

# 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): 311 001  
 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-020-051, Iron Mountain

Acreage: 28.1 acres

1. Is the area of sufficient size? :

Yes  No

The land is smaller than 5,000 acres but is contiguous with the BLM Upper Grape Creek Wilderness Study Area (WSA) (managed by the Royal Gorge Field Office BLM) meeting the size exception 2.a.i.

The unit is bounded as follows:

- The south edge is bordered by BLM Upper Grape Creek WSA;
- The north, west and east edge is a boundary of property lines other than BLM management;
- No wilderness inventoried roads documented within the unit.

2. Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes  No  NA

The unit is located less than a 1 hour drive southwest from Cañon City, CO. It is located on the southern edge of Lower Grape Creek WSA and Northwest corner of the Upper Grape Creek WSA. The unit contains 28.1 acres of public land.

The topography in the unit is a northwest facing slope that is heavily vegetated with piñon–juniper and ponderosa pines.

A user created route is located in the NW corner. The route is infrequently used by motorized vehicles. The impact of the route does not affect the natural character to the unit. Much of the unit has primarily been affected by forces of nature.

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

Solitude can be found throughout most of the unit, but due to the motorized route in the northwest corner, solitude is not outstanding in the unit. The motorized route within

the unit is only accessed through private land. It is likely to encounter private land owners if traveling on the route. The topography, although hilly and thick with vegetation does not have adequate screening for a visitor.

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

The unit has opportunities for unconfined recreation such as backpacking, primitive camping, and hunting. Opportunities for primitive recreation become outstanding due to the potential of exploring a vast amount of land, in the adjacent Upper Grape Creek WSA.

5. Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)?

Yes  No  NA

Description:

- The unit contains elk and mule deer winter range as mapped by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

## Summary of Analysis:

Unique Identifier: COF-020-051, Iron Mountain

Acreage: 28.1 acres

### Results of Analysis:

Inventory concluded that the 28.1 acres contain naturalness, outstanding opportunities for primitive unconfined recreation. Outstanding opportunities for solitude exist due to the thick vegetation found within the unit.

The unit is bounded as follows:

- The south edge is bordered by BLM Upper Grape Creek WSA;
- The north, west and east edge is a boundary of property lines other than BLM management;
- The legal description is as follows:
  - o T. 19 S. R. 72 W. Section 2.

- 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 characteristics.

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: July 30, 2013

Evaluator: John Lamman/ 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-020-051, Iron Mountain Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: CO-020-051-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-020-051, Wilderness Characteristics Map

Map Date: 2013

Describe:

The map shows the parcel inventoried for wilderness characteristics

#### **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-020-051-A is a user created route, it is mainly used for access to private 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?

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

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

No ROW is associated with route, CO-020-051-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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Yes \_\_\_\_ No X

Describe: Route, CO-020-051-A was most likely user created.

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

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

No X

Describe:

No improvements of route, CO-020-051-A was noticed.

- 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 \_\_\_\_  
No, if both III.B.1 and III.B.2 are checked "no" below X

B.1. Is there evidence or documentation of maintenance using hand tools or machinery?  
Yes \_\_\_\_ If "yes", maintenance by? Hand Tools \_\_\_\_ by Machine \_\_\_\_  
No X

Explain:

No maintenance was observed on route, CO-020-051-A

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 X

Explain:

BLM would not maintain route CO-020-051-A.

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

Yes \_\_\_\_ No X

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).

Route, CO-020-051-A is not maintained for 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

No   X   = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explain:

Route, CO-020-051-A is not a wilderness inventory road.

