

Form 1: Document Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings on Record

Is there existing BLM wilderness characteristics inventory information on all or part of this area?

NO (If no, go to form 2)
 YES If yes, and if the area has subunits within the broader area, list the unique identifiers for each of those subunits:

Inventory Source:
 Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s): 006-005
 Map Name(s)/Number(s): _____
 BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Front Range District/ Royal Gorge Field Office

BLM Inventory findings on record: Document existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory area is associated with the area, list each area and answer each question individually for each inventory area):

Document BLM Wilderness Characteristics Findings on Record (Historic Findings)					
Inventory Source Document:					
Area Unique Identifier	Sufficient Size? (YES/NO & acres)	Naturalness (YES/NO)	Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude (YES/NO)	Outstanding opportunities for primitive & unconfined recreation (YES/NO)	Supplemental Values? (YES/NO)

(add rows as needed)

Form 2: Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier: COF-020-070, Red Canyon Acreage: 6,469.1 acres

Subunit:

COF-020-070-A

Acreage: 13,743.7 acres

1. Is the area of sufficient size? :

Yes No

The land meets the size criteria, totaling 6,469.1 acres.

The unit, COF-020-070, is bounded as follows:

- The west and east edges have property lines other than BLM management;
- The southwest edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, Fremont County Road 69;
- The southeast edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, Fremont County Road 24;
- On the southern boundary a wilderness inventory road, BLM 5830D was cherry stemmed within the unit.
- The eastern central edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, BLM 5825;
- The northwestern edge is defined by routes, BLM T5820E, BLM T5825B and CO-020-070-A, due to excessive disturbance.

COF-020-070-A, see form.

2. Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes No NA

The Red Canyon unit, CO-020-070, is located less than 10 miles northeast of Cañon City, Colorado (measured to the nearest point). The topography of the unit is mountainous, with rough and rocky terrain. Many drainages and tributaries are located within the unit creating steep canyon and numerous mountainous ridges. The drainages include, Sand Gulch, Espinosa Gulch, Long Gulch, South Cedar Gulch, Cedar Springs Draw, and Maverick Gulch. The elevation within the unit ranges from 6,700 feet to 9,000 feet. The vegetation consists of mainly piñon- juniper woodland with ponderosa pine and mixed conifers found in the higher elevations and north facing slopes.

A section on the central east edge was cut due to excessive disturbances, an active fluorite mine and another open pit mine was excluded, totaling 14.2 acres.

The remaining acres have many other man-made features found within the unit; however, the accumulative impacts of the features do not affect the overall naturalness of the unit. The man-made features include two trails, BLM T5825A and B, open to foot and horse use. The trails were originally mechanically constructed routes, then designated to non-motorized use in the Gold Belt Travel Management Plan. Over time, the trails have begun to narrow and vegetation grown in around them. The visual impact of the routes are insignificant and do not impact the natural character of the unit.

The unit's north boundary follows BLM trails, BLM T5825 B and BLM T5820E and CO-020-070-A. The routes do not meet the wilderness inventory road criteria as defined by FLPMA (94-1163). The trails do serve as administrative access for the BLM and BLM has a ROW on the routes on some sections (ROW association is along CO-020-070-A). Due to the motorized use, and the ROW association, the routes define the unit due to excessive disturbance.

The other man-made features include multiple ways, mostly located along the drainages. The remaining ways were closed to motorized travel in the Royal Gorge Filed Office Gold Belt Travel Management Plan. It is assumed the ways were originally constructed for prospecting and timber harvest. The ways are still visible, but due to the way being closed, vegetation is beginning to grow over the routes. Perhaps in a couple decades, the routes will no longer be visible.

Other man-made features within the unit include vegetation treatment projects. The treatment projects included mechanical and hand thinning. The project areas are still visible, with stumps and slash piles. Vegetation is beginning to grow over the disturbed area and is not a significant impact to the natural landscape.

The remaining acreage has evidence of mining activity. The disturbances include mines, tailing piles, and prospecting pits. The excluded acreage had an open pit mine, but in the remaining acreage, no other open pit mines exist. The mining impacts are spread out throughout the unit and the accumulative impacts do not affect the naturalness of the unit.

Many of the drainage within the unit have natural springs. The BLM has identified them as potential rangeland improvement projects and re-develop some of the springs. The spring developments once functioning would improve grazing within the area. The springs are developed but many of them are dry at this time and the routes to them have not been maintained.

The accumulative impacts of the man-made features within the unit do not affect the natural character of the overall unit.

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

Yes No NA

The topography within the unit, including numerous drainages provide for outstanding opportunities for solitude. The vegetation provides some screening, but is not an important factor in providing solitude.

