

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY UPDATE – 2011

FORM 1

Documentation of BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings from Previous Inventory on Record

1. Is there existing BLM wilderness inventory information on all or part of this area?
 No _____ Yes X (If yes, and if more than one area is within the area, list the names of those areas.):

a) **Inventory Source:** Montana BLM's Initial Inventory (November 1978 – August 1979)

b) **Inventory Area Name(s)/Number(s):** "Scattered Tracts" / MT-066-265

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** BLM Montana Wilderness Inventory Maps:
 Final Initial Inventory Map (August 1979)
 Proposed Wilderness Study Decision Map Lewistown & Miles City Districts (March 1980)
 Final Inventory Decision Map Lewistown & Miles City Districts (November 1980)

d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** Lewistown District / Havre Area Office

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

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):

Inventory source: Montana BLM's Initial Inventory (November 1978 – August 1979)					
Area Unique Identifier	Sufficient Size? (acres)	Naturalness?	Outstanding Solitude?	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation?	Supplemental Values?
MT-066-265	NO	--	--	--	--
Comments	Sand Coulee was included with numerous other "Scattered Tracts" in the initial inventory that were determined to be less than 5000 acres. No public comments were received to support further wilderness consideration, so the area was dropped from wilderness consideration in the August 1979 Final Decision.				

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

a. Area Unique Identifier: Sand Coulee – Area 7 Acreage 5186
(If the inventory area consists of subunits, list the acreage of each and evaluate each separately).

(1) Is the area of sufficient size? (If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check "Yes" and describe the exception in the space provided below), Yes X No _____
(Note: If "No" is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.)

Description (describe the boundaries of the area – wilderness inventory roads, property lines, etc.):

(2) Does the area appear to be natural? Yes _____ No X N/A _____
(Note: If "No" is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.)

Description (include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation, and summary of major human uses/activities):

T37N R21E Sec 4/9 – There is an underground oil/natural gas pipeline that cuts across 0.9 miles of public land in sections 4 and 9. Approximately 222 acres of T37N R21E Sec. 6 have been planted to crested wheatgrass. There are also old/abandoned concrete irrigation control structures/ditches located in this section as well, but most of them are located on the N½ of the section on private land. There are approximately 8 miles of interior fence, 10 miles of interior two-track vehicle ways, and 13 water developments. Area is bordered by a main gas-tax/county road that gets a lot of traffic, especially during hunting season.

(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 _____ N/A X

Description (describe the area's 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 _____ N/A X
(Note: If "No" is checked for both 3 and 4 the areas does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for question 5.)

Description (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation):

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

Description:

Summary of Analysis*

Area Unique Identifier: Sand Coulee -- Area 7

Summary

Results of analysis: (Note: explain the inventory findings for the entirety of the inventory unit. When wilderness characteristics have been identified in an area that is smaller than the size of the total inventory unit, explain why certain portions of the inventory unit are not included within the lands with wilderness characteristics (e.g. the inventory found that certain parts lacked naturalness).)

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? Yes No
2. Does the area appear to be natural? Yes No N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No N/A
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No N/A

Check one:

The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as lands with wilderness characteristics.

The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by (team members):

Name	Title	Date
Kathy Tribby	Outdoor Recreation Planner	12/20/2011
Mitch Forsyth	Range Specialist	3/25/2011
Abby Hall	Range Technician	3/29/2011
Ben Hileman	Range Management Specialist	3/31/2011
Brian Hockett	Planning & Environmental Coordinator	4/6/2011
Barney Whiteman	Petroleum Engineer	4/6/2011

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: Stanley Jaymes Title: Field Manager

Date: 6/26/12

*This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3.