

# 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): 329 001  
 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-020-006, Crown Point

Acreage: 153.8 acres

1. Is the area of sufficient size? :

Yes  No

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

The unit is bounded as follows:

- The west, south, and east edges of the unit is bounded by the BLM Beaver Creek WSA;
- The north is bounded by property lines with 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, COF-020-006, is located within Fremont County, located less than 12 miles southeast of Cripple Creek, CO (measured by to the nearest point). The unit consists of 153.8 acres of public lands, located north of the BLM's Beaver Creek WSA. The unit is located directly 3 miles north from the confluence of Beaver Creek and East Beaver Creek. The prominent and highest point within the WSA, Crown Point, is located east of the unit, less than ½ a mile away. Contiguous lands are a combination of public and private lands.

The topography in the unit is rugged, varying in elevation from 9,000 feet on the southern end to approximately 9,600 feet near the northeastern boundary. Access is possible from the west, by walking in from the Beaver Creek State Wildlife Area, or from the north, through private property. The unit contains mountainous 9,000 foot peaks with a drainage traveling north to south, eventually flowing into East Beaver Creek. The over story vegetation consist of ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, and aspen, as well as other subalpine species such as Engelmann spruce, bristlecone pine, and limber pine on the higher peaks.

Within the unit a historic cabin and homestead can be found along the drainage in the north central park of the unit. The cabin has been in disuse for many decades, and only the old timbers and foundation are present. Along with the cabin, other noticeable imprints of man are selective timber harvesting and a few old routes accessing the cabin,

and into the lower drainage. These routes have not been used in many decades and are barely visible. All of these impacts are becoming overgrown with vegetation and are only visible at close range.

In conclusion, from the accumulative amount of human use and activity, in relation to the size of the parcel, the inventory has shown that the unit, CO-020-006, 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

The topography of the unit and numerous groupings of vegetation create settings which allow for outstanding solitude experiences throughout the unit. Standing on top of one of the peaks found within the unit, the Front Range, Wet Mountains, and Great Plains are within view. The sweeping vistas allow for a feeling of vastness for a visitor, and ensure the feeling of solitude in conjunction with the surrounding WSA.

Most visitors to the area travel by foot through Beaver Creek and East Beaver Creek. The unit, COF-020-006, is many miles away with much elevation gain from these more traveled areas, so the chances of encountering another individual is unlikely. The unit is difficult to access with use of a motorized vehicle, so due to the difficulty for the public to access the unit, unit COF-020-005, contains outstanding opportunities for 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

The topography of the unit, offers outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Outstanding opportunities exist for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, hunting, and snowshoeing. Outstanding opportunities exist for photography and sightseeing within the unit. The many hills and peaks provide vantage points for photography. The varied contours within the unit provide for interesting and compelling recreation opportunities, if a visitor was so inclined to explore.

5. Does the area have supplemental values?

Yes  No  NA

- The unit is within the Beaver Creek Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), designated in the Royal Gorge Field Office Resource Management Plan.
- Historic homestead timbers and foundation exist within the unit.
- The unit provides habitat for peregrine falcon nesting.
- The unit contains Mexican spotted owl critical habitat.
- The unit provides habitat for elk severe winter range as mapped by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

## Summary of Analysis

Unique Identifier: COF-020-006, Crown Point

Acreage: 153.8 acres

### Results of Analysis:

Inventory concluded that the 153.8 acre unit consists of naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude and/or primitive unconfined recreation. The topography of the unit is the main factor for providing outstanding opportunities to exist. The high elevation of the unit allows for scenic views, and a landscape that provides challenging and enticing overland travel.

The unit is bounded as follows:

- The west, south, and east edges of the unit is bounded by the BLM Beaver Creek WSA;
- The north is bounded by property lines with other than BLM Management;
- The legal description is as follows:
  - o T. 16 S. R. 68 W. Sections 20 NW ½ and 21 NW ¼ of the SW ¼.

- 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: Kalem Lenard/ Outdoor Recreation Planner

Date: July 30, 2013

Evaluator: Matt Rustand/ Wildlife Biologist

Date: Sept 10, 2013

Evaluator: Christine Cloninger/ Rangeland Specialist

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 cherry system 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-020-006

Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: No routes identified within the unit.

