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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
PRINEVILLE DISTRICT
3050 NE Third Street
Prineville, OR 97754
(541) 416-6700

2008 John Day Basin Wilderness Character Evaluation Form

Wilderness Character Evaluation For: OR-054-029/ Aldrich Mountain WSA Addition Inventory Unit

1. Previous BLM wilderness inventory?

No ☒ Yes ☐ Partial ☐

a) Inventory Source: N/A

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): N/A

| Unit#/Name | Size (historic acres) | Natural Condition? Y/N | Outstanding Solitude? Y/N | Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N | Supplemental Values? Y/N |
|------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

2. New Wilderness Characteristic Review

Private Recommendation: Yes ☒ No ☐ by? ONDA Date: 12/15/2006

Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) submitted these lands as a portion of its Murderer's Creek Proposed WSA, received by the Prineville BLM on December 15, 2006.

Results of BLM Analysis: (separate by subunit if appropriate)

| Unit#/Name | Size (acres) | Natural Condition? Y/N/NA | Outstanding Solitude? Y/N/NA | Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N/NA | Supplemental Values? Y/N/NA |
|---|--------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| OR-054-029 Aldrich Mountain WSA Addition | 1373 | No | NA | NA | Yes |

OR-054-029/ Aldrich Mountain WSA Addition Inventory Unit

Conclusion

Check One:

☐ Area reviewed lacks sufficient size and does not meet one of the exceptions for small size.

☐ The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.

☒ 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 approximately 9 miles southeast of the town of Dayville in Grant County, Oregon. The unit is bordered on the north by the Aldrich Mountain WSA, and elsewhere by State Lands managed by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) as part of the P.W. Schneider Wildlife Management Area. The unit consists of portions of or all BLM lands in T. 14 S., R. 27 E., Sections 28, 29, 32, 33, and 43; and T. 15 S., R. 27 E., Sections 3 and 4. The unit is 1373 acres in size.

The main feature of the landscape is that the lands all slope to the south, broken by several drainages. The lands are mostly annual grasslands, with a few scattered junipers and more extensive vegetation in the washes.

The common boundary between this unit and Aldrich Mountain WSA is a constructed vehicle route, Route A, which forms the southern boundary of the WSA. During the inventory process, BLM determined Route A to be a road. See Road Analysis Form. Route A separates the inventory unit from Aldrich Mountain WSA, and the inventory unit is too small to meet size requirements on its own.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes ☐ No ☒ NA ☐

Describe:

The inventory found that this unit is not in a natural state due to the vegetation treatments conducted within the unit as part of wildlife management and improvement projects.

Between 1992 and 1997 the BLM, in association with the ODFW, carried out extensive vegetation manipulation projects across the entire landscape, for the purposes of removing invasive medusahead rye. See attached treatment map for details. Three separate areas were burned, seeded with non native seeds, disked, and in some cases replanted, cumulatively covering nearly the entire unit. The BLM and ODFW will continue to carry out invasive species management in the area if further actions are warranted, under existing policies.

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A portion of this unit was burned in a wild fire, which also burned some of the WSA. For the lands outside of the WSA, they were reseeded with some non-native vegetation as a part of the rehabilitation efforts.

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

Yes _____ No _____ NA X

Description:

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes _____ No _____ NA X

Description:

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ NA _____

Description:

The greater area provides important big game habitat. The area is being specifically and intensively managed for these values jointly by the BLM and ODFW as part of the P.S. Schneider Wildlife Management Area.

OR-054-029/ Aldrich Mountain WSA Addition Inventory Unit

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:

Christina M. Welch
Field Manager

Oct. 31, 2007
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.

OR-054-029/ Aldrich Mountain WSA Addition 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:


SIGNATURE

Thursday, July 08, 2010

OR-054-029/ Aldrich Mountain WSA Addition Inventory Unit

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 054-029, Aldrich Mountain WSA Addition.

Route Name and/or Identifier: Unidentified Boundary Route A

I. LOCATION: Please refer to attached map and BLM corporate data (GIS). Route enters BLM land from State land in T 14 S., R 27 E., Section 29, and skirts the southern boundary of the Aldrich Mountain WSA more or less following the contour of the slope for approximately 3 ½ miles until it exits BLM land onto State land in T. 14 S. , R. 27 E., Section 34.