Evaluator: Janine Prout/ Recreation Technician

Date: July 30, 2013

## PHOTO LOG

Photographer(s): **Janine Prout/ Recreation Technician**

Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **COF-020-051, Iron Mountain**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Frame #</b>	<b>Camera Direc.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UTM Zone 13</b>	<b>Township</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Sec.</b>	<b>Photo Point #</b>
6/6/2013	DSC03638	W	fence	N 4,242,589.02055 E 465,648.799773	20 S	72 W	2	1



#1, fence line



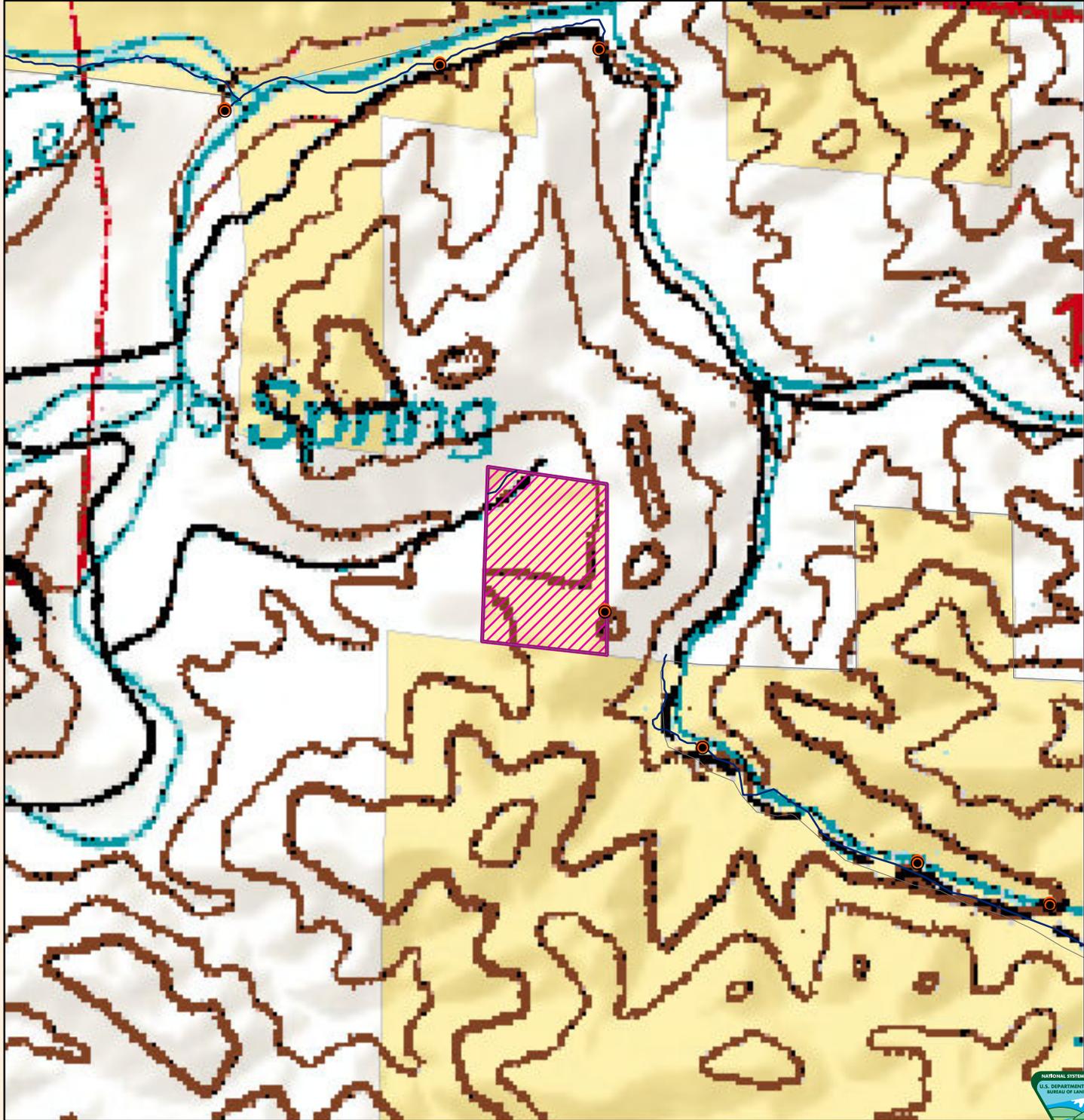
Map Extent Indicator

**Map Features**

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

*Surface Land Ownership*

- Bureau of Land Management
- Private
- State



**COF-020-051**

Acreage: 28.1

**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