4. Does the area (or the remainder of the area 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 NA

Espinosa, Sand Gulch, Long Gulch, Cedar Gulch and South Cedar Gulch give good access to the interior of the unit. As a result, outstanding opportunities exist for hiking, backpacking, and horseback riding, snowshoeing, and climbing. The varied topography and many vantage points at higher elevations provide for outstanding opportunities for sightseeing and photography. Unique rock formations and deep canyons provide for a sense of wonderment and may entice a visitor to explore and travel vast amounts of primitive lands.

5. Does the area have supplemental values?

Yes No NA

- The unit contains elk winter range and mule deer severe winter range.

Summary of Analysis:

Unique Identifier: COF-020-070, Red Canyon

Acreage: 6,469.1 acres

Results of Analysis:

Inventory concluded that the 6,469.1 acre unit possesses wilderness characteristics. The accumulative impact of man-made features in the unit, do not affect the overall natural character of the unit. Topographic relief in combination with many drainages allow for outstanding opportunities for solitude. Primitive recreation opportunities are outstanding in the drainages as well, as they allow excellent primitive travel opportunities to the center of the unit.

On the central east edge, the boundary was modified due to excessive disturbance, 18.3 acres were excluded due to mining activity.

The unit, COF-020-070, is bounded as follows:

- The west and east edges are property lines other than BLM management;
 - The southwest edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, Fremont County Road 69;
 - The southeast edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, Fremont County Road 24;
 - On the southern boundary a wilderness inventory road, BLM 5830D was cherry stemmed within the unit.
 - The eastern central edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, BLM 5825;
 - The northwestern edge is defined by routes, BLM T5820E, BLM T5825B, and CO-020-070-A, due to excessive disturbance.
 - The unit is found in parts of the sections listed in the following townships;
 - o T. 16 S. R. 70 W. Sections: 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33
 - o T. 16 S. R. 71 W. Sections: 13, 23, 24, 25
 - o T. 17 S. R. 70 W. Section: 5
 - o T. 17 S. R. 71 W. Sections: 1, 2, 12, 13.
-
- Does the area meet size requirements or exceptions? Yes X No
 - Does the area appear natural? Yes X No NA
 - Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes X No NA
 - Does the area have supplemental value? Yes X No NA

Check one:

- X The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as land with wilderness characteristics.
- The area does not have wilderness characteristic.

This does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision, and does not represent a decision in regard to how the area will be managed or address impacts of management decisions.

Prepared by:

Evaluator: Janine Prout/Recreation Technician

Date: May 30, 2013

Evaluator: Kalem Lenard/ Outdoor Recreation Planner

Date: July 30, 2013

Evaluator: Ken Reed/ Forrester

Date: August 28, 2013

Evaluator: Chris Cloninger/ Rangeland Management Specialist

Date: September 11, 2013

Evaluator: Matt Rustand/Wildlife Biologist

Date: Sept 11, 2013

Form 3: Route Analysis:

The Route Analysis includes factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road for wilderness characteristics inventory purposes. For the purposes of this analysis, use the following definition of a “road”. This definition is drawn from and the FLPMA legislative history and historic BLM inventory direction.

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.

If a portion of a route is found to meet the wilderness inventory road criteria (see Part III) and the remainder does not meet these criteria (e.g., a cherrystem road with a primitive route continuing beyond a certain point), identify each segment and explain the rationale for the separate findings.

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: COF-020-070, Red Canyon Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: Fremont County Rd (FCR) 69, FCR 24, BLM 5825, BLM 5820, BLM 5820A, BLM T5820E, CO-020-070-A

I. LOCATION:

Refer to attached map and BLM corporate data (GIS). List photo point references (where applicable) or reference attached photo log:

Map Title: Unit, COF-020-070 Red Canyon Wilderness Inventory Map

Map Date: 2013

Describe:

The map shows the parcel inventoried for wilderness characteristics and routes collected by GPS

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

The purpose of a route is not a deciding factor in determining whether a route is a road for wilderness characteristics inventory purposes. The purpose of a route does provide context for factors on which such a determination may be based, particularly the question of whether maintenance of the route ensures relatively regular and continuous

use. The purpose also helps to determine whether maintenance that may so far have been unnecessary to ensure such use would be approved by BLM when the need arises.

- A. 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), recreation, utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment)).

Describe:

- FCR 69: County road, used for regular transportation.
- FCR 24: County road, used for regular transportation.
- BLM 5825: BLM road, used for recreation access and access for mining purposes.
- BLM T5820E: Open to foot, horse and bicycle in Gold Belt TMP.
- BLM T5825B: Open to foot, horse and bicycle in Gold Belt TMP.
- CO-020-070-A: Closed in Gold Belt TMP, can be used for BLM administrative use.
- CO-020-070-C, D, I, G, J: Closed routes in the Gold Belt TMP, can be used for BLM administrative use.

