

2008 John Day Basin Wilderness Character Evaluation Form

Wilderness Character Evaluation For: OR-054-041/ Dixie Creek Inventory Unit

1. Previous BLM wilderness inventory?

No X Yes Partial

a) Inventory Source: <u>N/A</u>

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

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s) <u>N/A</u>

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

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	0	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 X___ by? _____Date_____

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- 041 Dixie Creek Subunit A (West)	1,273	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OR-054- 041 Dixie Creek Subunit B	773	N	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Center)					
OR-054-	427	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
041					
Dixie Creek					
Subunit C					
(East)					

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.

 \underline{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 approximately 4 miles north of the town of Prairie City. It is bordered on the east by USFS Malheur National Forest Roadless Area. It is bordered on the north by Malheur National Forest general management lands, and on the west and south by private lands. The unit is 2,511 acres in size and contains four large private land inholdings.

The inventory unit is split into three subunits by a combination of two road ROWs and private land inholdings resulting from patented mining claims.

Location of Subunit A: Portions of or all public lands in T. 12 S., R. 33 E., Sections 2, 11, 14, 15.

Location of Subunit B: Portions of or all public lands in T. 12 S., R. 33 E., Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14.

Location of Subunit C: Portions of or all public lands in T. 12 S., R. 33 E., Sections 12, 13, 14.

Subunits A (West) at 1,273 acres, and C (East) at 427 acres, lack sufficient size to be considered as wilderness and do not meet one of the exceptions for small size, as they do not border the USFS Roadless Area. Subunits A and C are not discussed further as they do not meet minimum size requirements.

Subunit B (Center) borders a USFS Roadless Area, and when combined with these contiguous Federal lands with identified wilderness characteristics, it meets the 5,000 acre size criteria.

Subunit B is 773 acres in size. This triangular shaped subunit is bordered on the north by US Forest Service general management lands. It is bordered on the east side by Umatilla National Forest Roadless Area, and a road ROW adjacent to Standard Creek, and by private lands

resulting from patented mining claims. It is bordered on the west by a combination of a road ROW adjacent to Dixie Creek and private lands resulting from patented mining claims.

The unit consists of a ridge located between two steep-sided canyons formed by Dixie Creek and Standard Creek. Vegetation is mixed conifer forest. The BLM Visual Resource Management Class of the area is VRM Class IV.

The subunit is part of the historic Quartzburg Mining District which was heavily mined for gold between 1930 and 1941. Dredges were set up in Dixie Creek and dredge tailings are apparent. Placer deposits continue to be worked today via active mining claims. Past mining and timber management activities have resulted in numerous vehicle routes on public lands in this area which are currently used for both mining and recreation purposes. Recreation uses include OHV activity, hunting, hiking and recreational gold panning. The subunit is authorized for commercial grazing under BLM permits (Dixie Allotment # 4016 and John Coombs Allotment # 3602014).

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition? Yes____ No____ NA_X___

Describe:

Subunit B has been modified by man through years of mining, timber management and motorized vehicle activity. Roads, mine tailings, and stumps are readily apparent, and active mining is currently occurring. The subunit is not in a natural condition.

(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude? Yes _____ No _____ NA <u>X</u> Description:

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation? Yes <u>No</u> <u>NA X</u> Description:

(5) Does the	unit have	supplemental	values?
Yes	No	NA	<u>X</u>
Description			

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

2007

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.

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:

HI Ch Ian SIGNATURE

Thursday, July 08, 2010

REFERENCES

1. <u>Realty program</u>

- a. Master Title Plats T. 12 S., R 33 E.
- b. Case Files
- c. Executive Orders

2. Mineral Program

Mining Claim Report BLM LR 2000 data program

3. GIS Program

USGS National Map project BLM GIS data Malheur National Forest Map 1994 Google Earth 2005

The BLM has identified the following man-made features:

Numerous mining claims and roads

Team Comments - 8/14/07:

In-holdings, too small, and very roaded Dramatic mining: historic and patented County road Hostile neighbors

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MER TWP RNG SEC 33 0120S 0330E 001

