

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): 023-002
 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-020-055, Chinamen's Gulch
acres

Acreage: 1,876.6

1. Is the area of sufficient size? :

Yes No

The land is smaller than 5,000 acres but is contiguous with the United States Forest Service (USFS) roadless recommended wilderness area (managed by the Pike/San Isabel National Forest) meeting the size exception 2.a.i.

The unit, CO-020-055, is bounded as follows:

- USFS roadless recommended wilderness area on the east edge;
- The west and south edges are property lines other than BLM management;
- The north edge is bounded by wilderness inventory road CO-020-055-A.

2. Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes No NA

The Ruby Mountain unit, COF-020-055, is located east of Johnsons Village, Colorado less than 1 mile away. The unit is less than 10 miles southeast from Buena Vista, CO (driving miles). It is also located less than 20 miles northeast of Salida, Colorado (driving miles). The unit contains 1,876.6 acres of public lands. There is an 18 acre inholding located within the unit; these lands will not be included in the inventory.

The topography of the unit is rugged, mountainous with many rock outcroppings and steep terrain. The elevation varies from 7,300 feet to 9,500 feet. The vegetation is comprised mostly of piñon-juniper woodland and a few ponderosa pines in the higher reaches.

Most of the unit is managed for off-highway vehicle use (OHVs) as decided by the Royal Gorge Field Office, Four mile Travel Management Plan (2004). Multiple routes are located throughout the unit including Carnage Canyon and Chainmen's OHV loop. It is assumed the routes were originally constructed for mining and timber harvesting. The routes appear to have been originally mechanically constructed, perhaps by a bull dozer. There is evidence of cut/ fill along the routes. The routes impact on the visual landscape is a significant impact to naturalness of the area.

Range use is evident within the unit, stock tanks, fences and routes used for rangeland improvement projects exist. The range impacts are a minimal impact of the landscape.

The man-made feature found within the unit affect the overall naturalness to the unit. Unit, COF-020-055 does not have wilderness characteristics.

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_ X__

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_ X__

5. Does the area have supplemental values?

Yes_ X__ No___ NA___

Description:

- The allotment provides severe winter range for bighorn sheep and mule deer and winter range for elk as mapped by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Summary of Analysis:

Unique Identifier: COF-020-055, Chinamen's Gulch

Acreage: 1,876.6 acres

Results of Analysis:

Inventory concluded that the 1,876.6 acre unit does not consist of naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude and/or primitive unconfined recreation. The visual impact of many off-highway vehicle routes within the unit affects the natural character. The unit does not have wilderness characteristics.

The unit, CO-020-055, is bounded as follows:

- USFS roadless recommended wilderness area on the east edge;
- The west and south edges are property lines other than BLM management;
- The north edge is bounded by wilderness inventory road CO-020-055-A.
- The unit is found in parts of the sections listed in the following townships;
 - o T. 14 S. R. 78 W. Sections 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30

- Does the area meet size requirements or exceptions? Yes No
- Does the area appear natural? Yes No NA
- Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA
- Does the area have supplemental value? Yes No NA

Check one:

- 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:

Evaluator: Jeff Williams/ Rangeland Management Specialist

Date: September 6, 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-020-055, Chinamen’s Gulch Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: CO-020-055-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-020-055 Wilderness Characteristics 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:

- CO-020-055-A is used as an private access route, as well as a county road.

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

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

Yes No Unknown

If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW?

- CO-020-055-a has a ROW association, serial # COC 30217

B.2. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?

Yes No Unknown or N/A

Explain:

- CO-020-055-A's ROW is still in use.

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

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 No

Examples (partial list):

Paved Bladed Graveled Roadside Berms Cut/Fill Other

Describe:

- CO-020-055-A is originally constructed by mechanical mean, it is graveled.

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

Yes If "yes", improvements by? Hand Tools by Machine

No

Examples (partial list):

Culverts___ Built Stream Crossings___ Bridges___ Drainage___ Barriers___

Describe:

- CO-020-055-A has mechanical improvements on it..

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 ___

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:

-CO-020-055-A has evidence of maintenance by use of machinery.

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 X No ___

Explain:

- CO-020-055-A would be improved 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 X 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).

CO-020-055-A is maintained for regular use, 20-30 times a day.

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 X = Wilderness Inventory Road
No = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explain:

- CO-020-055-A meets the criteria to be a wilderness inventory road.