II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE: The route is not open to the public. It is used for administrative access by ODFW for management of the wildlife area, and by BLM to patrol the boundary of the WSA. The original reason for construction is not certain but may have been for range and fire management activities as well as recreational access at one time. It was identified as the WSA boundary in the course of the BLM's first wilderness inventory effort.

III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Yes ____ No X Unknown ____

IV. CONSTRUCTION

Yes X No ____

Examples:

Paved ____ Bladed X Graveled ____ Roadside Berms ____
Cut/Fill ____ Other ____

V. IMPROVEMENTS

Yes ____ No X

By Hand Tools ____ By Machine ____

Culverts ____ Stream Crossings ____ Bridges ____ Drainage ____ Barriers ____ Other ____

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VI. MAINTENANCE:

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

Yes X No

Hand Tools (Y/N) Machine (Y/N) Y

Explain: See BLM FAMS data in reference section. Is it scheduled route to receive maintenance? This route does not appear in the FAMS database and is not scheduled for regular maintenance by BLM, however, BLM has maintained portions of the road with machinery.

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 X No N/A

Comments: The BLM, USFS, and Oregon State have jointly prepared and implemented a travel management plan for the BLM and State lands within the Wildlife Management Area and the USFS lands adjacent to it. This route is important for administration of the wildlife area and the WSA, and maintenance will be allowed as necessary.

VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes X No

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 X No

Explanation: The road receives regular use, was constructed by mechanical means, and will be continued to be maintained for administrative access needs.

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.

OR-054-029/ Aldrich Mountain WSA Addition Inventory Unit

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

Realty Program –

MTPs for T. 14 S., R. 27 E., T. 15 S., R. 27 E.,

Mineral Program –

- a. BLM LR 2000 Record
- b. Oil and Gas Lease review

GIS Program –

- a. USGS National Map project
- b. BLM GIS data
- c. Google Earth Commercial Mapping System, 2009

Mapping Program

- a. Murderers Creek – Flagtail Cooperative Travel management Area Map, 2009

Team Comments – 8/14/07:

Welch- It is adjacent to a WSA, but separated by a vehicle route from Aldrich Mtn. WSA.
ODFW has a seasonal closure

TOWNSHIP 14 SOUTH RANGE 27 EAST OF THE WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, OREGON

GRANT COUNTY
BURNSSTATUS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN
LAND AND MINERAL TITLES

MT. PLAT

| INDEX TO SEPARATED TRACTS |
|---|
| TRACT NO. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 |

FOR SHOWN EFFECTIVE DISPOSAL OF LAND OR
UNDEVELOPED LANDS BECOMING PUBLIC PROPERTY
MINERAL RIGHTS AND OTHER PUBLIC PROPERTY
RESERVED TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT...

ON RECORD FOR PL. SET FOR PL. CONVEYANCE
CONVEYANCE RIGHTS, ALL OF WHICH ARE RESERVED...

