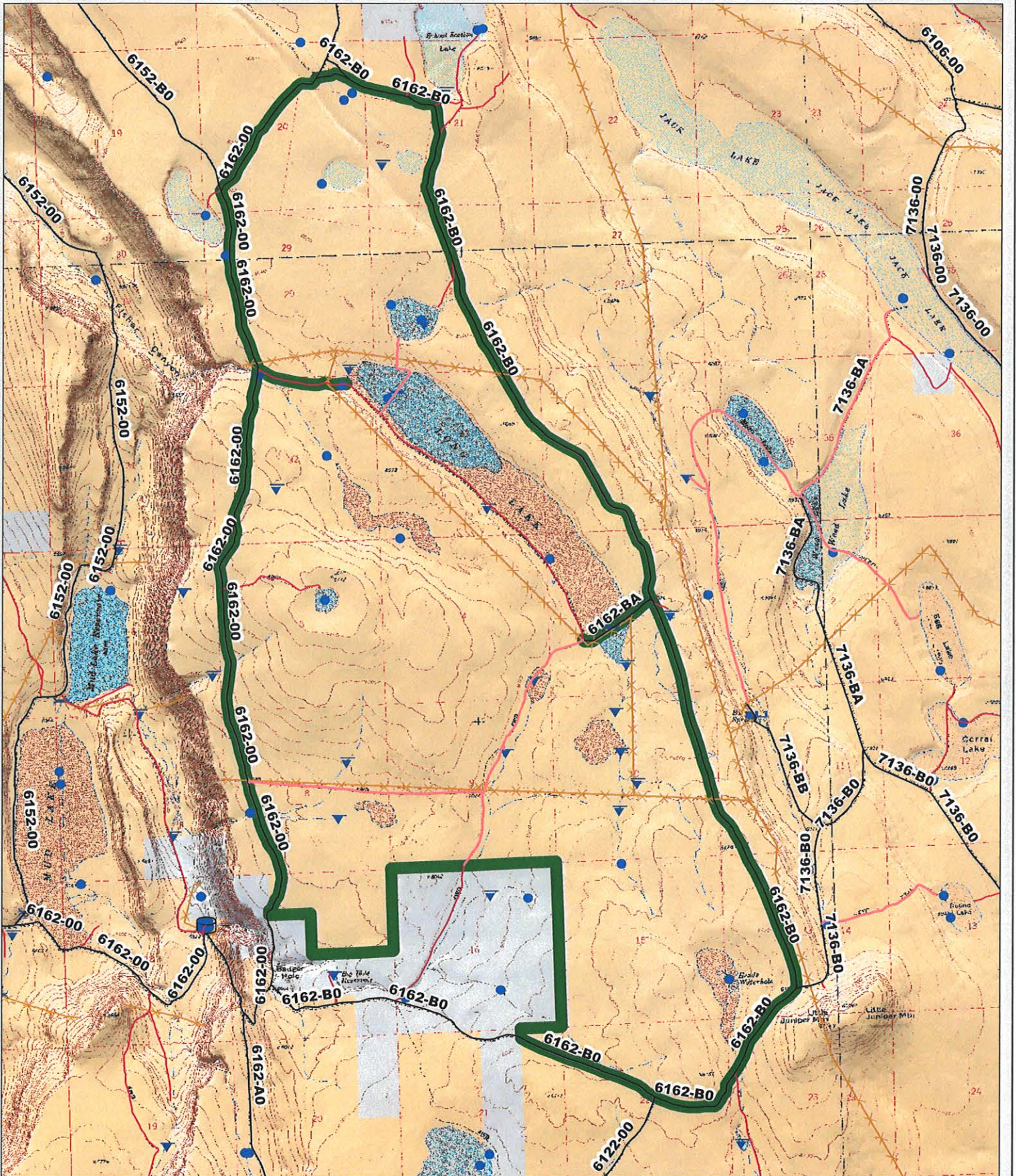
This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under 43 CFR parts either 4 or 1610.5-2.



 Wilderness Character Inventory Unit



 No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.



Wilderness Character Inventory Unit	Roads/Trails	Pipelines and Ditches	Water Developments	Water Tank
Ownership	Motorized Routes	Ditch	Dam	Waterhole
Bureau of Land Management	Highways	Water Pipeline	Reservoir	Well - Water
U.S. Forest Service	Reclaiming Routes	Guzzler	Spring Development	
State	Interim Routes	Fences	Trough	
Private/Unknown	Closed Routes		Water Diversion	

1 0.5 0 1 Miles

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