

# 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): 049\_016  
 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-020-074, South Granite

Acreage: 1,076.2 acres

1. Is the area of sufficient size? :

Yes \_\_\_ No X

The land is smaller than 5,000 acres and the east edge of the unit is adjacent to the United States Forest Service (USFS) roadless recommended wilderness area (managed by the Pike/San Isabel National Forest). The lands meet the size exception 2.a.i.

The unit is bounded as follows:

- The north is bounded by wilderness inventory road, CO-020-074-A;
- The east edge shares a boundary with the USFS roadless recommended wilderness area;
- The west edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, US Hwy 24.
- The south edge is defined by property lines other than BLM management.

2. Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes X No \_\_\_ NA \_\_\_\_\_

The unit is located southeast of Granite, Colorado, and located less than 1 mile away. The unit is on the east side of US Hwy 24 and the Arkansas River. Leadville Colorado is 20 miles north (driving miles) and Buena Vista Colorado is located 17 miles south (driving miles).

The topography of the unit is mountainous. There are many valleys and ridges found within the unit, as well as rock outcroppings and steep hillsides. The unit's vegetation is primarily sagebrush steppe lands, as well as ponderosa pines, limber pines, lodge pole pines, aspen, Douglas fir and spruce trees.

The unit contains many routes. The routes appear to have been mechanically constructed, perhaps by a bull dozer, for timber harvesting. The routes are currently being used for recreational purposes. During the time of inventory, many off-highway vehicles (OHVs) were observed in the area. The heavy use of the roads and the numerous amounts of constructed routes are a visual disturbance and affects the naturalness of the landscape.

Along with the constructed routes found within the unit, there are many user created routes that stem from the main access routes. The heavy use of OHVs and the lack of

designated routes in the area have expanded the trails significantly. All-terrain vehicle (ATV) trails are common, and found throughout the unit.

Other man-made features found within the unit include timber harvesting. Many routes lead to areas that have obviously been logged the past. Stumps and slash piles are an obvious sign of man-made activity in the area.

There is a historic railroad line found on the western edge of the unit. There is sign of a constructed line, with the cut/ fill observed in many locations throughout the unit. The railroad significantly impacts the naturalness of the unit.

The man-made features within the unit significantly affect the naturalness of the area; the unit does not possess 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

Description:

None provided.

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

Description:

None provided.

5. Does the area have supplemental values?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ NA X

Description:

## Summary of Analysis:

Unique Identifier: COF-020-074, South Granite

Acreage: 1,076.2 acres

### Results of Analysis:

Inventory concluded that the 1,076.2 acre unit does not consist of naturalness. The man-made features found within the unit significantly affect the naturalness of the unit. The features within the unit include many constructed routes, user created routes, and historic logging within the unit. The unit does not possess wilderness characteristics.

The unit is bounded as follows:

- The north is bounded by wilderness inventory road, CO-020-074-A;
- The east edge shares a boundary with the USFS roadless recommended wilderness area;
- The west edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, US Hwy 24.
- The south edge is defined by property lines other than BLM management.
- The unit is found in the following townships:
  - o T. 12 S. R. 79 W. Sections 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9.

- 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  
Evaluator: Kalem Lenard/ Outdoor Recreation Planner  
Evaluator: Ken Reed/Forester

Date: August 14, 2013  
Date: July 30, 2013  
Date: August 4, 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-020-074, South Granite Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: CO-020-074-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-020-074 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 (if any) 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-020-074-A is currently for access into private property and USFS land.

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

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

Yes \_\_\_\_ No X Unknown \_\_\_\_

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

- CO-020-074-A does not have a ROW association.

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

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unknown or N/A \_\_\_\_

Explain: N/A.

### 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 \_\_\_\_

- CO-020-074-A was installed by use of mechanical means..

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

Yes X No \_\_\_\_

Examples (partial list):

Paved \_\_\_ Bladed \_\_\_ Graveled \_\_\_ Roadside Berms \_\_\_ Cut/Fill \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

Describe:

- CO-020-074-A was mechanically constructed.

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

Yes   X   If "yes", improvements by? Hand Tools \_\_\_ by Machine \_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

Examples (partial list):

Culverts \_\_\_ Built Stream Crossings \_\_\_ Bridges \_\_\_ Drainage \_\_\_ Barriers \_\_\_

Describe:

- CO-020-074-A: Maintenance and improvements occur along the transmission line regularly.

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-020-074-A would be maintained if needed.

