

## 2008 John Day Basin Wilderness Character Evaluation Form

## Wilderness Character Evaluation For: OR-054-025/ Black Snag Springs Inventory Unit

1. Previous BLM wilderness inventory?

No $\qquad$ Yes $\qquad$ Partial $\qquad$
a) Inventory Source: Bureau of Land Management, OR/WA Wilderness Review Initial Inventory Final Decision, August 1979.
b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Mt. Misery / OR-5-10
c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): 1979 Final Decision- Initial Wilderness Inventory Map
d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Prineville District Office

| Unit\#/ <br> Name | Size <br> (historic <br> acres) | Natural <br> Condition? <br> Y/N | Outstanding <br> Solitude? <br> Y/N | Outstanding <br>  <br> Unconfined <br> Recreation? <br> Y/N | Supplemental <br> Values? <br> Y/N |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| OR-5-10 <br> Mt. Misery | 5,055 | Y | N | N | Y |

## 2. New Wilderness Characteristic Review

Private Recommendation: $\qquad$ by? $\qquad$ Date $\qquad$
Results of BLM Analysis: (separate by subunit if appropriate)

| Unit\#/ <br> Name | Size <br> (acres) | Natural <br> Condition? <br> Y/N/NA | Outstanding <br> Solitude? <br> Y/N/NA | Outstanding <br>  <br> Unconfined <br> Recreation? <br> Y/N/NA | Supplemental <br> Values? <br> Y/N/NA |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Black Snag <br> Springs <br> Subunit A | 5,013 | Y | N | N | Y |
| Black Snag <br> Springs <br> Subunit B <br> Scattered | 1,507 | NA | NA | NA | NA |


| Parcels |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Conclusion
Check One:
$\qquad$ Area reviewed lacks sufficient size and does not meet one of the exceptions for small size.
$\qquad$ The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.
_X_The area does not have wilderness character.
(1) Describe current conditions: (Include boundary features, land ownership, size, location, topography, vegetation features and summary of major human uses/activities).

The inventory unit is located in Wheeler and Grant Counties, Oregon, approximately 1 miles south of the community of Kimberly. The unit is bordered on the north and south by private lands and one small state parcel, and on the east and west by all private lands. The unit is split into two subunits, Subunit A, which is the largest, and Subunit B which is made up of five small scattered parcels that are each cut off from Subunit A by various ROWs. Each of the small scattered parcels in Subunit B lacks sufficient size to be considered as wilderness, and does not meet one of the exceptions for small size.

The topography of the inventory unit features a large reddish-brown basalt bluff that runs from the northeast to the southwest portions of the unit and rises sharply from an elevation of 1,800 feet along the John Day River to a high of approximately 5,000 feet. Along the base of the bluff, interesting colorful buttes are found, both inside and outside of the eastern unit boundary due to an irregular public ownership pattern. Vegetation is primarily grasslands with scattered juniper and a few ponderosa pines. The lands are commercially grazed under BLM permits \# 4145 and \# 2662.

## Original Inventory

The lands in the 2008 inventory include lands previously inventoried for their wilderness characteristics under Section 603 of FLPMA. In August 1979, the initial BLM OR/WA Wilderness Inventory effort addressed these same lands, and in 1980 the Intensive Wilderness Inventory for the Mt. Misery Inventory Unit (OR-5-10) addressed these lands in detail. Although the original unit was found to be in a natural condition, it was found to lack outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation. The Final Intensive Inventory Decisions in November 1980 dropped all 5,055 acres within the original Mt. Misery Inventory Unit from further study stating that "the small size, very irregular shape, and topographic features of this unit preclude outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive types of recreation".

## Description of Current Conditions

The original inventory made note of the road ROW (OR 011269) to the Mt. Misery communications site, which is still an active ROW. The original inventory also noted two small sections of way located in T. 10 S., R. 25 E., Section 15, which have now become part of a road ROW (OR 062463). The inventory did not note a road in the vicinity of the current Black Snags Road, so it appears to have been constructed since the original inventory was completed in 1980.

