

Year 2012

Inventory Unit Number/Name: Lakeview Ranch OR135-15

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

The lands were acquired from the private domain through several acquisitions between 1991 and 2008. No inventory has been done to date. This area is being inventoried at this time due to the initiation of a new Resource Management Planning effort starting in FY 2010 and mandated by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976.

FORM 2

Use additional pages as necessary

**DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY
CONDITIONS**

a. Unit Number/Name Lakeview Ranch OR135-15

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Yes _____ No X

The lands have a total size of 11,847 acres of public lands managed by the Border Field Office, Spokane District of the Bureau of Land Management. The lands are located in Lincoln County located immediately north, and bordering the community of Odessa, Washington.

The 11,847 acre inventory unit is bisected by wilderness character inventory roads, and two powerlines with associated ROW, into smaller parcels which are less than 5,000 acres in size. Therefore, the site does not meet the size criteria for consideration for wilderness character.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

There is a 240-acre private land in-holding within the southwest part of the property, but no other agency public land in-holdings. The public lands are completely surrounded by private lands which form most of the boundary of the inventory unit. Although dried up since 2004, Pacific Lake extends from BLM lands east into private lands along the eastern boundary at the parcel's north end. A water diversion plan to recharge the Odessa aquifer using water from Banks Lake may cause Pacific Lake to refill with water in the future. Due to the +30-foot drop in the Odessa aquifer within the last 10 - 15 years caused by water mining for wheat farming, many of area's ground water resources that previously held water within the parcel are now continuously dry throughout the year.

The Lakeview property sits at the confluence of the Lake Creek and Crab Creek coulees. This is part of the vast Channeled Scablands of eastern Washington, named for the coulees, buttes, and potholes carved by the Missoula Floods over 12,500 years ago. Today, you see evidence of these floods in the outcrops of ragged and scarred Columbia River Basalt bedrock stripped of topsoil. The floods also formed the small pothole lakes, canyons and wet meadows. The surrounding landscape, now wheat fields, was not affected by raging flood waters. Geographic features on

the property include craters, one type resulting from swirling currents during the Missoula Floods, the other type probably created by escaping gas pockets following surface magma cooling. Also, there are low Columbia River basalt formations of a dark coloration, several of which dominate the landscape with very strong forms and line features, especially along some edges of Pacific Lake and in Lake Creek Canyon. Soils are predominantly silt loam, including Roloff, Ritzville and Starbuck series soils. The average rainfall is 10 to 12 inches per year.

The predominant vegetation is a Columbia Basin Shrub-steppe habitat of one or more layers of perennial grass with a conspicuous over story of a layer of shrubs. This community is typically big sagebrush in association with native bunchgrass and some introduced exotics.

In Washington 163 wildlife species (10 amphibian, 88 bird, 50 mammal, and 15 reptile) are associated with this habitat type (O'Neil et al. 2001). Species occurring commonly include the red-tailed hawk, northern harrier, short-eared owl, raven, black-billed magpie, western meadowlark, vesper sparrow, mule deer, deer mouse, coyote, pocket gopher, great basin pocket mouse, and garter snake. Shrub-steppe habitats in Washington have been identified as having the highest number of at-risk species with the lowest level of protection.

Crab Creek is an intermittent stream within the southern boundary of the parcel, which supports a healthy rainbow trout population.

Ethnographic and archeological data for the Lakeview Ranch are somewhat limited, but some prehistoric and historic sites are located on the property. The oldest evidence of human use on the property dates to as far back as 4,000 years ago, when the area was used for hunting, plant crop gathering and fishing. Existing buildings on the ranch date to the 1920's.

In T. 22 N., R 32 E., Section 12 there are a number of ranch buildings clustered together. These are historical and are maintained by BLM. There are also BLM recreational developments located adjacent to the Ranch at Pacific Lake Recreation Site which includes a staging area with parking, kiosks, a restroom, and concrete boat ramp to the dry lake.

