Year: 2018 Inventory Unit Number/Name: OR-015-140B/ Sagehen Spring North

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): 1-140B/ Sagehen Spring
- 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
1-140B	9,400	Y	N	N	Y
1-140B*	9,593	Y	N	N	NA

^{*}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:

In 1980, Unit 1-140B was described as sage flats and low rolling terrain with minor stream drainages, with a small canyon to the east at Sagehen Spring on private land. There was one extended slope paralleling Road 6116 along the east side of the subunit which dropped off to Sage Hen Flats to the east. There were also two developed springs in the northwest corner of the subunit. There was one short "way" and spring development in the northwest corner of the subunit which was not substantially noticeable. The subunit as a whole was in a generally natural condition with the imprints of man's works substantially unnoticeable. The subunit had only gently rolling contours in some limited areas to screen one from the sights and sounds of others in the subunit. Due to topography, the subunit was not large enough to provide any outstanding opportunities for solitude. Hunting and trapping were potential recreation uses of this area and limited hiking and horseback riding for pleasure could also be undertaken. The opportunities for these recreation activities were not outstanding on this unit due to the limitations of size. The occurrence of springs in the unit was found to be a supplemental value in this region.

FORM 2

DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

Unit Number/Name: OR-015-140B/ Sagehen Spring North

(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 38,953-acre Spaulding proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA) Addition 1. 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 these materials were considered during the BLM's wilderness inventory process for this BLM Unit. The photos submitted by ONDA were taken in August of 2004. They identified the area as having no interior routes which met the BLM wilderness inventory definition of a road (p. 209-223 of ONDA 2005).

Between 2007 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 several of the routes ONDA identified as "ways" are boundary roads. The BLM found the Spaulding proposed WSA Addition 1 is not one

large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units; which must be evaluated individually.

The BLM determined that the inventory unit is bounded by BLM Roads 6116-C0 to the west and north; 6116-00 to the east; 6136-00 and private lands to the south. In addition, approximately 52-acres were removed from the unit due to unnatural features (pipeline) and boundary determination (southwest corner).

Thus, based on these boundary and road determinations, the BLM found the Sagehen Spring North inventory unit to exceed the minimum size criteria at approximately 9,541 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:

This unit is located approximately 26 miles southeast of Adel, Oregon. It is approximately 4.5 miles long by 4 miles wide. Topographically, the majority of the unit is a flat with gently hills (generally 50-100 ft. high) and contains a 4.5 mile rim (100-275 ft. high) running along the eastern boundary. In addition, approximately 4 miles of Sage Hen Creek (5-75 ft. deep) runs the extent of the southern boundary. Overall, the unit ranges in elevation from 5,850 to 6,281 feet. Vegetatively, the unit is composed of sagebrush and grasses.

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

In 1980, historic Unit 1-140B contained two developed springs in the northwest corner of the subunit. There was one short "way" and spring development in the northwest corner of the subunit which was not substantially noticeable. The subunit as a whole was in a generally natural condition with the imprints of man's works substantially unnoticeable.

ONDA's 2005 inventory concluded that because Spaulding proposed Wilderness Study Area (WSA) Addition 1 is now part of a larger contiguous unit totaling 190,380 acres (including Spaulding proposed WSA Addition 2, the Spaulding WSA), man-made features no longer have a cumulative impact on the area. Therefore, the proposed WSA was noted to be primarily affected by the forces of nature (p.212 of ONDA 2005). However, the BLM found that ONDA's proposal did not represent one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units, which must be evaluated individually.

The unit currently contains the following man-made developments/disturbances: 72 acres of chemical treatments, 1.75 miles of fence, 11 miles of motorized routes, 3 pipelines (621 ft.), 1 waterhole, 3 developed springs, and 2 troughs.

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. 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 u	init (or the i	remainde	er of t	he unit if a	a portion l	has been ex	cluded due to	С
unnaturalness	and the rem	nainder is	s of su	afficient si	ze) have	outstanding	g opportuni	ties
for solitude?	Yes	No X	N/	A				

In 1980, historic Unit 1-140B was found to possess some limited areas to screen one from the sights and sounds of others in the unit. Overall, the area was found to lack any outstanding opportunities for solitude due to gently rolling topography and the relative size of the unit.

In 2005, ONDA's inventory identified the larger 190,380 acres proposed WSA Addition (including Spaulding proposed WSA Addition 1 & 2) as possessing outstanding opportunities for solitude because the units are now contiguous with each other and the Spaulding WSA. The diverse topography of the combined area would easily allow visitors to avoid the sights and sounds of others (p. 213 of ONDA 2005). However, the BLM found that ONDA's proposal did not represent one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units, which must be evaluated individually.

The BLM acknowledges that there are limited opportunities for solitude within the Sagehen Spring North inventory unit. Topographically, the majority of the unit is a flat with gently hills (generally 50-100 ft. high) and contains a 4.5 mile rim (100-275 ft. high) running along the eastern boundary. In addition, approximately 4 miles of Sage Hen Creek (5-75 ft. deep) runs the extent of the southern boundary. Overall, the unit ranges in elevation from 5,850 to 6,281 feet. Vegetatively, the unit is composed of sagebrush and grasses. These opportunities are less than outstanding as the area's characteristic landscape 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 Sagehen Spring North inventory unit does not possess 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 _X_ N/A			
In 1980, historic Unit 1-40B was found to possess opportunities for hunting, trapping, and limited hiking and horseback riding. Though, ultimately opportunities for primitive recreation activities were found to be less than outstanding across the unit due to the limitations of size.			
In 2005, ONDA's inventory identified the larger 190,380 acres proposed WSA Addition (including Spaulding proposed WSA Addition 1 & 2) as possessing outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation because the units are now contiguous with each other and the Spaulding WSA. As such, outstanding opportunities would further enhance wilderness characteristics found in the Spaulding WSA. ONDA specifically noted hiking, horseback riding, photography, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, hunting, and camping (p. 213 of ONDA 2005). However, the BLM found that ONDA's proposal did not represent one large roadless unit, but is comprised of several smaller inventory units, which must be evaluated individually.			
The BLM finds the unit offers limited opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, backpacking, camping, wildlife observation, exploration, scenery, photography, stargazing, trapping, and hunting. However, the BLM determined that the unit does not possess outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation through either the diversity of recreational activities possible in the area or by the outstanding quality of one opportunity relative to opportunities found within the Lakeview Resource Area.			
(5) Does the unit have supplemental values? Yes No N/AX			
Supplemental values were not evaluated as the unit was determined to lack both outstanding opportunities for solitude and or primitive and unconfined recreation, and			

therefore does not meet the minimum wilderness criteria.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Number/Name:	OR-015-140B	Sagehen Spring	North
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Summary Results of Analysis:	
1. Does the area meet the size requi	rements? X Yes No
2. Does the area appear to be natura	1? <u>X</u> Yes No
3. Does the area offer outstanding o unconfined type of recreation?	pportunities for solitude or a primitive and Yes _ X _ No NA
4. Does the area have supplemental	values? Yes No _X_ NA
Conclusion (Check One):	
The area- or a portion (items 1, 2 and 3 must be	tion of the area- has wilderness character: checked "yes").
X The area does not and 3 are checked "no").	have wilderness character: (any of items 1, 2
Prepared by (Member Names and Titles):	
Chris Bishop: Outdoor Recreation Planner	10/18/2018 Date
Jami Ludwig: Assistant Field Manager	
Approved by:	
J. Todd Forbes	<u> 0 18 18</u> Date
Field Manager	

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.