Serial Num ORMC156271	Quad sw	Claim Name/Number	Claimant(s) JACOBSON KATHLEEN A	Lead File ORMC156271	Case Type 384201	Status ACTIVE	Loc Dt	Last Assessment 2009
ORMC156271	sw	COUGAR #1	JACOBSON LANCE J	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC156271	SW	COUGAR #1	JACOBSON NEIL I	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC156271	SW	COUGAR #1	JOHNSON KEVIN D	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC156271	SW	COUGAR #1	SNYDER ROBERT C	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC158334	sw	COUGAR	JOHNSON KEVIN D	ORMC15B334	384101	ACTIVE	10/07/2003	2009
ORMC158335	SW	UPPER COUGAR	JOHNSON KEVIN D	ORMC158334	384101	ACTIVE	10/07/2003	2009

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Serial Num ORMC156056	<u>Quad</u> SE	<u>Claim Name/Number</u> PRESENT NEED #3	<u>Claimant(s)</u> GARRISON L E	Lead File ORMC156056	<u>Case</u> <u>Type</u> 384101	<u>Status</u> ACTIVE	Loc Dt 06/26/2001	Last Assessment 2009
ORMC156271	SE	COUGAR #1	JACOBSON KATHLEEN A	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC156271	SE	COUGAR #1	JACOBSON LANCE J	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC156271	SE	COUGAR #1	JACOBSON NEIL I	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC156271	SE	COUGAR #1	JOHNSON KEVIN D	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC156271	SE	COUGAR #1	SNYDER ROBERT C	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC158334	SE	COUGAR	JOHNSON KEVIN D	ORMC158334	384101	ACTIVE	10/07/2003	2009
ORMC162403	SE	KEYSTONE II	DAY ELIZABETH	ORMC162403	384101	ACTIVE	09/30/2007	2009
ORMC162403	SE	KEYSTONE II	JACOB MARY F	ORMC162403	384101	ACTIVE	09/30/2007	2009

MER TWP RNG SEC 33 0120S 0330E 011

Seríal Num ORMC156056	Quad NE	Claim Name/Number PRESENT NEED #3	<u>Claimant(s)</u> GARRISON L E	Lead File ORMC156056	<u>Case</u> <u>Type</u> 384101	<u>Status</u> ACTIVE	Loc Dt 06/26/2001	Last Assessment 2009
ORMC156271	NE	COUGAR #1	JACOBSON KATHLEEN A	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC156271	NE	COUGAR #1	JACOBSON LANCE J	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009

