OR-054-034/ Little Aldrich Creek Inventory Unit

2008 John Day Basin Wilderness Character Evaluation Form

Wilderness Character Evaluation For: OR-054-034/ Little Aldrich Creek Inventory Unit

1. Previous BLM wilderness inventory?

No ___ X ___ 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________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit#/ Name</th>
<th>Size (historic acres)</th>
<th>Natural Condition? Y/N</th>
<th>Outstanding Solitude? Y/N</th>
<th>Outstanding Primitive &amp; Unconfined Recreation? Y/N</th>
<th>Supplemental Values? Y/N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. New Wilderness Characteristic Review

Private Recommendation: Yes ___ X ___ No ___ by? ____ Date _____________

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)

<table>
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<th>Unit#/ Name</th>
<th>Size (acres)</th>
<th>Natural Condition? Y/N/NA</th>
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Conclusion
Check One:

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

__X__ 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 lands are a small parcel of public lands located entirely within T. 13 S., R 27 E., Section 27 and which are located approximately 5 miles southeast of the community of Dayville, Oregon. The lands are adjacent on the south side to the U. S. Forest Service Aldrich Mountain Roadless Area and surrounded elsewhere by Oregon State Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Phillip W. Schneider Wildlife Area. See attached maps for details.

The land parcel is a small portion of the lower, north facing slope of Aldrich Mountain. The lands are vegetated with plant species common to the Ochoco Mountains and the greater central Oregon region as a whole and provide critical habitat for elk, mule deer and antelope.

These lands are bisected by an unnamed BLM Road which has a ROW application (OR 3514) pending. The road is designated as “Open Seasonally” through the Cooperative Travel Management Plan jointly developed and implemented by the BLM, USFS, and ODFW for all the lands within or adjacent to the Phillip Schneider Wildlife Area. The portion of the inventory unit north of the road would not qualify for further wilderness consideration, since it is an isolated parcel and is not adjacent to the U. S. Forest Service Roadless Area to the south. (See attached Road Analysis Form.)

The lands are grazed under a commercial permit authorized by the BLM as Grazing Allotment # 4020.

The lands have been previously leased for potential oil and gas development, although there has been no development.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes  X-Partial  No  NA

Describe:

The lands are in a natural condition. There have been no actions which have altered the natural landscape. Adjacent to the unit, the State has recently cleared 158 acres of
juniper for elk habitat improvement and thinned 62 acres of lands for mule deer, elk and antelope critical winter range in the proximity of the public lands. (Project OR0040235). The road which bisects the unit is found on both BLM and USGS maps and is not a natural feature. The road receives regular and continuous use and is maintained.

(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?
Yes  _X-Partial_  No  _  NA  ___
Description:
Only when considered in combination with USFS Roadless Area to the south is the opportunity for solitude outstanding in the portion of the unit south of the road.

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?
Yes  _X-Partial_  No  _  NA  ___
Description:
Only when considered in combination with USFS Roadless Area to the south is the opportunity for primitive recreation outstanding in the portion of the unit south of the road.

(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.
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.
Addendum Signature Page

Thursday, July 08, 2010

OR-054-034/ Little Aldrich Creek 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 Manager 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
John Day Basin RMP Road Analysis Form

Wilderness Inventory Area Name and Number (UNIT_ID): OR-054-034/ Little Aldrich Creek Inventory Unit

Route Name and/or Identifier: Unnamed Road

I. LOCATION: Please refer to attached map and BLM corporate data (GIS). Route begins in T. 13 S., R. 27 E., Section 27, and travels for 1/3 mile across the unit from east to west, bisecting the unit.

II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE: This road provides access seasonally for recreational activities on the Phillip Schneider Wildlife Management Area. It provides access for administrative use by ODFW and BLM and for BLM grazing permit #2040.

III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Yes ____ No ___ X ___ Unknown ____

There is an application filed for a ROW (OR3514)

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
VI. MAINTENANCE:

A. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?
   Yes ____X____ No _________

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

   Explain: See BLM FAMS data in reference section. Is it scheduled route to receive maintenance? This route does not appear on the FAMS database and is not scheduled for maintenance by BLM, however, BLM will allow maintenance by ODFW.

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 open seasonally to the public and is an important route for administration of the wildlife area.

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 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.
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.
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REFERENCES

1. **Realty program**
   a. Master Title Plat for T 13 S., R. 27 E.
   b. Case File Road ROW Application (OR 3514) – Shows on MTP, but unable to print a copy

2. **Mineral Program**
   a. BLM LR 2000 Record

3. **GIS Program**
   a. USGS National Map project
   b. BLM GIS data
   c. BLM Lower John Day River public lands map, June 1991
   d. Google Earth Commercial Mapping System, 2009

4. **Map Program**
   a. Murderers Creek – Flagtail 2009 Cooperative Travel Management Map

**Team Comments- 8/14/07:**
Not discussed.
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. 19 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
landmanaging 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 THE COOPERATIVE TRAVEL MANAGEMENT AREA.

This publication is for educational purposes and may not be used for any suit-
ables for profit, engineering, or surveying purposes. Use of this information should receive
written priority and permission from the managing agency to maintain the wildland value alternative.