#### **I. LOCATION:**

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

Map Title: Crown Point 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 of Route:

Describe: N/A

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?

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

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Unknown or 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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: N/A

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: N/A

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 \_\_\_

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

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

No \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: N/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 \_\_\_\_\_

Explain:

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).

#### 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

Explain:

No routes identified within the unit

Evaluator: Janine Prout/ Recreation Technician

Date: July 30, 2013

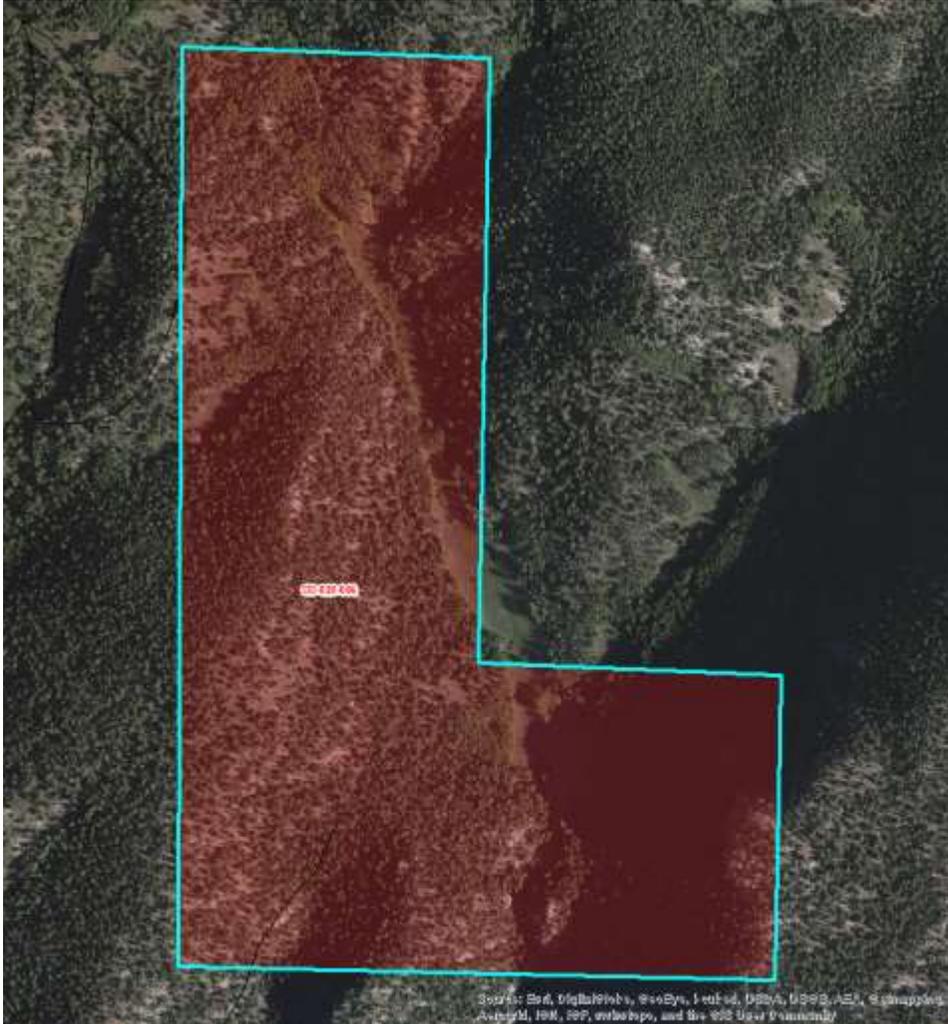
## PHOTO LOG

Photographer(s):

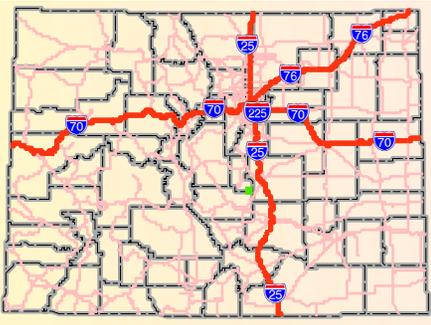
Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **COF-020-006, Crown Point**