Evaluator: Janine Prout/ Recreation Technician

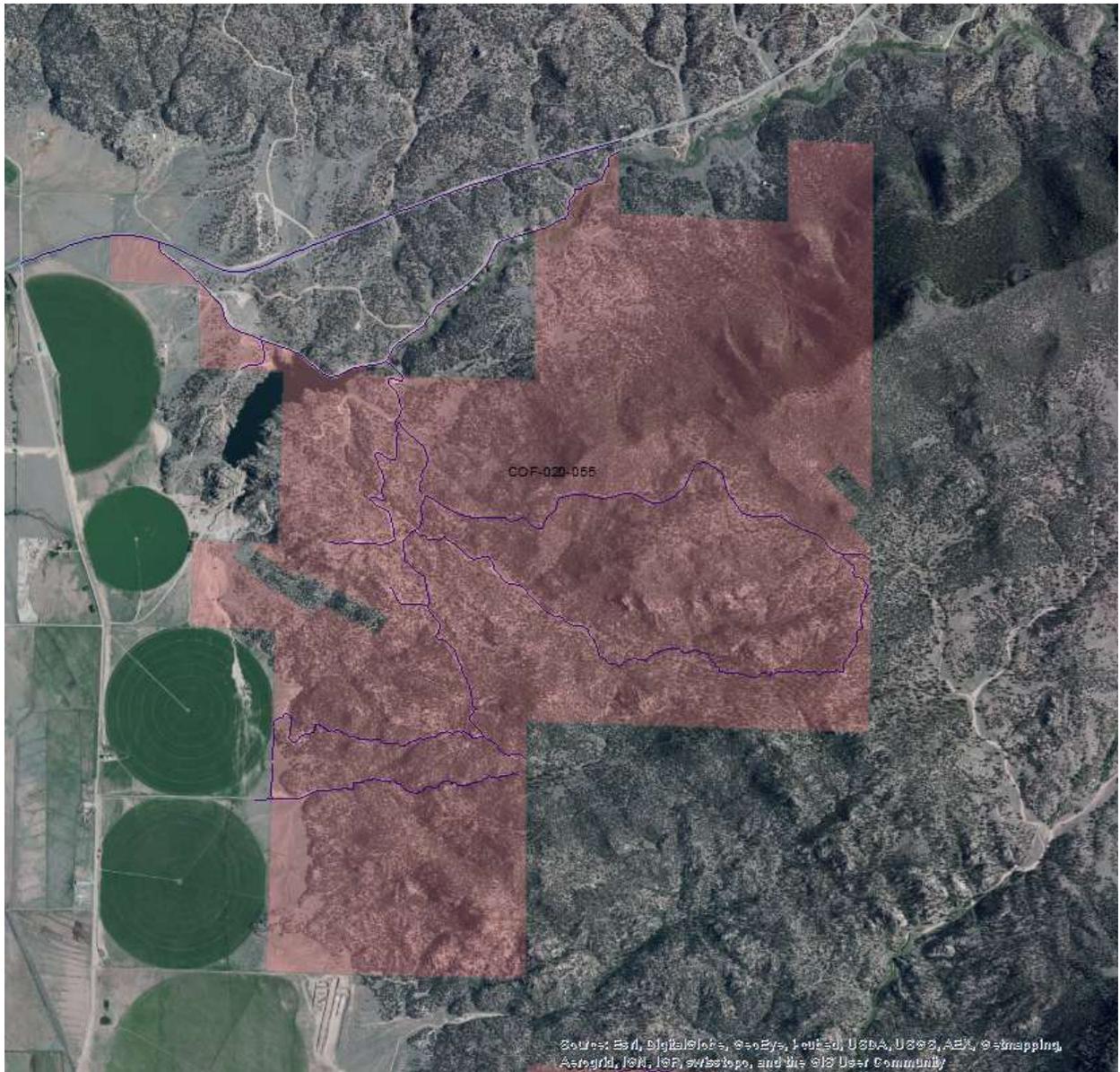
Date: August 27, 2013

PHOTO LOG

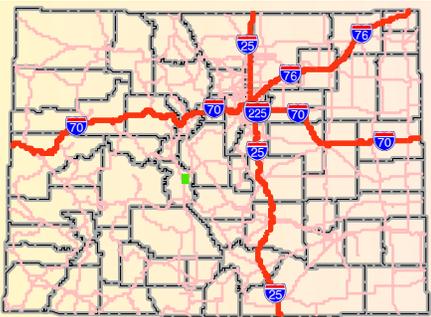
Photographer(s):

Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **COF-020-055, Chinamen Gulch**

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



Imagery Provided by Esri Arc Map, photo taken: July 21, 2010



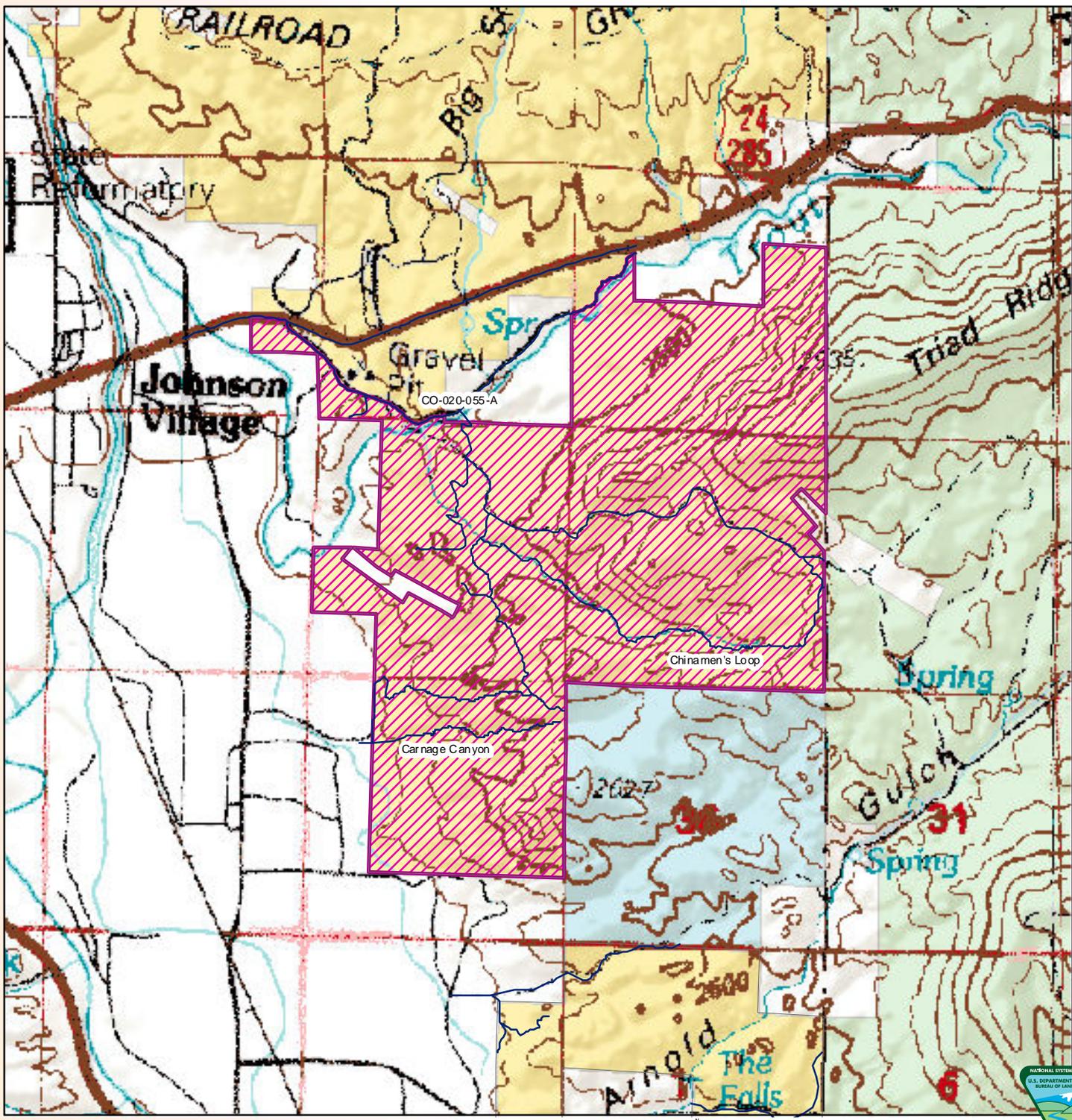
Map Extent Indicator

Map Features

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

Surface Land Ownership

- Bureau of Land Management
- Private
- State
- US Forest Service



COF-020-055 Acreage: 1876.6

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