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:

- CO-020-073-A BLM would maintain the route.

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).

- CO-020-074-A: is maintained for regular use, 40-60 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  = Wilderness Inventory Road

No  = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

- CO-020-074-A meets the definition as a wilderness inventory road.

Evaluator: Janine Prout/ Recreation Technician

Date: August 21, 2013





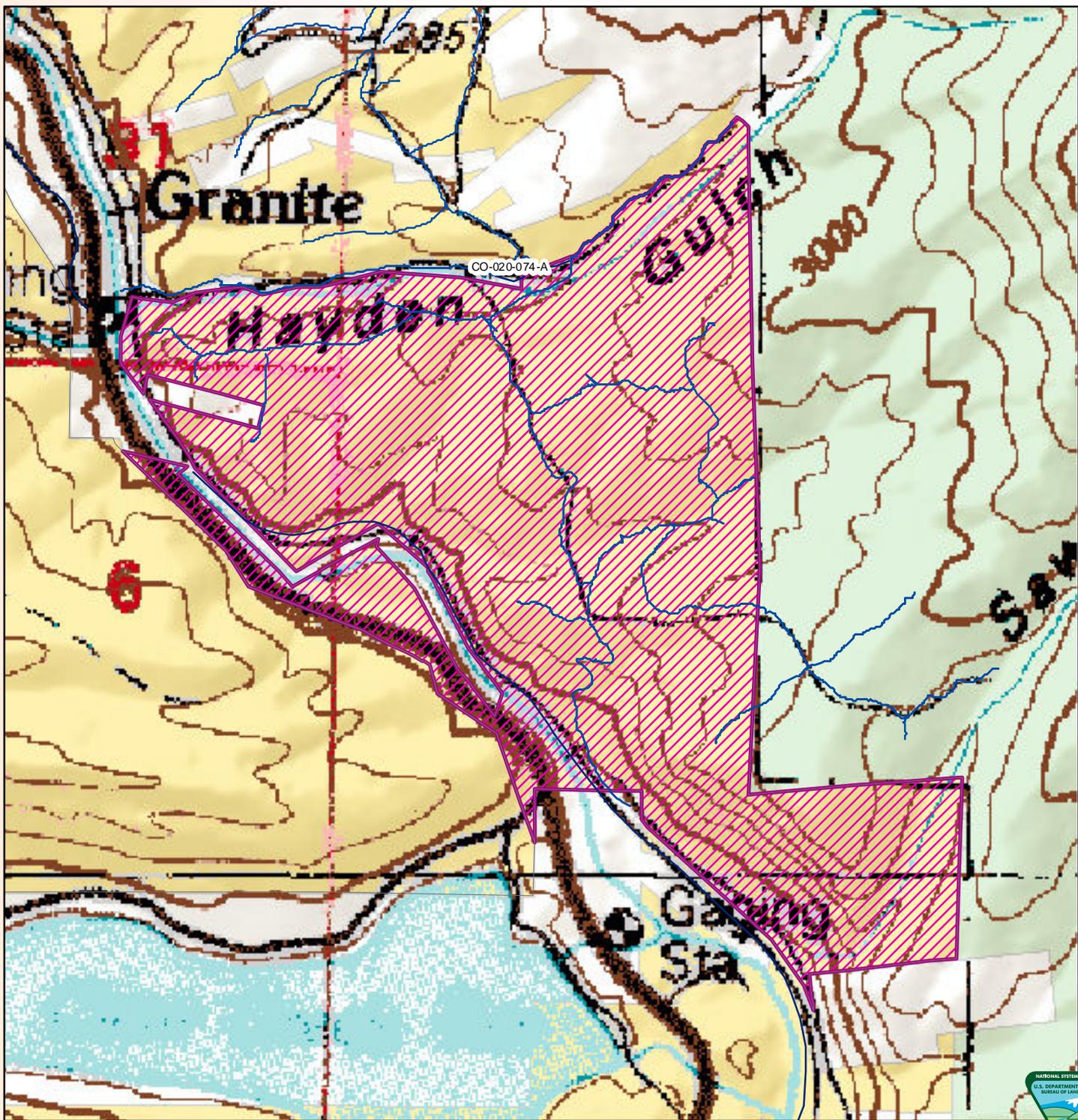
Map Extent Indicator

**Map Features**

- Inventoried Routes
- Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Parcels
- Counties

**Surface Land Ownership**

- Bureau of Land Management
- Private
- US Forest Service



**COF-020-074**      Acreage: 1076.2

**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