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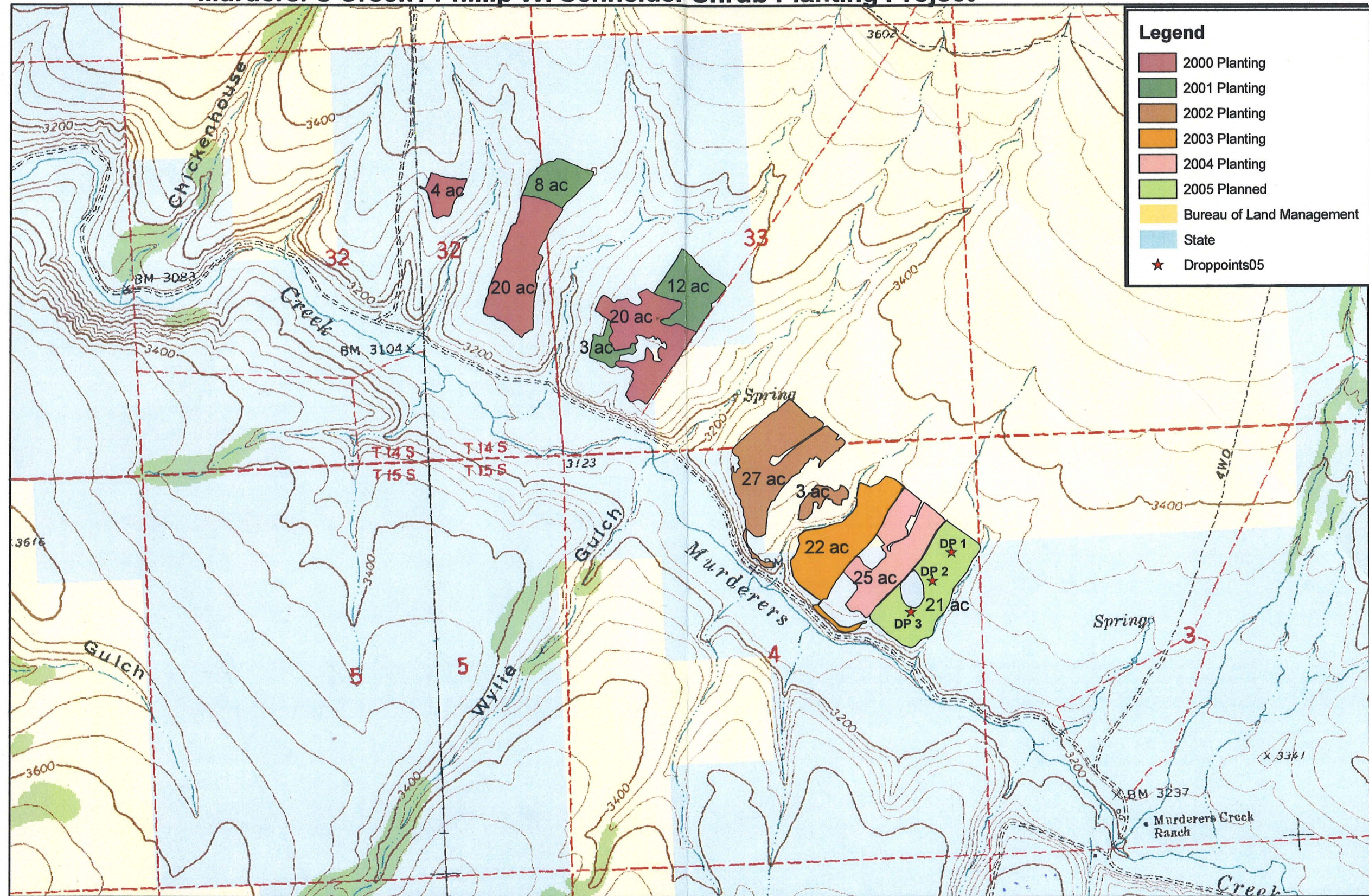
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APPROXIMATE WSA
PAY CABIN CREEK UNIT

Murderer's Creek / Phillip W. Schneider Shrub Planting Project



Aldrich Mtn. WSA Addition
Treatment Areas Through 2004

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3050 NE Third Street
Prineville, OR 97754
(541) 416-6700



1000

MAP 1

UNIT B

T.H.S.