## The Unit is divided into two Subunits, $A$ and $B$ :

Subunit A is bordered on the east by a road ROW (OR 062463), a portion of which is also a BLM-maintained FAMS Road (Black Snag Springs Road \# 7542 B0), on the south by two sections of a 100 foot wide road ROW (OR 011269) which provides access to an FAA communications site, and private lands, and is bordered elsewhere by private lands. The communication site is located outside of the unit. Subunit A is 5,013 acres in size.

Subunit B consists of scattered parcels that are cut off from Subunit a by road ROWs (OR 011269 ) and (OR 011269). The combined acreage of the scattered parcels in Subunit B is 1,507 acres.

Each of the small scattered parcels that make up Subunit B lacks sufficient size to be considered as wilderness and does not meet one of the exceptions for small size. For this reason, Subunit $B$ is not discussed further in this document.

## For Subunit A:

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes $\quad \underline{X}$ No_NA $\qquad$
Describe:
The BLM staff identified the presence of minor improvements such as a short fence and an old corral, and which are substantially unnoticeable.
(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes $\qquad$ No $\underline{\underline{X}}$

NA $\qquad$
Description:
While actual use levels are believed to be very low, the irregular shape of the subunit, together with steep topography that is extremely difficult to access, and a lack of vegetative screening over most of the area, result in a low expectation of solitude. Views from most portions of the subunit are expansive and cover most of the entire unit, making it difficult to find screening from the view of others who are using the area. Any human activities in the majority of the unit would attract the attention and affect the observations of a casual observer.
(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes $\qquad$ No X

NA $\qquad$
Description:
Big game hunting is known to be of excellent quality in this subunit. However, the physical characteristics of the subunit, including the irregular boundary and the steep practically inaccessible bluff area, confine and seriously restrict movement through the majority of the subunit. This makes the opportunity for primitive, unconfined recreation less than outstanding.
(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X
No $\qquad$ NA $\qquad$
Description:
The initial inventory identified scenery and geology as supplemental values due to the large Columbia River basalt bluff the stretches through this unit. The current BLM inventory agrees with this assessment.

## Prepared by:

## Team Members: (Names, Titles, Date)

Initial Review Aug. 14, 2007 by: Heidi Mottl (Recreation/Wilderness), Teal Purrington (NEPA/Planning), Dorothy Thomas (GIS), Anna Smith (Hydrology), Mike Tietmeyer (Range), Dan Tippy (Assistant Field Manager), Rick Demmer (Riparian), Monte Kuk (Wildlife), Robert Vidourek (Forestry), Mike Williams (Planning), Berry Phelps (Recreation), Craig Obermiller (Range), John Morris (Fish), Dana Cork (Transportation), Christina M. Welch (Field Manager), Don Tschida (Fire), Gavin Hoban (GIS), John Zancanella (Cultural), JoAnne Armson (Plants).

Realty/Mineral Records researched by Timothy Finger, BLM Wilderness Specialist on detail from Richland, UT, October, 2008.

## Approved by:



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 either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-2.

## OR-054-025/ Black Snag Springs Inventory Unit

## PURPOSE:

This addendum provides signatory authority across gaps in supervisory oversight in the preparation process.

DISCUSSION:
Further study has been conducted to validate the findings approved by the original signator, Christina Welch. As the new Field Manger for the Resource Area and Ms. Welch's replacement I have been briefed by the specialists assigned on the contents and underlying rationale for the findings contained in this document. I approve these findings with my signature below.

APPROVED BY:


Thursday, July 08, 2010

# John Day Basin RMP Road Analysis Form 

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road for wilderness inventory purposes.)

