









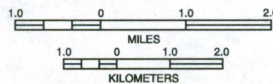
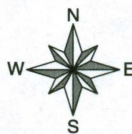


LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
|  | Area Possessing Wilderness Character |  | Bureau of Land Management |
|  | Major Road |  | National Forest |
|  | Other Road |  | National Forest Roadless Area |
|  | Trail |  | State Land |
|  | County Boundary |  | Private or Other |



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

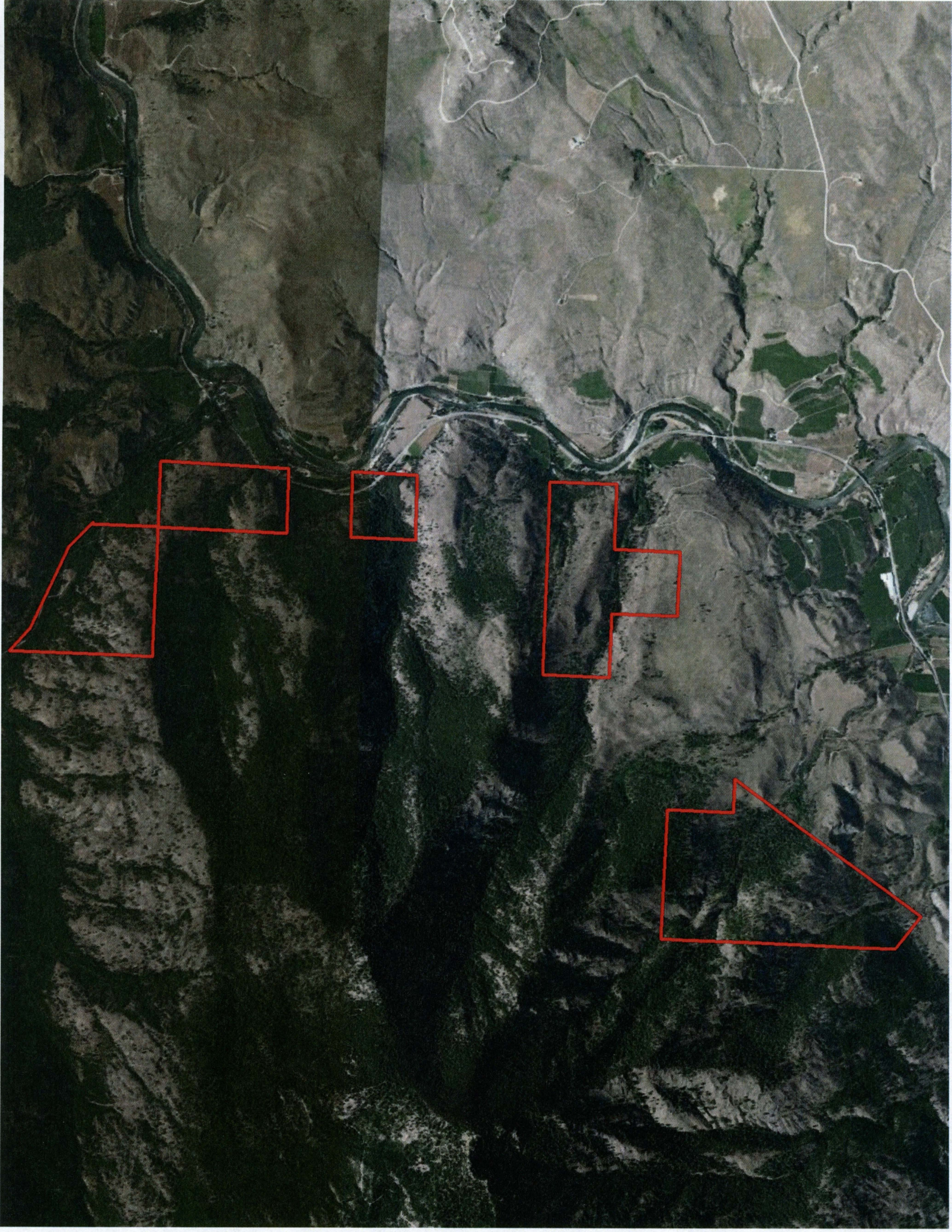
Spokane District
1103 N. Fancher
Spokane, WA 99212
(509) 536-1200

Draft Wilderness Character Inventory Results



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification. M12-11-07

Black Canyon/Slide Ridge Areas





Year 2012 Inventory Unit Number/Name:
Black Canyon Contiguous OR 134-08

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 X (Go to Form 2) Yes _____ (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.):

a) Inventory Source: _____

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): _____

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): _____

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): _____

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):