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

B.1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?

Yes _____ No X Unknown _____

Explain:

- FCR 69: Fremont County ROW association, serial # C 44142, ROW in use for its stated purpose;
- FCR 24: Fremont County ROW association, serial # C 44142
- BLM 5825: BLM road, ROW in use for its stated purpose;
- BLM 5825: Has ROW association, serial #: C 15415 50', ROW is currently in use for its stated purpose;
- CO-020-070-A: ROW association # COC 13151, ROW not in use at this time.

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Is there evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means?

Yes, if either III.A.1 *or* III.A.2 is checked "yes" below X

No, if both III.A.1 *and* III.A.2 are checked "no" below _____

A.1. Construction: Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?

Yes X No _____

Describe:

- FCR 69: Evidence of mechanical construction, graveled and bladed.

- FCR 24: Evidence of mechanical construction, graveled and bladed.
- BLM 5825: Evidence of mechanical construction, possibly by bull dozer.
- BLM T5820E: Evidence of mechanical construction, possibly by bull dozer.
- BLM T5825B: Evidence of mechanical construction, possibly by bull dozer.
- CO-020-070-A Evidence of mechanical construction, possibly by bull dozer.use.
- CO-020-070-C, D, I , G, J: Evidence of mechanical construction, possibly by bull dozer.

A.2. Improvements: Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?

Yes X If “yes”, improvements by? Hand Tools by Machine X
 No

- FCR 69: Recent mechanical improvements, culverts and drainage.
- FCR 24: Recent mechanical improvements, culverts and drainage.
- BLM 5825: Recent mechanical improvements, culverts and drainage.

B. Maintenance: Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?

Yes, if either III.B.1 *or* III.B.2 is checked “yes” below X
 No, if both III.B.1 *and* III.B.2 are checked “no” below

- FCR 69, FCR24, and BLM 5825 are maintained to receive regular and continuous use.

B.1. Is there evidence or documentation of maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes X If “yes”, maintenance by? Hand Tools by Machine X
 No

Explain:

- FCR 69: Maintained by machine within the past 1-3 years.
- FCR 24: Maintained by machine within the past 1-3 years.
- BLM 5825: Maintained by bull dozer, within the past 3-5 years.
- BLM T5820E: No evidence of mechanical maintenance. Evidence of use of hand tools.
- BLM T5825B: No evidence of mechanical maintenance. Evidence of use of hand tools.
- CO-020-070-A No evidence of maintenance.
- CO-020-070-C, D, I , G, J: No evidence of maintenance..

B.2. If the route or route segment is in good 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? “Good condition” would be a condition that ensures regular and continuous use relative

to the purposes of the route. Consider whether the route can be clearly followed in the field over its entire course and whether all or any portion of the route contains any impediments to travel.

Yes No

Explain:

- FCR 69: Would be maintained by Fremont county if became impassable.
- FCR 24: Would be maintained by Fremont county if became impassable.
- BLM 5825: Would be maintained by BLM or ROW holder if became impassable.
-

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?

Yes No

Explain: Describe evidence (e.g., direct: vehicles or vehicle tracks observed; or indirect: evidence of use associated with purpose of the route such as maintenance of facility that route accesses) and other rationale for whether use has occurred and will continue to occur on a *relatively* regular basis (regular and continuous use relative to the purpose(s) of the route). Include estimate of travel rates for the stated purposes (e.g., trips per day, week, month, season, year, or even multiple years in some facility maintenance cases).

- FCR 69: Is maintained for regular and continuous use.
- FCR 24: Is maintained for regular and continuous use..

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A and III.B and III.C all checked yes)? If part of the route meets the wilderness inventory road definition and the remainder does not, describe the segment meeting the definition and any remaining portion not meeting the definition and why. Also, describe and explain rationale for any discrepancies with citizen proposals.

Yes = Wilderness Inventory Road

Explain:

- FCR 69: meets the criteria for being a wilderness inventory road.
- FCR 24: meets the criteria for being a wilderness inventory road.
- BLM 5825: meets the criteria for being a wilderness inventory road.
- BLM T5820E: Open to foot, horse and bicycle in Gold Belt TMP.

No X = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

- BLM T5825B: Does not meet the criteria for being a wilderness inventory road.
- CO-020-070-A: Does not meet the criteria for being a wilderness inventory road.
- CO-020-070-C, D, I , G, J: Does not meet the criteria for being a wilderness inventory road.