MAP 7

MAP 7

BLM



0000



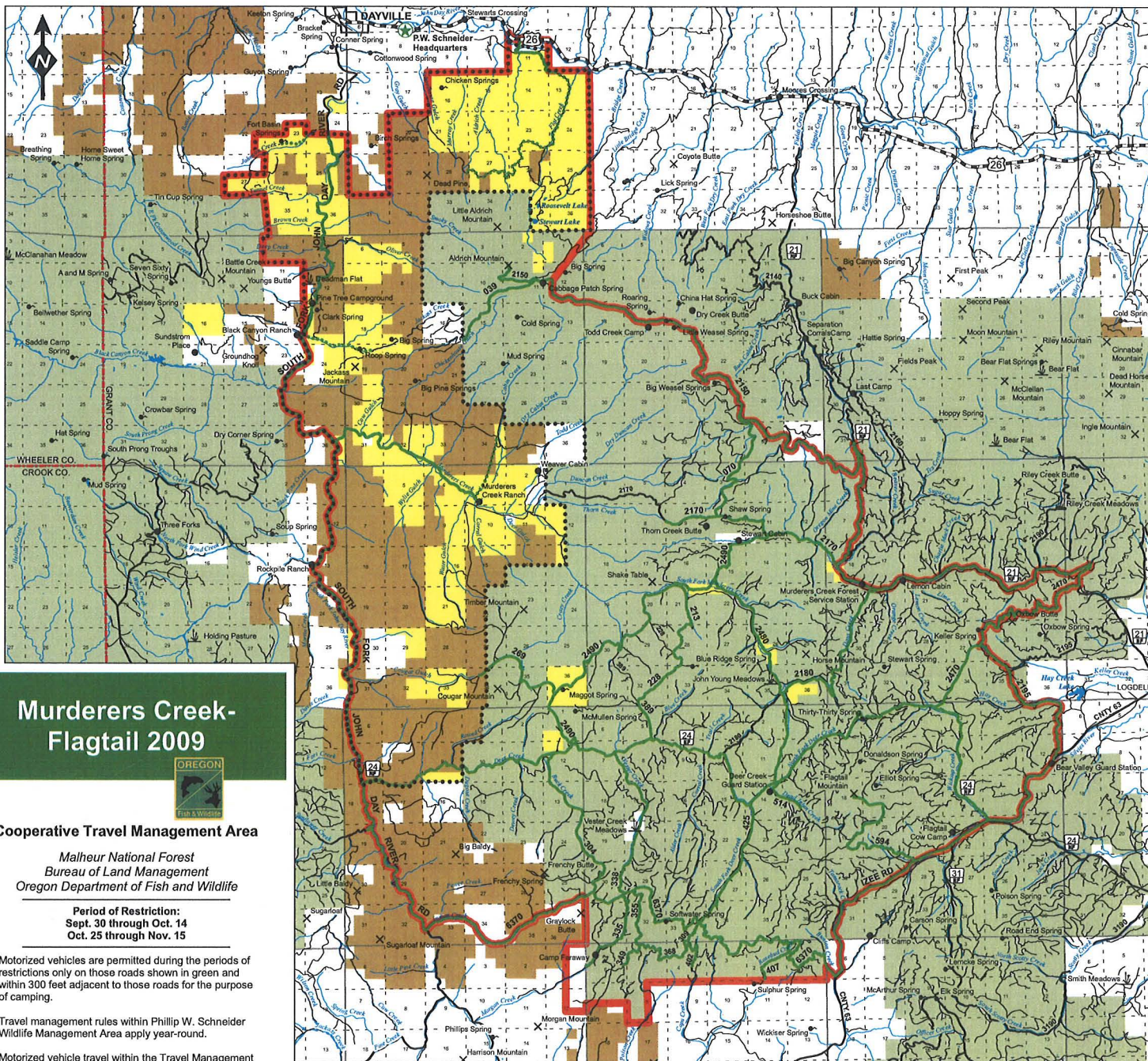
| | ACRES | % |
|--------------|------------|----|
| BLM | 261 | 45 |
| OO&W | 315 | 54 |
| PVT | 3 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 579 | |

UNIT A

| | ACRES | % |
|--------------|--------------|----|
| BLM | 898 | 71 |
| ODFW | 360 | 29 |
| TOTAL | 1,258 | |

| | | |
|-------|------------|----|
| ANITC | ACRES | % |
| BLM | 200 | 32 |
| ODFLW | 420 | 68 |
| | <u>620</u> | |

Q. 27 E



Murderers Creek- Flagtail 2009



Cooperative Travel Management Area

Malheur National Forest
Bureau of Land Management
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Period of Restriction:
Sept. 30 through Oct. 14
Oct. 25 through Nov. 15

Motorized vehicles are permitted during the periods of restrictions only on those roads shown in green and within 300 feet adjacent to those roads for the purpose of camping.

Travel management rules within Phillip W. Schneider Wildlife Management Area apply year-round.

Motorized vehicle travel within the Travel Management Area on all other roads, trails and cross-country is prohibited except by special permit from the appropriate land-managing agency shown above.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Protect soils and wildlife habitat
2. Minimize harassment of wildlife
3. Maintain adequate buck and bull escapement
4. Promote quality hunting

A CONTROLLED HUNT PERMIT IS REQUIRED TO HUNT DEER AND ELK IN THE WILDLIFE UNIT CONTAINING THIS COOPERATIVE TRAVEL MANAGEMENT AREA.



1-800-452-7888

revised 05/2009



The green reflector (dot) system of posting open roads is used in this area. There will generally be no posting of closed roads or areas.



- Travel Management Area
- Open Roads
- Road Closed
- Dec. 1 through Apr. 30
- Phillip W. Schneider Wildlife Area
- County Line
- USFS Land
- BLM Land
- State Land
- Private Land

| Violation Report | |
|--|------|
| If you witness a violation, record information on this form and present it to an official. | |
| Time | Date |
| Vehicle make, model & color | |
| Vehicle license & state | |
| Location / road number | |
| Number of persons involved | |
| Describe violation | |
| Witness Contact Information | |
| Mail to: Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division 255 Capitol St NE, 4th Floor Salem, OR 97310 | |

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