Management of the area has focused on supporting wildlife habitat, seasonal livestock grazing, and wildlife-based recreational opportunities.

The BLM issues commercial recreational permits for primitive recreation activities and also actively promotes casual recreation use of a primitive and semi-primitive nature. The area is currently used by approximately 2,000 visitors per year. The chief recreational activities are hunting,

hiking, horseback riding, and motorized recreation along the designated route.

When BLM acquired the lands, the existing vehicle network was evaluated and a number of routes not qualifying as wilderness inventory roads were closed, while others remain open year-round or seasonally for recreational use (see attached Road Analysis Forms and Field Map).

The Lakeview Ranch property was originally used for grazing cattle. The Ranch is divided into seven (7) grazing allotments. There are approximately 40 miles of fencing for the range program.

2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No N/A

Description:

All information provided below is for informational purposes only.

The immediate vicinity of the ranch building and the BLM recreational staging area is not in a natural condition. The ranch main house, outer buildings, corrals, and the BLM staging area are significant man-made intrusions but are localized to less than 5 acres in size.

Lakeview Ranch Road 2, identified by BLM as a wilderness inventory road and located in the northern portion of the unit, has minor improvements located along it, including a cattle guard bridge spanning an irrigation pipe, plus a history of maintenance by mechanical means. See attached Road Analysis Form.

The access road to the property, Lakeview Ranch Loop Road, which runs north-south along the eastern side of the unit, is a well-maintained, graded, signed county road serving a number of private residences. It intersects the northeast portion of the property.

Cemetery Road becomes Napier Road, then is Cemetery Road again and is a maintained road with an easement for a private landowner, and is maintained county road until it reaches BLM land. The road portion that extends into the southwest portion of the Lakeview Ranch property has been identified by BLM staff as a wilderness inventory road. It terminates at the permanent residence within the private in-holding. See attached Road Analysis Form.

The Avista major powerline and associated maintenance road with easement, is a feature that extends across the south end of the property until it intersects with Cemetery Road.

The active power/telephone line serving the in-holding residence and associated ROW is a feature that extends across the mid-southern portion of the property from the residential inholding at the southwest portion of the property until it crosses Lake Valley Loop Road at the mid-eastern boundary of the property.

(3) Does the unit (or the remainder of the unit if a portion has been to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description:

All information provided below is for informational purposes only.

The lands have vegetation and topography screening to an extent which provides a feeling of outstanding solitude. Use levels are low and distances for separation are possible. Although use levels have dropped partly as a consequence of the dropping aquifer, use levels are expected to increase. The parcel is of a sufficient size and shape to accommodate the increase.

(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 X No _____ N/A _____

Description:

All information provided below is for informational purposes only.

The area has a number of recreational point destinations, such as Lake Creek Canyon, Lakeview Ranch Crater, the Lake Creek Trail, and Delzer Falls as well as the expansiveness of the area that offer an outstanding level of primitive recreational opportunities and experiences for both short or for extended periods of time.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description:

All information provided below is for informational purposes only.

Two BLM Sensitive plant species occur within the property: Washington polemonium (*Polemonium pectinatum*) and Snake River cryptantha (*Cryptantha spiculifera*).

There are 8 at-risk bird species, 7 at-risk mammal species, and 4 reptile species at-risk presently on the property, as well as a combined total of 23 additional species of concern.

A number of prehistoric and historic sites are located on the property, including the original ranch building, which dates to the early 1920s.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: Lakeview Ranch OR135-15

Summary

A portion of the unit, those lands located east of Lakeview Ranch Loop Road, are isolated from the rest of the parcel by the county maintained road. These lands are less than 5,000 acres in size and do not possess wilderness characteristics.

The unit is bisected by the major Avista powerline that runs east - west in the southern portion of the property (with associated ROW/service road) and a line continuing northwest to the private in-holding via the BLM road named Cemetery Road that intersects the powerline. The unit south and east of those features is isolated by the features from the rest of the unit. The area of land is less than 5,000 acres in size and lacks wilderness character.

