

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: 1980 Wilderness Study Report
 Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s): 011-001
 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)
CO-020-011-A	Y	N	N	N	N
CO-020-011-B	Y	N	N	N	N

(add rows as needed)

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

Area Unique Identifier: COF-020-056

Acreage: 17,460.2 acres

1. Is the area of sufficient size? :

Yes No

The land is greater than 5,000 acres, meeting the size exception 2.a.i.

The unit, COF-020-056, is bounded as follows:

- The south boundary is bonded by the Union Pacific Railroad, Fremont County Road 45, and lands other than BLM management, also a wilderness inventory road, CO-020-055-K, is identified and cherry stemmed in the south central part of the unit;
- The east is bounded by other than BLM management;
- The northeast is bounded by wilderness inventory road, BLM 6126, there were other routes identified as wilderness inventory roads that were cherry stemmed in the northeastern boundary, BLM 6126 A, BLM 6126 B, and BLM 6126 C;
- The northwest edge is defined by wilderness inventory roads, 5996 A, BLM 5997, and BLM 5990;
- The western edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, BLM 5880 and property lines other than BLM management;

2. Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes No NA

The unit, COF-020-056, is located west of Canon City, Colorado, approximately 27 miles (measured to the nearest point). The unit is north of US Hwy 50. Nearby towns include Cotopaxi, Coaldale, and Howard Colorado, all located south of the unit. The unit contains 17,406.2 acres of public lands. There are multiple inholdings located within the unit, totaling 677.6 acres. The inholdings 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 6,600 feet to 10,000 feet. The vegetation is comprised mostly of piñon-juniper woodland and a few ponderosa pines in the north facing slopes. Mixed conifers such as Douglas fir and spruce are found in the higher reaches.

The mining activity within the unit impacts the natural character of the unit. A significant feature is an active mine, located in Section 6, T. 48 N. R. 11 E. The mine is an open pit mine with a well maintained access route. Other routes access prospecting pits and smaller mines, located to the north of the mine. Other evidence of mining activity is

found throughout the unit, mining pits, tailings piles, and access routes are all visible impacts. The mining disturbances can be viewed throughout most of the unit. The mining activity affects the natural character of the unit.

Vegetation treatment projects have occurred in the unit, including prescribed burns, mechanical treatments and hand thinning projects. The treatment areas are recovering at various stages. The recent projects are located along the western boundary on BLM 5980. Mechanical treatment areas have a significant impact on the natural characteristics of the unit. Stumps and debris is visible and impact the naturalness.

The area is mostly too steep for cattle grazing, but there are a few rangeland management improvement projects in the area. Earthen dams, stock tank, and fence lines exist within the unit. There is a potential for spring developments and more vegetation treatment projects to improve grazing.

The accumulative impacts of man-made features within the unit affect the unit's natural characteristics. 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

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 unit provides habitat for bighorn sheep and mule deer severe winter range, elk winter range, and bighorn sheep productions areas as mapped by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Summary of Analysis:

Unique Identifier: COF-020-056

Acreage: 17,460.2 acres

Results of Analysis:

Inventory concluded that the 17,460.2 acre unit does not consist of naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude and/or primitive unconfined recreation. The visual impact of mining activities affects the natural character. The unit does not have wilderness characteristics.

The unit, COF-020-056, is bounded as follows:

- The south boundary is bonded by the Union Pacific Railroad, Fremont County Road 45, and lands other than BLM management, also a wilderness inventory road, CO-020-056-K, is identified and cherry stemmed in the south central part of the unit;
 - The east is bounded by other than BLM management;
 - The northeast is bounded by wilderness inventory road, BLM 6126, there were other routes identified as wilderness inventory roads that were cherry stemmed in the northeastern boundary, BLM 6126 A, BLM 6126 B, and BLM 6126 C;
 - The northwest edge is defined by wilderness inventory roads, 5996 A, BLM 5997, and BLM 5990;
 - The western edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, BLM 5880 and property lines other than BLM management;
 - The unit is found in parts of the sections listed in the following townships;
 - o T. 49 N. R. 11 E. Sections 15,16,17,18, 19, 20, 21, 32, 33, and 34.
 - o T. 48 N. R. 11 E. Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, and 36
 - o T. 48 N. R. 10 E. Sections 1 and 12.
-
- Does the area meet size requirements or exceptions? Yes X No
 - Does the area appear natural? Yes No X NA
 - Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA X
 - Does the area have supplemental value? Yes X No NA

Check one:

- The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as land with wilderness characteristics.
- X 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
Evaluator: Jeff Williams/ Rangeland Management Specialist
Evaluator: Matt Rustand/Wildlife Biologist

Date: July 30, 2013
Date: September 6, 2013
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-020-056

Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: BLM 6126, BLM 6126 A, BLM 6126, B, BLM 6126 C, BLM 5990, 5996 A, BLM 5997, and BLM 5990, Fremont County Road 45, and CO-002-056-H

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-020-056 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:

- BLM 6126: open to full size vehicles, used for recreational and BLM administrative purposes.
- BLM 6126 A: open to full size vehicles, used for recreational and BLM administrative purposes.
- BLM 6126, B: open to full size vehicles, used for recreational and BLM administrative purposes.
- BLM 6126 C: open to full size vehicles, used for recreational and BLM administrative purposes.
- BLM 5980: Used for general transportation.
- 5996 A: open to full size vehicles, used for recreational and BLM administrative purposes.
- BLM 5997: open to full size vehicles, used for recreational and BLM administrative purposes.
- Fremont County Road 45: Used for general transportation
- CO-002-056-H: Used for BLM administrative use.

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?

-BLM 5980 has a ROW association; it is serial # COC 44142 with Fremont County

Fremont County Rd 45 has a ROW association, serial # COC 44142

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

Yes No Unknown or N/A

Explain:

All of the above stated ROWs are 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

Describe:

- BLM 6126: Has evidence of mechanical construction, evidence of cut/fill.
- BLM 6126 A: Has evidence of mechanical construction, evidence of cut/fill.
- BLM 6126, B: Has evidence of mechanical construction, evidence of cut/fill.
- BLM 6126 C: Has evidence of mechanical construction, evidence of cut/fill.
- BLM 5980: Has evidence of mechanical construction, evidence of cut/fill.
- 5996 A: Has evidence of mechanical construction, possibly by bull dozer.
- BLM 5997: Has evidence of original construction, evidence of cut/fill, graveled
- Fremont County Road 45: Has evidence of mechanical construction, bladed, graveled.
- CO-002-056-H: Has evidence of mechanical construction, cut/fill, graveled, bladed.

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:

- BLM 6126: Is improved by mechanical means, bladed, drainage added.
- BLM 6126 A: Is improved by mechanical means, bladed, drainage added.
- BLM 6126, B: Is improved by mechanical means, bladed, drainage added.
- BLM 6126 C: Is improved by mechanical means, bladed, drainage added.
- BLM 5980: Is improved by mechanical means, bladed, drainage added.
- 5996 A: Is improved by mechanical means, bladed, drainage added.
- BLM 5997: Is improved by mechanical means, bladed, drainage added.
- Fremont County Road 45: Is improved by mechanical means, bladed, drainage added, culverts, and bridges.
- CO-002-056-H: Is improved by mechanical means, drainage features installed along the route.

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 X If "yes", maintenance by? Hand Tools _____ by Machine X
No _____

Explain:

- BLM 6126: Route is on BLM's maintenance schedule.
- BLM 6126 A: Route is on BLM's maintenance schedule.
- BLM 6126, B: Route is on BLM's maintenance schedule.
- BLM 6126 C: Route is on BLM's maintenance schedule.
- BLM 5980: Route is on BLM's maintenance schedule. As well as maintained by local residents.
- 5996 A: Route is on BLM's maintenance schedule.
- BLM 5997: Route is on BLM's maintenance schedule.
- Fremont County Road 45: Is maintained by Fremont County.
- CO-002-056-H: Is maintained by ROW holder.

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:

Yes, all of the afore mentioned routes would be maintained 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).

The aforementioned routes are maintained for administrative BLM access as well as recreational use for full size vehicles.

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:

- BLM 6126: Meets the criteria to be a wilderness inventory road, it is designated as an open road for full size vehicles in the Arkansas River Travel Management Plan (2006). This route is also on the BLM maintenance schedule to ensure open and continuous use.
- BLM 6126 A: Meets the criteria to be a wilderness inventory road, it is designated as an open road for full size vehicles in the Arkansas River Travel Management Plan (2006). This route is also on the BLM maintenance schedule to ensure open and continuous use.
- BLM 6126, B: Meets the criteria to be a wilderness inventory road, it is designated as an open road for full size vehicles in the Arkansas River Travel Management Plan (2006). This route is also on the BLM maintenance schedule to ensure open and continuous use.
- BLM 6126 C: Meets the criteria to be a wilderness inventory road, it is designated as an open road for full size vehicles in the Arkansas River Travel Management Plan (2006). This route is also on the BLM maintenance schedule to ensure open and continuous use. BLM 5980: Route is on BLM's maintenance schedule. As well as maintained by local residents.
- 5996 A: Meets the criteria to be a wilderness inventory road, it is designated as an open road for full size vehicles in the Arkansas River Travel Management Plan (2006). This route is also on the BLM maintenance schedule to ensure open and continuous use.
- BLM 5997: Meets the criteria to be a wilderness inventory road, it is designated as an open road for full size vehicles in the Arkansas River Travel Management Plan (2006). This route is also on the BLM maintenance schedule to ensure open and continuous use.
- Fremont County Road 45: Meets the criteria to be a wilderness inventory road.
- CO-002-056-H: Meets the criteria to be a wilderness inventory road, it is designated as an administrative road in the Arkansas River Travel Management Plan (2006).

