

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): CO-020-044
 Map Name(s)/Number(s): BLM 100 K Blanca Peak
 BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Front Range District/ Royal Gorge Filed 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: CO-020-002, North Hondo

Acreage: 521.9 acres

1. Is the area of sufficient size? :

Yes No

Unit, CO-020-002, North Hondo, is 521.9 acres. It is smaller than 5,000 acres in size but is contiguous with the United States Forest Service (USFS) roadless recommended wilderness area (managed by the Pike/ San Isabel National Forest) meeting size exception 2.a.i.

The unit is bounded as follows:

- The eastern edge is defined by the USFS roadless recommended wilderness area;
- The south, east, and north edges are defined by property lines other than BLM management;
- No wilderness inventory roads were identified during inventory.

2. Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes No NA

Description:

The North Hondo unit, CO-020-002 is located on the south west end of the Wet Mountain range. The closest large town, Walsenburg, Colorado is located 25 miles southeast of the unit. The unit is located along the foothills of the Greenhorn Mountains and incorporates grassland and plains ecosystems to the west. The unit consists of rock outcroppings, cliff bands, and wide canyons. The parcel primarily consists of a piñon-juniper forest.

A few minor human impacts exist on the ground that represents the range and mining activity in the area. A two track road to an old stock tank is located in the southwest corner. It is not open to the public and is rarely used; it does not affect the naturalness to the area. An abandoned two track bisects the center of the unit. It is assumed the route was originally built for prospecting. The route is not open to the public and has not been recently used or maintained. It does not affect the overall naturalness to the area. As a result of the inventory conducted, The North Hondo unit generally appears to have been affected primarily 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

Description:

Due to the units' unique topographic features, and thick vegetation, the average visitor can seek solitude within the unit. The unit's outstanding opportunities for solitude exist due to the difficulty of accessing the unit and excellent screening that the vegetation and landscape provide.

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

Description:

Primitive recreation opportunities exist within the unit, no developed facilities and lack of trails and roads allow for a primitive experience. Opportunities become outstanding due to the challenging overland travel opportunities and the vast amount of primitive lands available including the adjacent USFS lands.

5. Does the area have supplemental values?

Yes No NA

Description:

- The unit is located within the Wet Mountain Lynx Analysis unit although very little lynx habitat is present.
- The unit contains mule deer winter range and elk severe winter range as mapped by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Summary of Analysis

Area Unique Identifier: COF-020-002, North Hondo

Acreage: 521.9

Results of Analysis:

The unit, COF-020-002 is 521.9 acres. It meets the size criteria due to contiguous lands with USFS roadless recommended wilderness area. Limited man-made features found within the unit allow for natural characteristics to exist. Outstanding opportunities exist for solitude and unconfined recreation due to the lack of motorized access, no established facilities, and adequate topography and vegetative cover to provide screening from other users.

The unit is bounded as follows:

- The western edge is defined by the USFS roadless recommended wilderness area;
 - The south, east, and north edges are defined by property lines other than BLM management;
 - It is found in parts of the sections listed in the following townships;
 - o T. 26 S. R. 69 W. Sec 1 SW ½ and 12 NE 1/8.
 - o T. 26 S. R. 68 W. Sec 7 N ½.
- 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: May 21, 2013

Evaluator: Kalem Lenard/ Outdoor Recreation Planner

Date: July 30, 2013

Evaluator: John Lamman/ Rangeland Management Specialist

Date: Sept. 10, 2013

Evaluator: Monica Mohr/ Rangeland Technician

Date: May 21, 2013

Evaluator: Matt Rustand/ Wildlife Biologist

Date: Sept. 10, 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: CO-020-002, North Hondo Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: CO-020-002-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: North Hondo Wilderness Characteristics Map

Map Date: 2013

Describe:

The map shows the parcel inventoried for wilderness characteristics along with GPS inventory of a route.

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:

Route, CO-020-002-A is a route that is created by range use. It is used to access an old stock tank that is no longer in use.

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

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

Yes ___ No X Unknown ___

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

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

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 ___

No X

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).

No recent use observed

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:

Route, CO-020-002-A does not meet the criteria for being a wilderness inventory road. The road is not maintained for regular and continuous use.