The unit is bisected by the main stem of the motorized use road identified as Lakeview Ranch Road 2, creating a half section unit north of the road, as well as the unit west of the road, both of which are isolated by this road feature. Both of those units are less than 5,000 acres in size and lack wilderness characteristics. See attached Road Analysis Form.

The unit is bisected by a powerline providing telephone and/or power to a residence within the in-holding (actually along the unit western boundary) in the southwest portion of the unit. The powerline with associated ROW is a boundary feature, and runs northeast from the inholding across the entire unit, thereby creating two discreet units neither of which meets the size criteria. See attached map.

A portion of the unit, approximately 5 acres in size, which surrounds the ranch buildings and BLM recreational staging area, is not in a natural condition.

Results of Analysis:

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

Conclusion

The unit does not possess wilderness characteristics because six (6) portions of the unit are isolated by man-made features or have significant man-made intrusions on them, and are individually less than 5,000 acres in size and lack wilderness characteristics.

Lands with Wilderness Character:	0 acres
Lands without Wilderness Character	11,847 acres

Check One:

- The area—or a portion of the area—has wilderness character.
- The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by:

Team Members:

Linda Clark – Border Field Office Manager	Scott Pavey – Planning and NEPA
Tim Finger – Wilderness	Rich Bailey – Archeology
Debbie Plummer – Fire	Dave Gibbins – Law Enforcement
Jerry Magee – Oregon NLCS Lead	Chris Shafer – Range
Robert Beamer – Forestry	Mike Fallon - GIS
Al Gardner - Forestry	Sean MacDougall – Weeds
Anne Boyd – Archeology	Mark Hatchel - Lands
Heidi Honner – Lands and Realty	Mike Sweeney – Minerals
Kelly Courtright – Minerals	Alex Kwan - Engineering
Jason Lowe – Wildlife	Glenn Paulson – Range
William Cook – Safety	Richard Parrish – Fuels
Kerrin Doloughan - Range	
Steve Smith – Wilderness, Recreation, Visual, ACEC, Wild and Scenic River, OHV	

Approved by:


Field Manager


Date

REFERENCES:

1. Realty References:

a. Master Title Plats

T. 9 N., R. 25 E.

T. 9 N., R. 26 E.

T. 9 N., R. 27 E.

T. 8 N., R. 27 E.

b. Realty Case Files:

Land Exchange WAOR 50525

Engineering program Reference:

1. BLM Spokane District Route Inventory (FAMS).
2. BLM Spokane District Route Inventory project, 2007

Range Program Reference:

1. Range Allotment Files
2. Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management

GIS Program reference:

1. BLM Resource Data-Wildlife, vegetation, fuels, watershed
2. Aerial Photos, FY 2009 Google Earth
3. Washington State Gap Analysis Project Final Report, Volume 5, 1997

Mineral Program Reference:

1. BLM geographic report for case recordation and mining claim status in Land Records System (LR 2000).

Planning and NEPA references:

1. Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Acquisition of Escure Ranch, EA # OR 130-09-07.
2. Initial Environmental Assessment OR 130-06-04, Proposed Acquisition of the Escure Ranch.
3. Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, Section 201 and 206
4. Spokane District Resource Management Plan, signed May, 1987, amended 1992.

