

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): 030_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-020-040, Kerr Gulch

Acreage: 845.6 acres

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 is bounded as follows:

- The north corner is bounded by property lines other than BLM management;
- The west and south boundaries are adjacent to the USFS roadless recommended wilderness area;
- The east boundary is defined by BLM 6110 and BLM 6117; these roads meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road as defined by FLPMA (94-1163).

2. Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes No NA

The unit, COF-020-040, Kerr Gulch, is located west of Cañon City, Colorado approximately 37 miles and the unit is located east of Salida, Colorado approximately 20 miles (driving miles). The unit is comprised steep, rocky, mountainous terrain. A few drainages are located within the unit such as, Hamilton Creek, Stout Creek and Kerr Gulch. The elevation ranges from 8,100 feet to 9,300 feet. The vegetation consists of ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, white fir and Rocky Mountain juniper.

Throughout the unit there is prominent evidence of man-made features and disturbances. The man-made features include mechanically constructed routes. It is assumed these routes were originally built for timber harvest and prospecting. The routes are currently being used by motorized vehicles for recreational use and BLM and USFS administrative use. The constructed nature of the routes has a noticeable imprint on the landscape.

Recent mechanical vegetation treatments have occurred in the unit. In the treatment areas, user created routes, slash piles, and stumps are a visible impact to the area. It is obvious that mechanical means were used for the vegetation treatments and rehabilitation projects.

The impacts of man-made features on the landscape are noticeable and affect the naturalness to the unit; therefore, the unit 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

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 X No ___ NA ___

Description:

- The unit is located within the Sangres Lynx Analysis Unit and contains primary and secondary lynx habitat.
- The unit contains areas mapped as elk production areas, elk winter range, and mule deer severe winter range. Mapping was provided by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Summary of Analysis:

Unique Identifier: COF-020-040, Kerr Gulch

Acreage: 845.6 acres

Results of Analysis:

Inventory concluded that the 845.6 acre unit does not consist of naturalness due to significant imprints of man found throughout the unit. For this reason, the unit does not have wilderness characteristics.

The unit is bounded as follows:

- The north corner is bounded by property lines other than BLM management;
 - The west and south boundaries are adjacent to the USFS roadless recommended wilderness area;
 - The east boundary is defined by BLM 6110 and BLM 6117; these roads meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road as defined by FLPMA (94-1163).
 - The unit is found in parts of the sections listed in the following townships;
 - o T. 48 N. R. 10 E. Sections 26, 27, 35
 - o T. 47 N. R. 10 E. Section 2
-
- 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
Evaluator: Kalem Lenard/ Outdoor Recreation Planner
Evaluator: Matt Rustand/Wildlife Biologist

Date: August 14, 2013
Date: July 30, 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-020-040, Kerr Gulch
Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: CO-020-040-B, BLM 6110, BLM 6117

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-020-040, Kerr Gulch Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Map

Map Date: 2013

Describe:

The map shows the parcel inventoried for wilderness characteristics, and routes and photo points 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-020-040-B: Is a BLM administrative route, recently used for timber harvesting.
- BLM 6110 is route open to full size vehicles through the Arkansas River Travel Management Plan (2006).
- BLM 6117 is routes open to full size vehicles through the Arkansas River Travel Management Plan (2006).

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 _____

Explain:

- CO-020-040-B: does not have a ROW association.
- BLM 6110 does not have a ROW association.
- BLM 6117 does not have a ROW association.

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-020-040-B: has been constructed and improved by mechanical means.
- BLM 6110 has been constructed and improved by mechanical means.
- BLM 6117 has been constructed and improved by mechanical means.

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-020-040-B: has been constructed and improved by mechanical means.
- BLM 6110 has been constructed and improved by mechanical means.
- BLM 6117 has been constructed and improved by mechanical means.

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-020-040-B: has been constructed and improved by mechanical means.
- BLM 6110 has been constructed and improved by mechanical means.
- BLM 6117 has been constructed and improved by mechanical means.

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:

- CO-020-040-B: There has been recent maintenance on the route by use of machinery.
- BLM 6110: There has been recent maintenance on the route by use of machinery.
- BLM 6117: There has been recent maintenance on the route 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-020-040-B: BLM would maintain route if it became impassable.
- BLM 6110: BLM would maintain route if it became impassable.
- BLM 6117: BLM would maintain route if it 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).

