

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)
 Montana BLM's Intensive Inventory (August 1979 - November 1980)

b) **Inventory Area Name(s)/Number(s):** Woody Island Coulee MT-066-264

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/Havre Resource Area

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-066-264	YES (23,035)	--	--	--	--
Comments	Land improvements in the area include 28 reservoirs, two developed springs, seven shallow wells, numerous cattle guards, 3 windmills, one sheep feed shelter and many lengths of fence. Most if not all of these improvements are positioned in the eastern half of the unit.				
Inventory source: Montana BLM's Intensive Inventory (August 1979 - November 1980)					
MT-066-264	YES (23,035)	NO	NO	NO	--
Comments	The unit has many reservoirs, windmills, and vehicular ways dispersed through it. The topography cannot sufficiently screen these improvements from view to insure a natural appearance. The topography and vegetation also do not provide enough protection to avoid the sight, sounds, and evidence of other people in the unit. Recreational activities are limited by the lack of visual and ecological diversity.				

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

a. Area Unique Identifier: Woody Island Coulee – Area 11 Acreage 24,386
(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 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.):

The boundaries of this unit are mainly defined by the surrounding State and private lands and an International Boundary. The Woody Island County Road forms a portion of the south and east boundary.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural? Yes No 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):

Accumulated glacial debris deposited from this process formed an undulating landscape of many small hills with moderately steep to steep slopes and enclosed depression, best described as a hummocky moraine. This area differs from the glacial landscape found to the south that escaped severe glacial scouring, resulting in smoother relief.

There are 2 gas wells within this unit, both of which have been plugged and abandoned. There is a powerline right-of-way along the eastern edge of the unit in T. 37N., R. 25E., sec. 11, SESE, sec. 14, E2NE, sec. 23, E2NE, S2SW, NESE, S2SE, sec. 22, S2S2

There are portions of 7 grazing allotments within the unit. Within the identified area there are 42 reservoirs, 9 pits, 3 windmills (possibly 3 others not in RIPS), 28 stock tanks (Possibly 3-4 more not in RIPS), 6 cattle guards, 2 spring developments, 20 miles of buried water pipeline, 11 wells, 2 moats, and 1 spring enclosure. 5 or 6 of the stock tanks are the large 30' diameter tanks with concrete bases. There is also 1 line cabin (which may have burned). In addition there have been 691 acres seeded to crested wheatgrass, 140 acres seeded to pubescent wheatgrass, and 440 acres of native vegetation that have been renovated (chiseled). There are also 63 miles of two-track ways within the allotment. There is also approximately 41 miles of interior fence.

(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: Woody Island Coulee – Area 11

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
Craig Miller	Wildlife Biologist	3/17/2011
Mitch Forsyth	Range Specialist	3/25/2011
Abby Hall	Range Technician	3/29/2011
Ben Hileman	Rangeland Management Specialist	3/31/11
Brian Hockett	Planning & Environmental Coordinator	4/6/2011
Barney Whiteman	Petroleum Engineer	4/6/2011

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: Stanley Jaynes

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.