Lakeview Ranch

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Results

Boundary Feature

- Powerline
- ══ Road

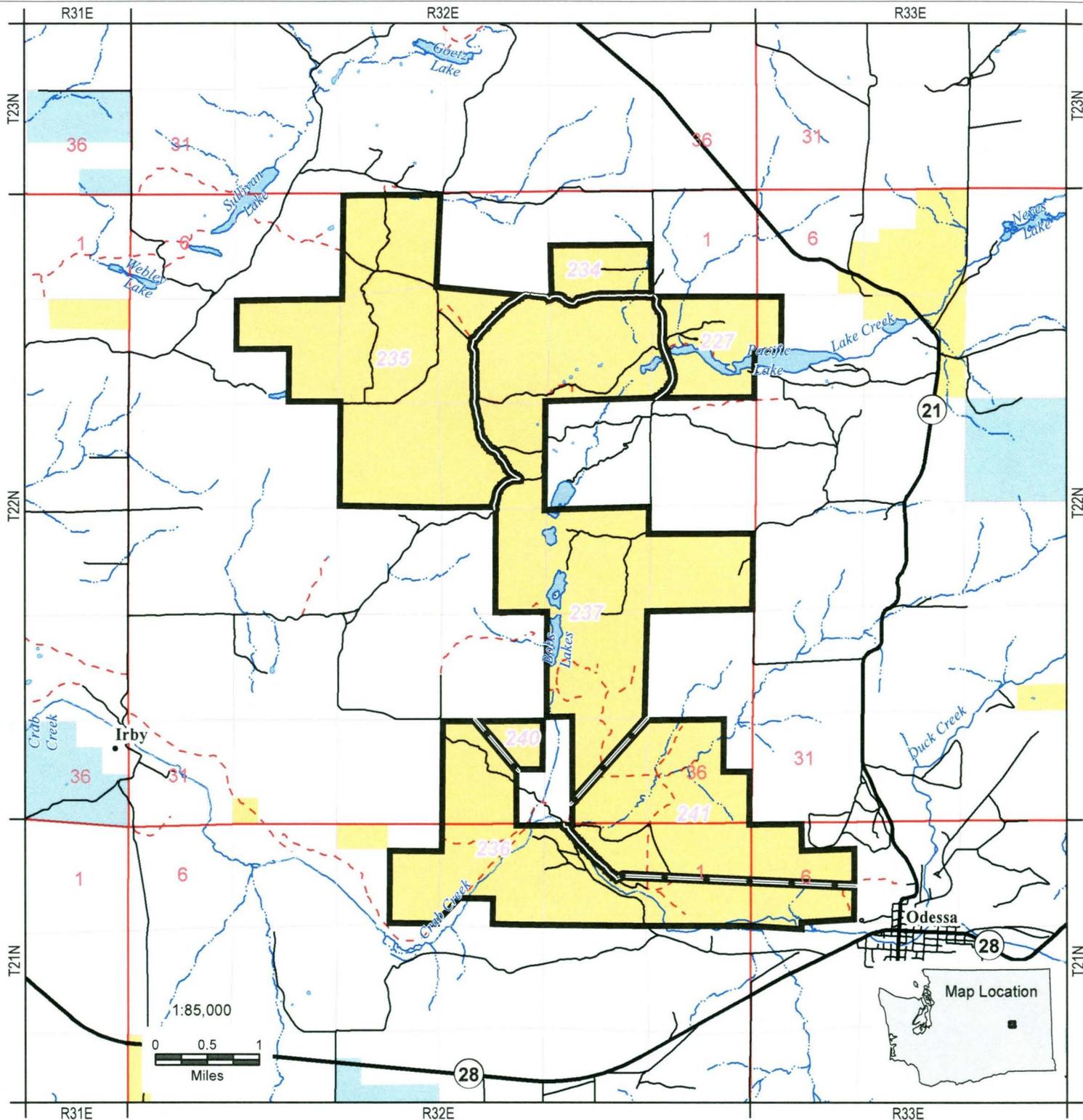
Unit Evaluation

█ No - Wilderness Characteristics

Surface Jurisdiction

- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- WA Dept. of Natural Resources

Unique ID	Unit Evaluation	Acres
227	N	665
234	N	335
235	N	3011
236	N	2216
237	N	3788
240	N	148
241	N	1684
Total		11847



United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Spokane District Office
1103 N. Fancher
Spokane, WA 99212



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.

Final - Oct 30, 2012

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.