- BLM 6110: Receives regular and continuous use.
- BLM 6117: Receives regular and continuous use.
- CO-020-040-B: Does not receive regular 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 = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

- BLM 6110 : Meets the criteria of being a wilderness inventory road
- BLM 6117: Meets the criteria of being a wilderness inventory road.

- CO-20-040-B is not a wilderness inventory road but defines a boundary due to excessive disturbance.

Evaluator: Janine Prout/ Recreation Technician

Date: August 21, 2013



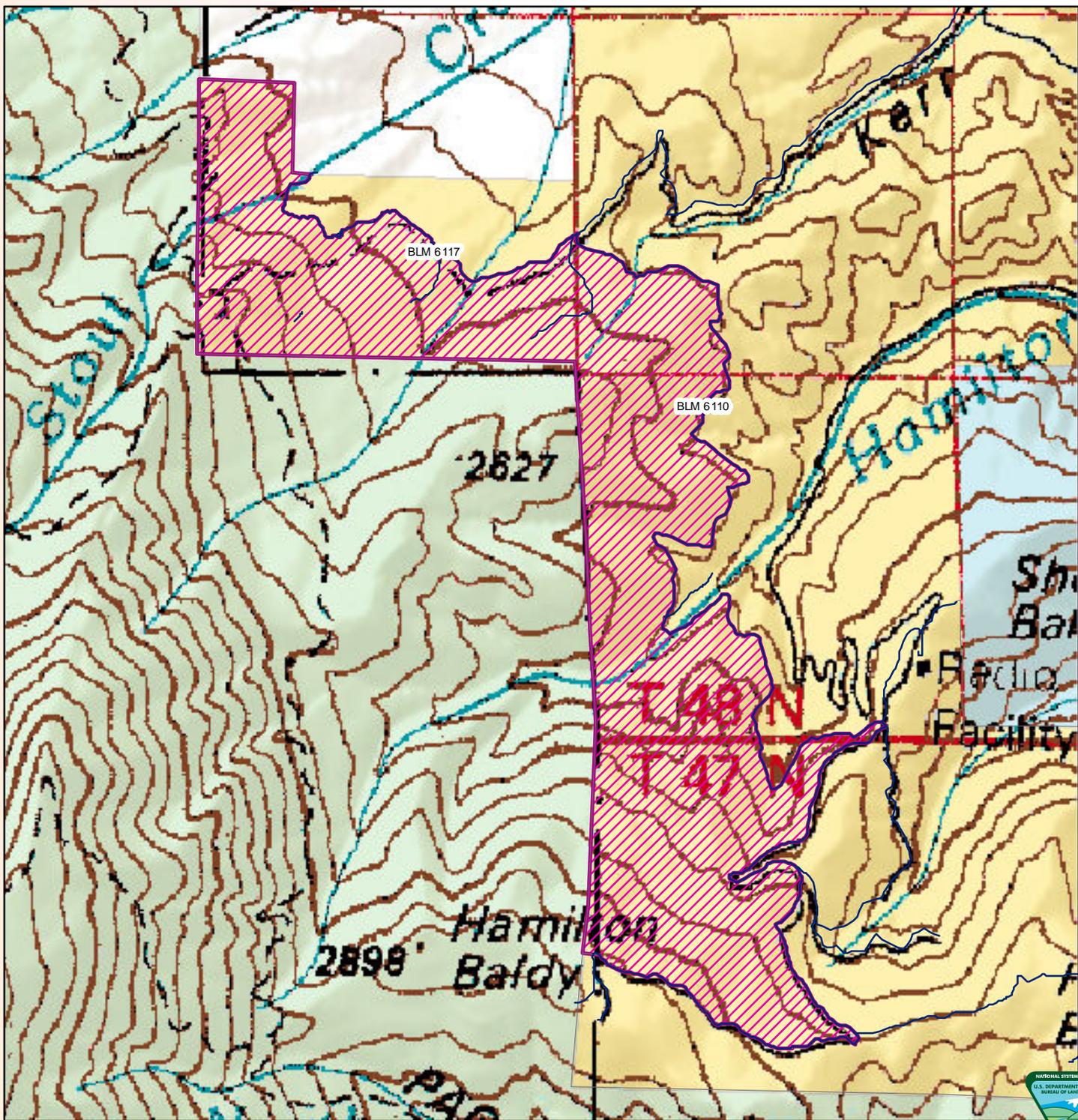
Map Extent Indicator

Map Features

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

Surface Land Ownership

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



COF-020-040

Acreage: 847.5

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