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics¹:
 Inventory Source: _____

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

FORM 2

Use additional pages as necessary

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

a. Unit Number/Name Black Canyon Contiguous OR 134-08

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Yes X No

[State the BLM acreage of the inventory unit. Describe the boundaries of the unit (roads, property lines, etc.) If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check "Yes" and describe the exception. If more than one inventory unit is involved, list the acreage in each and evaluate each unit/subunit separately. Complete the analysis for (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) for each unit or sub-unit. If you check "No" above, check "N/A" (Not Applicable) in the remaining boxes below, and you need not provide additional evaluation for the unit or subunit. Use additional space as necessary.]

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS: (Include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation features and summary of major human uses/activities).

The five subunits comprising the total 645 acre-BLM inventory unit are contiguous with the USFS 13,701 acre Black Canyon Potential Wilderness Area (PWA). Because the inventory subunits are contiguous with USFS lands that have formally been determined to have wilderness or potential wilderness values during the 2009 wilderness evaluation, each of the BLM inventory subunits currently meet the size exception for consideration for wilderness characteristics. Their acreage plus the acreage of the described contiguous USFS lands is at least 5,000 acres.

Once the final Colville and Okanogan-Wenatchee Forest Plan Revision is completed and signed, if it determines that the contiguous USFS Black Canyon PWA lands will not be recommended as wilderness and managed to protect wilderness characteristics, then the inventory unit will fail to meet size criteria, and thus would no longer have wilderness characteristics if determined by this inventory to have them.

The inventory unit is a mix of approximately 40% conifer forest and 60% open ground. The subunits will be discussed as they appear consecutively going from west to east as: subunits 1, 2, 3,4 and 5.

The north boundary of subunits 2 and 3 is the highway ROW following the south side of the Methow River, and the north boundary of subunit 4 is approximately 70 yards south of that highway ROW. The north and east boundaries of subunit 5 is within .25 to .5 miles from the Highway 153 ROW. The west boundary of subunit 1 is the bottom of Black Canyon.

(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes No N/A

Description:

Because the inventory unit is distant from the BLM Spokane District office, small, and difficult to access, analysis of the naturalness of its condition relies primarily on: 1) Bing 2011 air photo imagery, 2) office knowledge of the inventory unit, and 3) characterizations from the USFS May-June 2009 Black Canyon Potential Wilderness Area (PWA) Wilderness Evaluation which assesses contiguous USFS lands, and those identified conditions which in large part are considered to be the same or very similar to the conditions of the inventory unit.

The overall appearance of all subunits is natural and undisturbed, except for the western approximately 1/8 of subunit 1, since a developed road runs along Black Canyon just inside the subunit's western boundary.

(3) 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 solitude?

Yes No N/A

Description:

None of the five Black Canyon Contiguous subunits provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The presence of Black Canyon Road within subunit 1 provides traffic and intrusion of a man-made feature to the point of providing only minimal opportunities for solitude. The highway, irrigated crop lands and private residences along the north boundary of subunits 2, 3, 4 and 5 remove the opportunities for solitude in those subunits due to the ever present sights and sounds of human activity.

The described man-made features dominate the immediate landscape near the subunits so that they do not provide 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 _____

Description:

The area offers minimal primitive recreation opportunities. Recreation is limited to hunting and cross-country hiking. The sight and sounds of man and the highly altered environment are invasive.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description:

The BLM unit and contiguous USFS area provides suitable habitat for the gray wolf (federally listed as endangered), the grizzly bear, lynx, and bald eagle (federally listed as threatened), and the wolverine, western gray squirrel, and gray flycatcher (listed by the Forest Service as a sensitive species). Lynx, bald eagle, western gray squirrel, and gray flycatcher are known to occur in the area. Gray wolf, grizzly bear, and wolverine are suspected to occur.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Black Canyon Contiguous OR 134-08

Summary

Results of Analysis:

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? X Yes ___ No
2. Does the area appear to be natural? X Yes ___ No
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? ___ Yes X No ___ NA

4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion
Check One:

The area—or a portion of the area—has wilderness character.

The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by:

Team Members:

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Diane Priebe – Recreation, Wilderness

With assistance from Margaret Hartzell – USFS, Wenatchee-Okanogan National Forest

Approved by:

Linda Carter-Maille
Field Manager

11.26.12
Date