**H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON**

APPENDIX C – ROAD* ANALYSIS

**Wilderness Inventory Area Name and Number (UNIT_ID): Lakeview Ranch Unit
(OR 135-015)_**

Route Name and/or Identifier: __Cemetery Road_____

(Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known, include route number supplied by citizen information when available)

- I. LOCATION:** refer to attached Field map, BLM Minerals Management Status Map, 1/100,000 Scale and BLM corporate data (GIS). List photo point references (where applicable): ___T 21 N., R. 32 E., Section 1 to T 21 N., R. 32 E., Section 2; see photos # 11 – 13___

II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE:

Examples: Rangeland/Livestock Improvements (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment).

Describe: This Route is used for access to a private permanent residence, BLM administrative access, range program access by the Range Permittee, and for recreational purposes. The majority of use is the daily use to the residence and for permittee rangeland/stock improvements and operations. BLM administrative use is occasional, as is recreational use primarily for fishing and hiking. Prior to entering BLM land, the road is maintained county road.

III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route? Yes ___ No ___ Unknown X___

- IV. CONSTRUCTION** (Is there evidence that the route was originally constructed using mechanical means?)

Yes No _____

Examples:

Paved _____ Bladed Graveled _____ Roadside Berms _____
Cut/Fill _____ Other _____

Describe: Road appears to have been bladed at construction.

V. IMPROVEMENTS (Is there evidence of improvements to facilitate access?)

Yes No _____

By Hand Tools _____ By Machine

Examples:

Culverts _____ Stream Crossings _____ Bridges Drainage
_____ Barriers _____ Other

Describe: A wood and iron vehicle bridge crosses Crab Creek on BLM land prior to the private in-holding, and there are two cattle guards on the BLM section of the road.

VI. MAINTENANCE (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure continued use?):

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

Yes No _____

Hand Tools ___(Y/N)___N___ Machine (Y/N)_____

Explain:

The road is maintained sufficiently to allow continued daily access to the private residence and for livestock/range operations.

B. If the route is in passable condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM to meet the purpose(s) of the route in the event this route became impassable?

Yes No _____

Comments: _____

VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes No _____

This shows evidence of very regular and continuous motorized use for the purposes of the road.

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 No

Explanation:

Evaluator(s): Smith/Doloughan Date: 6/17/11

* **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.

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.

**H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON**

APPENDIX C – ROAD* ANALYSIS

**Wilderness Inventory Area Name and Number (UNIT_ID): Lakeview Ranch Unit
(OR 135-015)_**

Route Name and/or Identifier: Lake Creek Trail Road

(Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known, include route number supplied by citizen information when available)

- I. LOCATION:** refer to attached Field map, BLM Minerals Management Status Map, 1/100,000 Scale and BLM corporate data (GIS). List photo point references (where applicable): T 22 N., R. 32 E., Section 11 to T 22 N., R. 32 E., Section 15; see photos #1 – 6 and #9

II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE:

Examples: Rangeland/Livestock Improvements (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment).

Describe: This Route is used for BLM administrative access, range program access by the Range Permittee, and for recreational purposes. The BLM administrative use is occasional, while most use is by the Range Permittee and the recreational program. Recreational use is both motorized and non-motorized. The route is noted as a motorized route on the BLM Lakeview Recreation Area Map (attached) and is part of the Lake Creek Trail system, the remainder of which is non-motorized

III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route? Yes No Unknown

- IV. CONSTRUCTION** (Is there evidence that the route was originally constructed using mechanical means?)

Yes _____ No X _____

Examples:

Paved _____ Bladed _____ Graveled _____ Roadside Berms _____

Cut/Fill _____ Other _____

Describe: Unknown – land was acquired with the route already being present and being used by the previous private owners for range purposes. The route shows no evidence of construction, such as rock displacement. It may have been constructed solely by passage of vehicles.