Evaluator: Janine Prout/ Recreation Technician

Date: August 27, 2013

PHOTO LOG

Photographer(s):

Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **COF-020-056**

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



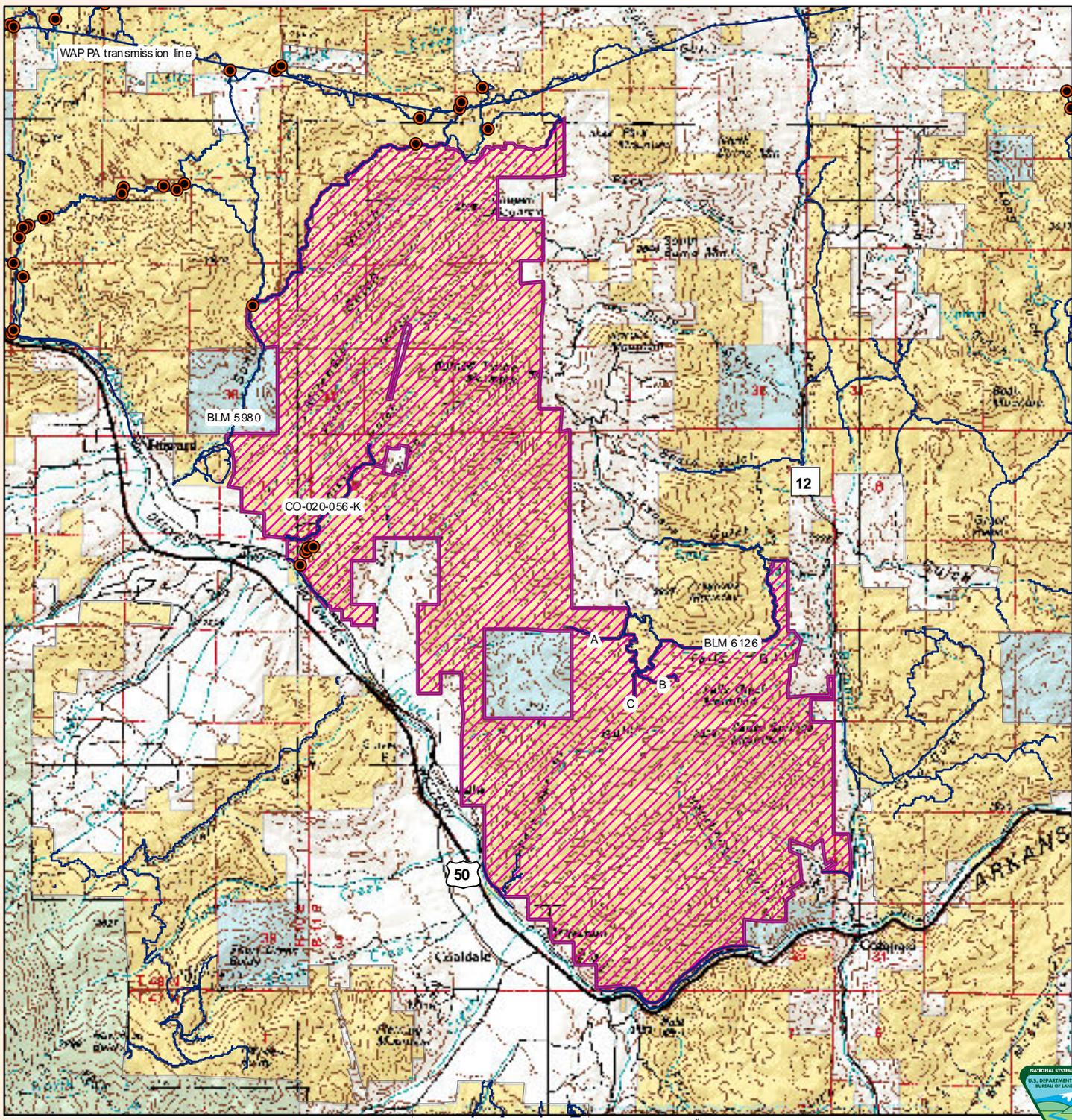
Map Extent Indicator

Map Features

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

Surface Land Ownership

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



COF-020-056 Acreage: 17428.7

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 lands records of the data providers should be checked for current status on any specific tract of land.

BLM - Royal Gorge Field Office
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