Evaluator: Janine Prout / Recreation Technician

Date: May 14, 2013

PHOTO LOG

Photographer(s): _____

Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **CO-020-002, North Hondo**

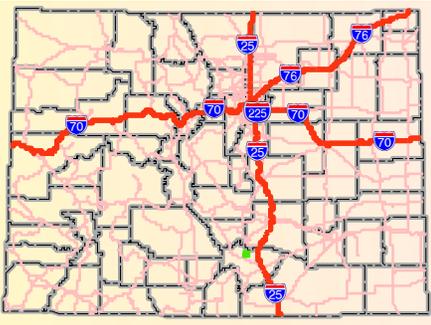
Date	Frame #	Camera Direc.	Description	GPS/UTM Location	Town -ship	Range	Sec.	Photo Point #

(add rows as needed)

None Provided



Imagery provided by Esri Arc Map, photo taken: July 19, 2013



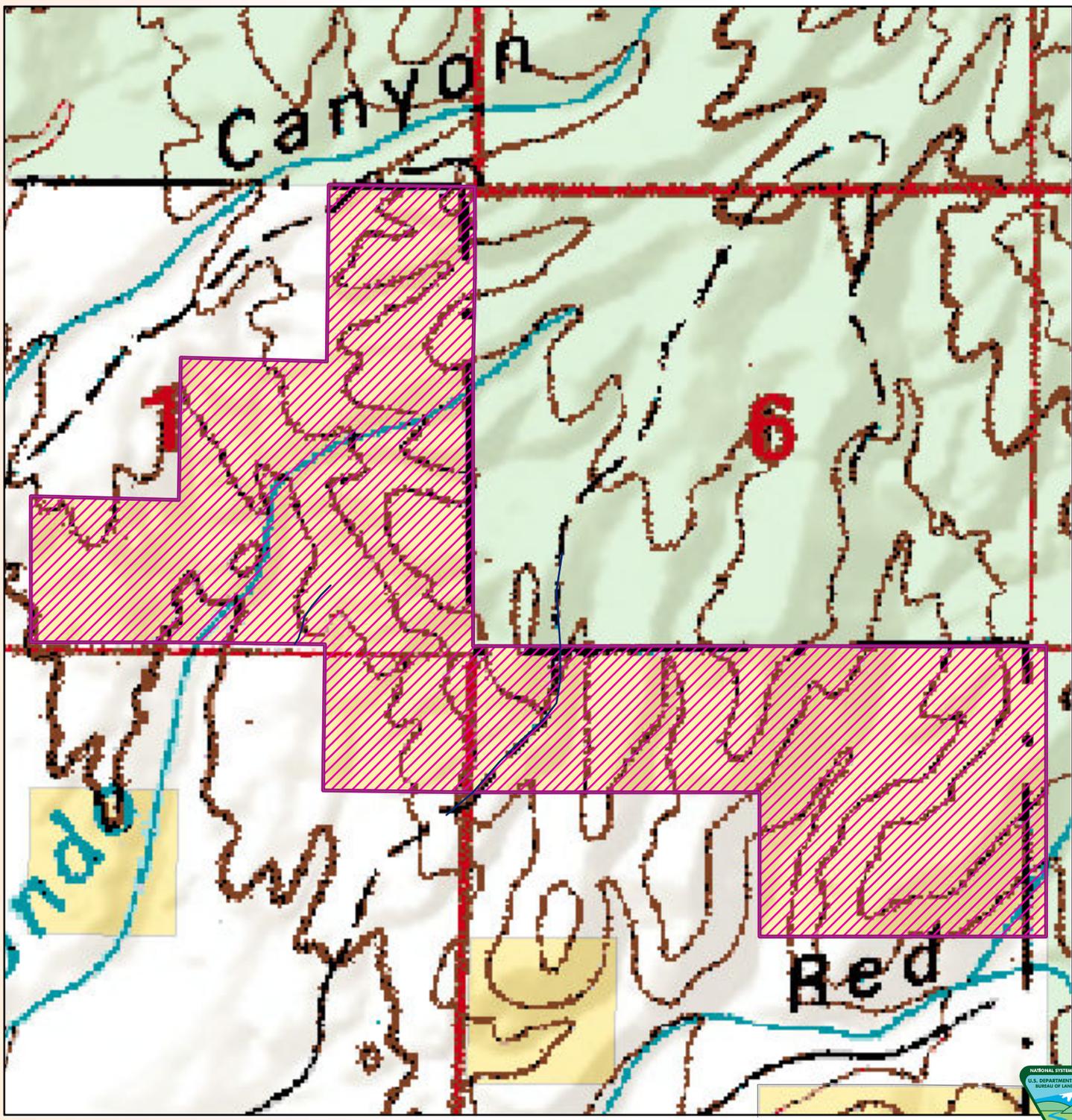
Map Extent Indicator

Map Features

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

Surface Land Ownership

- Bureau of Land Management
- Private
- US Forest Service



COF-020-002 Acreage: 521.9

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
03/14/2013