Wilderness Inventory Area Name and Number (UNIT_ID): OR-054-025/ Black Snag Springs Inventory Unit

Route Name and/or Identifier: Route A, BLM FAMS Road \# 7542-B0, known locally as Black Snag Spring Road (shown as Route A on Map 1).
I. LOCATION: Please refer to attached map and BLM corporate data (GIS). Route begins where it enters public lands in T. 10 S., R 25 E., Section 27, travels approximately 2 miles to the north and exists public lands in T. 10 S ., R 25 E., Section 16. This road is BLM Road \#7542-B0 named as "Black Snag Spring Road" in the BLM FAMS data system. There is also a $1 / 2$ mile spur that leaves the main road in Section 15 and travels to the east, then north where it exits public lands. The spur is part of a road ROW, but is not part of the BLM FAMS road system.
II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE: Provides access for commercial timber hauling from adjacent private lands, for grazing management and for BLM administrative use.

## III.ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Yes $\qquad$ X No $\qquad$ Unknown $\qquad$
This route is a 15 foot wide BLM ROW (OR 062463) for timber hauling from adjacent private lands.

## IV. CONSTRUCTION

Yes $\qquad$ X No $\qquad$
Examples:
Paved $\qquad$ Bladed $\qquad$ Graveled _X-a short section
Roadside Berms $\qquad$ Cut/Fill $\qquad$ Other $\qquad$

## V. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$ Unknown X

By Hand Tools $\qquad$ By Machine $\qquad$

Culverts $\qquad$ Stream Crossings $\qquad$ Bridges $\qquad$ Drainage $\qquad$ Barriers $\qquad$ Other $\qquad$ VI. MAINTENANCE:
A. Is their Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?
$\mid \quad$ Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$
Hand Tools $\qquad$ (Y/N) $\qquad$ Machine $\qquad$ (Y/N) $\qquad$
Explain: This road is a BLM FAMS road and is scheduled to be maintained as necessary. The road has also been maintained in the past under the ROW.
B. If route is in good condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM in the event this route became impassable?
Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$ N/A $\qquad$
Comments:

## VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$

## VIII. CONCLUSION:

To meet the definition of a road, items IV or V, and VI-A or B, and VII must be checked yes. Road: Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$
Explanation: This is a BLM-maintained FAMS road and a road ROW. Evaluator(s): __Heidi Mottl Date: __ 9/30/07

* road: An access route which has been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.
a. "Improved and maintained" - Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. "Improved" does not necessarily mean formal construction. "Maintained" does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.
b. "Mechanical means" - Use of hand or power machinery or tools.
c. "Relatively regular and continuous use" - Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to
maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.


## John Day Basin RMP Road Analysis Form

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road for wilderness inventory purposes.)

## Wilderness Inventory Area Name and Number (UNIT_ID): OR-054-025/ Black Snag Springs Inventory Unit

## Route Name and/or Identifier: Route B, known locally as the Vortec Road (shown as Route B on Map 1)

I. LOCATION: Please refer to attached map and BLM corporate data (GIS). Three sections of this route cross the unit. The route begins in T. 10 S., R 25 E., Section 25 where it enters the unit and travels southwest for approximately $3 / 4$ mile before existing the unit at Section 26. The route re-enters the unit in Section 34 and travels in and out of the unit for another mile before exiting the unit for the final time in T. 11 S, R. 25 E., Section 3.
II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE: Provides administrative access to the Mount Misery Communication site (Vortec Site), access for grazing management, and BLM administrative use.

## III.ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$ Unknown $\qquad$
This route is a 100 foot wide BLM ROW (OR 011269) for access to.the Mount Misery Communication site.