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					Case			
Serial Num ORMC156271	Quad NE	Claim Name/Number COUGAR #1	Claimant(s) JACOBSON NEIL #	Lead File ORMC156271	Type 384201	Status ACTIVE	Loc Dt 11/19/2001	Last Assessment 2009
ORMC156271	NE	COUGAR #1	JOHNSON KEVIN D	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC156271	NE	COUGAR #1	SNYDER ROBERT C	ORMC156271	384201	ACTIVE	11/19/2001	2009
ORMC156704	NE SE	BEAVER STATE #1	RICHARDSON LOIS J	ORMC156704	384101	ACTIVE	06/20/2002	2009
ORMC156704	NE SE	BEAVER STATE #1	RICHARDSON RONALD A	ORMC156704	384101	ACTIVE	06/20/2002	2009
ORMC156704	NE SE	BEAVER STATE #1	SMALL JON D	ORMC156704	384101	ACTIVE	06/20/2002	2009
ORMC156705	SE	EARLY BIRD	RICHARDSON LOIS J	ORMC156704	384201	ACTIVE	06/20/2002	2009
ORMC156705	SE	EARLY BIRD	RICHARDSON RONALD A	ORMC156704	384201	ACTIVE	06/20/2002	2009
ORMC156705	SE	EARLY BIRD	SMALL JON D	ORMC156704	384201	ACTIVE	08/20/2002	2009
ORMC158334	NE	COUGAR	JOHNSON KEVIN D	ORMC158334	384101	ACTIVE	10/07/2003	2009
ORMC162403	NE	KEYSTONE II	DAY ELIZABETH	ORMC162403	384101	ACTIVE	09/30/2007	2009
ORMC162403	NE	KEYSTONE II	JACOB MARY F	ORMC162403	384101	ACTIVE	09/30/2007	2009
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					Case			
Serial Num	Quad	Claim Name/Number						
ORMC138209	SW	AZ #18	Claimant(s) CARLBERG-SEAL JETTE	Lead File ORMC138209	<u>Type</u> 384101	Status ACTIVE	Loc Dt 09/22/1991	Last Assessment 2009
ORMC138209 ORMC138210								
	SW	AZ #18	CARLBERG-SEAL JETTE	ORMC138209	384101	ACTIVE	09/22/1991	2009
ORMC138210	sw sw	AZ #18 AZ #19	CARLBERG-SEAL JETTE CARLBERG-SEAL JETTE	ORMC138209 ORMC138209	384101 384101	ACTIVE	09/22/1991 09/22/1991	2009 2009
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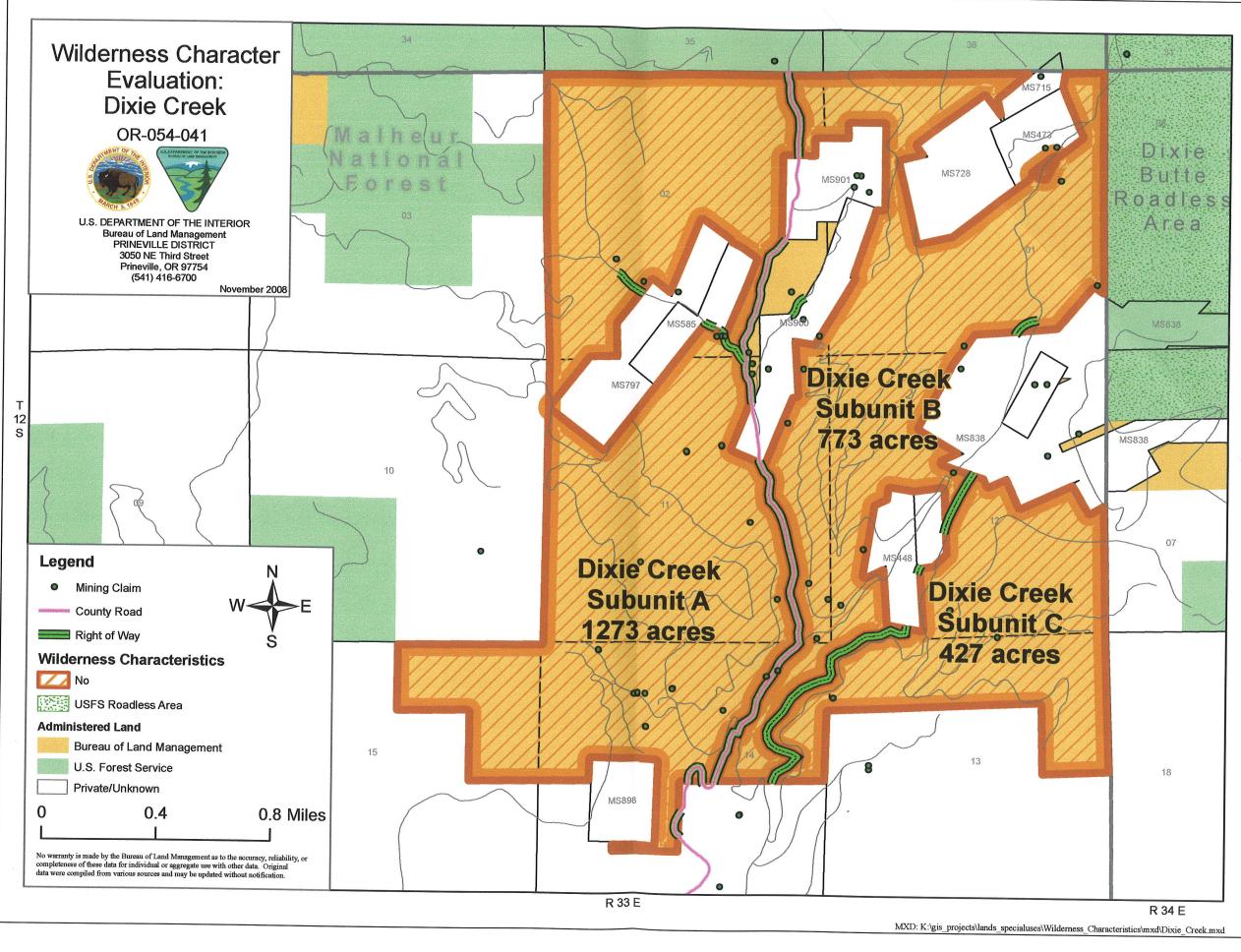
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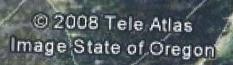
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