V. IMPROVEMENTS (Is there evidence of improvements to facilitate access?)

Yes X _____ No _____

By Hand Tools _____ By Machine X _____

Examples:

Culverts _____ Stream Crossings _____ Bridges X _____ Drainage

_____ Barriers _____ Other _____

Describe: A cattleguard style bridge allows vehicle passage over an irrigation pipe on the ground surface that runs perpendicular to the road. As shown in the photo log, minor bank cuts created by a grader blade can be found in spots.

VI. MAINTENANCE (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure continued use?):

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

Yes X _____ No _____

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

Explain: A road maintenance record has been found (see supporting documents) identifying tread maintenance of the route in 2007, and it was annually graded in spots for more than 10 years according to Range Program recollection, by use of a blade pulled behind a tractor, or the front bucket of a tractor. That annual maintenance was not documented, but is known to have been done both with a blade pulled behind a tractor, and with a tractor front-end bucket. The BLM uses a mower annually to improve conditions for passage of vehicles suited to the administrative and recreational purposes of the road.

B. If the route is in passable condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM to meet the purpose(s) of the route in the event this route became impassable?

Yes X _____ No _____

Comments: _____

VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes No _____

This route receives occasional use, mostly motorized. There is evidence of considerable use by vehicles – a road tread developed from the passage of vehicles, OHVs, horses and foot.

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 No _____

Explanation:

Evaluator(s): Smith/Kwan Date: 6/17/11

* **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.

**H-6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY MAINTENANCE
IN BLM OREGON/WASHINGTON**

**APPENDIX D – PHOTO LOG
(modify form as needed)**

Photographer(s): Smith/Finger

Inventory Area Name & No.: Lakeview Ranch OR-135-015

Date	Frame #	Camera Direction	Description	GPS/UTM Location	Township	Range	Sec.
6/17/11	1	northwest	Cut	N47 25.239 W118 45.452	22N	32E	11
6/17/11	2	northwest	Cut	45 yds east of frame #1	22N	32E	11
6/17/11	3	northwest	Bridge / Cattleguard 1	N47 25.265 W118 45.682	22N	32E	11
6/17/11	4	north	Bridge / Cattleguard 2	N47 25.265 W118 45.682	22N	32E	11
6/17/11	5	south	Bridge / Cattleguard 3	N47 25.265 W118 45.682	22N	32E	11
6/17/11	6	east	Cut	N47 25.358 W118 45.314	22N	32E	11
8/7/09	7	south	Historic site		22N	32E	24
8/7/09	8	west	Vehicle route / spur off of Lake Creek Trail Road		22N	32E	11
8/7/09	9	west	Vehicle road		22N	32E	11
2/3/11	10	north	Feature: powerline NE from inholding ranch		22N	32E	35
10/12/11	11	northwest	Vehicle road		21N	32E	1
10/12/11	12	northwest	Bridge		21N	32E	2
10/12/11	13	southwest	Powerline crossing Cemetery		21N	32E	2

			Road				
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7/3/2007

[Would be preferable to show photo points on a map of the unit.]