## IV. CONSTRUCTION

Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$
Examples:
Paved $\qquad$ Bladed $\qquad$ Graveled $\qquad$ Roadside Berms $\qquad$
Cut/Fill $\qquad$ Other $\qquad$

## V. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes $\qquad$ No $\quad X$ $\qquad$
By Hand Tools $\qquad$ By Machine $\qquad$
$\qquad$ Stream Crossings $\qquad$ Bridges $\qquad$ Drainage $\qquad$ Barriers $\qquad$ Other $\qquad$

## VI. MAINTENANCE:

A. Is their Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$ Hand Tools ___(Y/N)___ Machine ___(Y/N)_Y_(1)

Explain: The ROW authorizes the FAA to do necessary maintenance to reach the communications site.
B. If route is in good condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM in the event this route became impassable?
Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$ N/A _ X
Comments:

## VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes $\qquad$ X No $\qquad$

## VIII. CONCLUSION:

To meet the definition of a road, items IV or V, and VI-A or B, and VII must be checked yes. Road: Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$
Explanation: This is a BLM road ROW to a FAA communications site. Evaluator(s) $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$ 9/30/07

* road: An access route which has been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.
a. "Improved and maintained" - Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. "Improved" does not necessarily mean formal construction. "Maintained" does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.
b. "Mechanical means" - Use of hand or power machinery or tools.
c. "Relatively regular and continuous use" - Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.


## REFERENCES

## 1. Realty Program

a. Master Title Plats: T. 9 S., R. 26 E., T. 10 S., R. 26 E., T. 10 S., R. 25 E.
b. Case File for ROW (OR 011269) (OR 062463)

## 2. Mineral Program

Oil and Gas Leases - All are Closed
BLM LR 2000 Record

## 3. GIS Program

USGS National Map project
BLM GIS data
BLM Lower John Day River public lands map, June 1991
Google Earth Commercial Mapping System, 2009
BLM FAMS road data

Team Comments for Black Snag Springs Inventory Unit - 8/14/07:
Zancanella- There are paleo ACEC chunks on North End.
Tippy- It is predictable that in timbered areas there are going to be past and future roads.
Thomas- Two roads cut it down to a size too small.
Kuk- The shape is irregular.
Kuk- The road to the radar site washed out and was repaired.
Morris - DR Johnson applied for a right of way so that they can cut timber in that area.
Kuk- There are 300 acres of juniper cuts and the flats are cheat grass and Wyoming big sage flats.
Phelps-The area is in natural condition, but the values are not outstanding for wilderness character.
Morris- There is an administrative Vortac site on Mt. Misery.
Kuk-There is a RAWS weather station up on Mt. Misery.
Tippy- The public can't get to Vortac aircraft site.
Armson-There are ferral trespass horses.
Demmer- There may be Cnemidophorus tigeris (rare lizard). The lizard has one dot on range maps on park service, but JoAnne and I recently found it downstream in Wheeler County.

## PRINEVILLE DISTRICT

gRANT COUNTY

$\underset{60}{100}$



USE PLAT LHi Mo


BCACK SNACT UNT T


## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT <br> CASE RECORDATION (LIVE) SERIAL REGISTER PAGE

Page 1 of 1
Run Date/Time: 06/01/10 04:10 PM

## -

| 41 01-13-1916;44LD513 | Total Acres | Serial Number |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Case Type 281008: ROW-ROADS FED 44LD513 | 60.610 | ORORE- 0011269 |

Case Type 281008: ROW-ROADS FED 44LD513
Commodity 971: NON-ENERGY FACILITIES
Case Disposition: AUTHORIZED Case File Juris: CENTRAL OREGON RA


Serial Number: ORORE- 0011269

| Act Date | Code | Action | Action Remarks | Pending Office |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $01 / 20 / 1961$ | 387 | CASE ESTABLISHED |  |  |
| $05 / 26 / 1961$ | 111 | RENTAL RECEIVED | $\$ 0.00 ;$ |  |
| $05 / 26 / 1961$ | 307 | ROW GRANTED-ISSUED |  |  |
| $05 / 26 / 1961$ | 503 | LENGTH IN MILES | $5 ;$ |  |
| $05 / 26 / 1961$ | 504 | WIDTH IN FEET (TOTAL) | $100 ;$ |  |
| $01 / 01 / 9999$ | 763 | EXPIRES |  |  |