Evaluator: Janine Prout/ Recreation Assistant

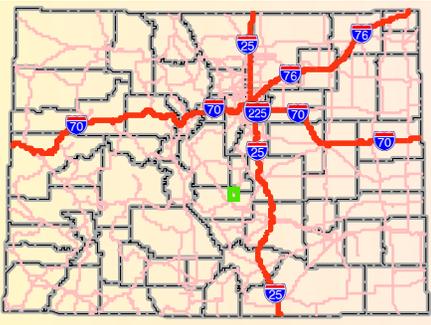
Date: August 27, 2013

PHOTO LOG

Photographer(s): JProut/ Recreation Technician

Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **COF-020-070, Red Canyon**

Date	Frame #	Camera Direction	Description	GPS/UTM Location	Town-ship	Range	Sec.



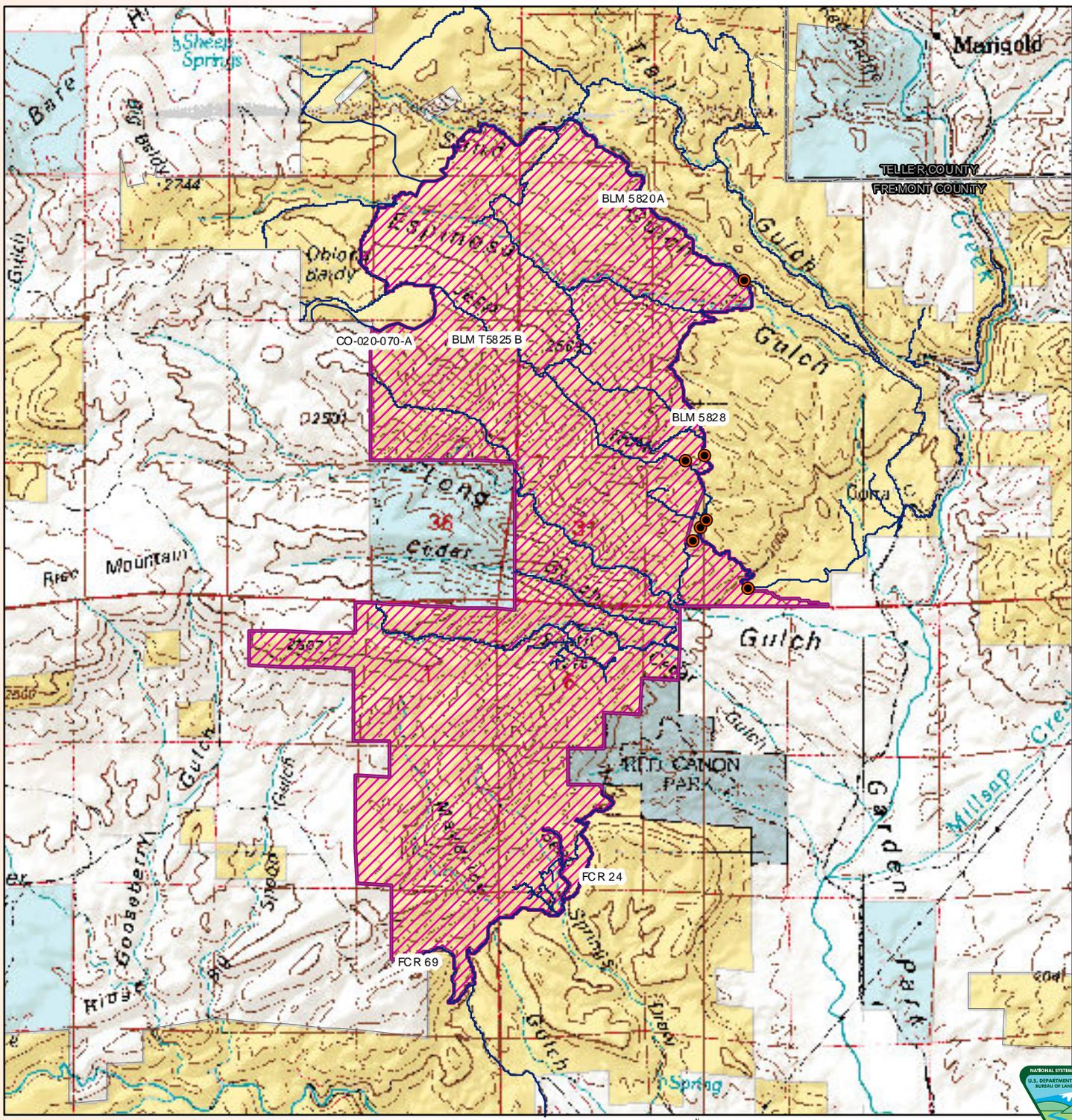
Map Extent Indicator

Map Features

- Photo points
- Inventoried Routes
- Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Parcels
- Counties

Surface Land Ownership

- Bureau of Land Management
- Private
- State
- State, County, City; Areas



COF-020-070 Acreage: 6454.2

NOTE TO MAP USERS: No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the data layers shown on this map. The official land records of the data providers should be checked for current status on any specific tract of land.

BLM - Royal Gorge Field Office
03/14/2013