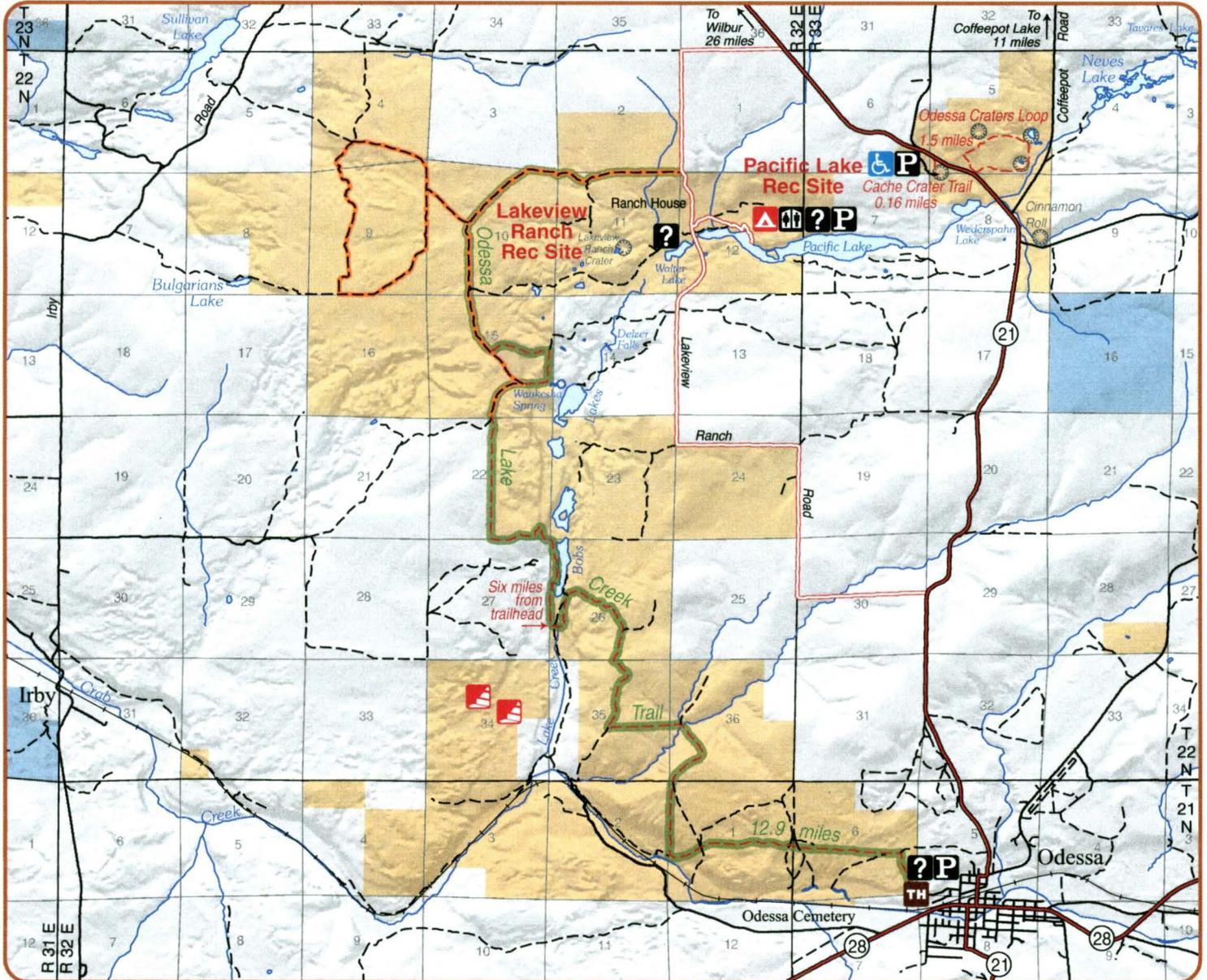






Lakeview Recreation Area

Recreation Opportunities



LEGEND

Recreation

- Camping
- Information
- Parking
- Restrooms
- Trailhead
- Barrier-Free Access

Transportation

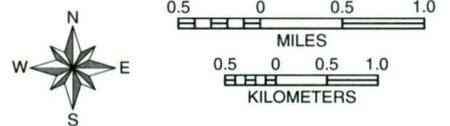
- Highway
- Access Route
- Improved Road
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Other Road or Trail, Access as Designated
- OHV Use Limited to Designated Road
- Railroad

Crater

- Crater
- Geologic Point of Interest

Administered Land

- Bureau of Land Management
- Washington Dept. of Natural Resources
- Private or Other



U. S. Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Land Management
 Spokane District
 1103 N. Fancher
 Spokane, WA 99212
 (509) 536-1200

It is unlawful to trespass on private lands. State hunting and fishing regulations apply to private lands. Landowners are not required to post or fence their lands. Check with private landowners before entering their property.