Run Date/Time: 02/06/09 02:01 PM
Page 1 of 1
01 10-21-1976;090STAT2776;43USC1761
Case Type 281001: ROW-ROADS
Commodity 971: NON-ENERGY FACILITIES
Case Disposition: AUTHORIZED

| Total Acres | Serial Number |
| :---: | :---: |
| 10.000 | OROR-- -062463 |



| Act Date | Code | Action | Serial Number: OROR-- |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $08 / 17 / 2005$ | 387 | CASE ESTABLISHED | Action Remarks |
| $08 / 19 / 2005$ | 065 | COST RECON (MON) RECD |  |
| $08 / 19 / 2005$ | 971 | COST RECON (PROC) RECD | $\$ 77.00 ; 2$ |
| $09 / 12 / 2008$ | 065 | COST RECON (MON) RECD | $\$ 923.00 ; 1$ |
| $09 / 12 / 2008$ | 111 | RENTAL RECEIVED | $\$ 712.00 ; 1$ |
| $09 / 12 / 2008$ | 971 | COST RECON (PROC) RECD | $\$ 482.42 ; 1$ |
| $10 / 06 / 2008$ | 307 | ROW GRANTED-ISSUED | $\$ 21.00 ; 1$ |
| $01 / 01 / 2010$ | 097 | NEXT BILLING DATE |  |
| $12 / 31 / 2037$ | 763 | EXPIRES |  |

Line Nr Remarks Serial Number: OROR-- - 062463
0001 WAITING FOR ROAD ROUTE CLARIFICATION
$15^{\prime}$ wide

$10 \cdot 26-30$

Route Name

6207 SF John Day

6203 Franks-Holmes Cr 569 NF John Day 548 Old Logging Rd 578 South Bound GI Ranch Road

6203 Ridge RD 6206 Battle Creek 6583 Un-named 540 Squaw Cree 7542 Un-named
"A" 7542 Black Snag Spring 7542 Vortac 7542 Un-named 7542 McGinnis Cr 7543 Un-named 543 Un-named 7546 Cottonwood 547 Un-named 547 Un-named 6207 Dear Creek 6207 Indian Creek 6562 un-named 6562 North End 6562 South End 6564 Un-named 7549 Skull Canyon Road 7549 Meyers Can 7559 Un-named Clarno Homestead Road 6528 Stoffard Road 6539 Un-named 6539 Un-named 6539 Un-named 6539 Un-named 6539 Three Wells 6540 Un-named 6540 Un-named 6540 Un-named 6540 Glass Buttes 6545 Un-named 6545 Un-named

Parent
Eq. \#
Seg.
1392338. OO

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| 1392496 | OO |
| 132497 | AE |
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| 1392499 | BO |
| 1392500 | CO |
| 1392501 | DO |
| 1392502 | EO |
| 1392503 | OO |
| 1392504 | AO |
| 1392505 | BO |
| 1392506 | OO |
| 1392507 | OO |
| 1392508 | AO |
| 1392509 | OO |
| 1322336 | FO |
| 1392337 | HO |
| 1392450 | DO |
| 1322451 | OO |
| 1392452 | OO |
| 1392453 | OO |
| 1400527 | DO |
| 1392511 | AO |
| 1392512 | OO |
| 1392519 | BO |
| 1392382 | OO |
| 1392407 | AO |
| 1392408 | BA |
| 1392409 | BO |
| 1392410 | CO |
| 1392411 | DO |
| 1392412 | OO |
| 1392413 | AO |
| 1392414 | BO |
| 1392415 | CO |
| 1392416 | OO |
| 1392425 | AO |
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# CORA FAM Roads 

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DO Pull Cut Clean Cattle- Last
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { 14-26-12 NWSW } & \begin{array}{c}\text { Grant } \\ \text { Total }\end{array} & 23.11 \\ & 23.11\end{array}$
Aggregate
4. All year Fair