Date	Frame #	Camera Direction	Description	GPS/UTM Location	Township	Range	Sec.	Photo Point #

None provided



Imagery provided by Arc Map, date taken: September 11, 2010



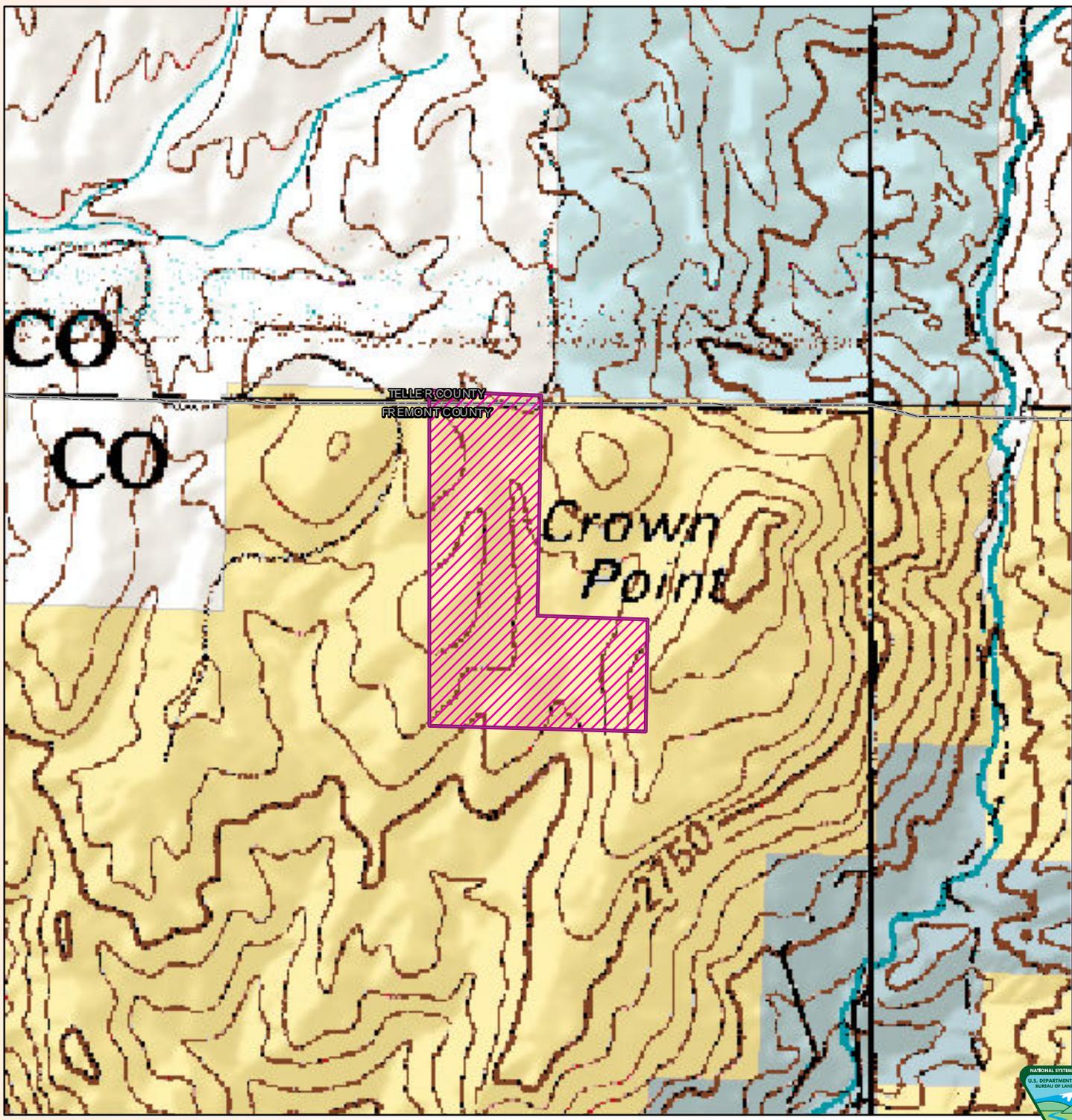
Map Extent Indicator

**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-020-006**      Acreage: 153.8

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

