

## FORM 1

### Documentation of BLM Wilderness Inventory Findings on Record

**1. Is there existing BLM wilderness inventory information on all or part of this area?**

No (Go to Form 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 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):** Dry Fork Creek MT-065-280, Garey Coulee MT-065-281, Phillips Resource Area Remaining Public Lands/MT-065-321

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/Phillips 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-065-280	YES (15,360 BLM)	YES	--	--	--
<b>Comments</b>	This unit meets the minimum requirements of size and apparent naturalness. A field examination will be necessary to determine the impact of the range improvements.				
MT-065-281	NO	--	--	--	--
<b>Comments</b>	This unit has two roads which go through the unit and divide it into three areas of less than 5,000 acres.				
MT-065-321	NO	--	--	--	--
<b>Comments</b>	The remainder of public land within the Phillips Resource Area are blocks of				

	land less than 5,000 acres and lack sufficient wilderness characteristics to warrant consideration for intensive inventory.				
<b>Inventory source:</b> Montana BLM's Intensive Inventory (August 1979 - November 1980)					
MT-065-280	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES
<b>Comments</b>	The reservoirs and vehicular ways within both parcels detract somewhat from the naturalness. This unit lacks good vegetative or topographical screening and thus has no outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive or unconfined recreation. this unit will not be studied for wilderness.				

## FORM 2

### Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

a. Area Unique Identifier Dry Fork/Garey Coulee-20 Acreage 23,406  
(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.)

This area contains over 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-administered lands.

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

The north, west and east boundaries of this unit are defined by surrounding State and private lands. The south boundary is formed by the Dry Fork Road and another BLM maintained road. The easternmost portion of the unit contains an irregular boundary and a large inholding of private land.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural? Yes X 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):

There is 1 plugged and abandoned well in the center of this unit.

There are portions of 10 grazing allotments within the unit, approximately 14 miles of interior fence, several miles of vehicular routes, and many medium to large reservoirs scattered throughout. The 1979 inventory listed 25 reservoirs in the Dry Fork portion of the unit and 4 in the Gary Coulee portion.

The field visit found that a BLM maintained road through the center of the original inventory unit and a maintained road providing access to private lands to the northwest, split the unit into four sub-units. The westernmost and northcentral units did not meet the wilderness characteristics size criteria leaving two sub-units that did meet the size criteria.

20A is approximately 7,206 acres of sagebrush grasslands on the west side of the original unit. BLM maintained roads form the northwest, south and east boundaries while private and State lands form most of the remaining boundary. There is one State inholding. Several medium

to large reservoirs are located within the broad coulee which runs from east to west through the area.

**20B** is approximately 7,024 acres of sagebrush grasslands on the east side of the original unit. The Dry Fork Road forms the south boundary, North Fork Road forms the east boundary, and a BLM maintained road forms the west and north boundary. There are no inholdings and the reservoirs in this portion are fewer and smaller than those in the west sub-unit.

(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   X   No \_\_\_\_\_ N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Description (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for solitude):

The size and remoteness of the unit combined with its rolling topography provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. Most private lands directly adjacent to the unit are either native range or have been seeded or reverted back to grass and are no longer farmed. With the possible exception of big game hunting season vehicle use of routes in the unit and on adjacent lands is infrequent.

(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   X   No \_\_\_\_\_ N/A \_\_\_\_\_

(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):

Big game and upland bird hunting are currently the most popular recreational pursuits in the unit. It's possible to participate in a variety of primitive and unconfined recreation activities in the Dry Fork Gary Coulee including hiking, backpacking, hunting, horseback riding, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, photography and sightseeing for botanical, zoological and geological features.

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

Description:

Mule deer winter range (west tip)  
Pronghorn winter range (east half)  
Sharp-tailed grouse dancing grounds  
Greater sage-grouse strutting grounds  
Grassland bird nesting  
Black-tailed prairie dogs  
Important waterfowl nesting  
Portions of 7km ACEC

### Summary of Analysis\*

Area Unique Identifier: Dry Fork/Gary Coulee-20A and 20B

#### 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 in 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.

The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

#### Prepared by (team members):

Name	Title	Date
Kathy Tribby	Outdoor Recreation Planner	7/27/2011
Fritz Prellwitz	Wildlife Biologist	3/22/2011
Barney Whiteman	Petroleum Engineer	
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#### Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: Richard S Adams

Title: Field Manager

Date: 6/28/12

\*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.

