

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): Lamere Coulee Mt-065-304, Lambing Coulee Mt-065-305, 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-065-304	YES (33,800 – approx. 1,960 private)	YES	--	--	--
Comments	The unit meets minimum wilderness characteristics of size and naturalness, and may afford an outstanding opportunity for solitude and primitive type recreation.				
MT-065-305	YES	NO	--	--	--
Comments	The naturalness of the unit is impeded by the density of reservoirs, extensive fencing, and the road to the goose habitat. All have significant impact on the open grasslands of the unit.				
MT-065-321	NO	--	--	--	--

Comments	The remainder of public lands 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.				
Inventory source: Montana BLM's Intensive Inventory (August 1979 - November 1980)					
MT-065-304	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES
Comments	There are 47 reservoirs, 1 water well, 1 windmill, 26 miles of fence, and numerous vehicular ways. Some of these ways show signs of blading by machinery. Because of a number of intrusions within this unit, it no longer appears natural.				

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

a. Area Unique Identifier Lamere/Lambing Coulees-32 * Acreage 50,471
(If the inventory area consists of subunits, list the acreage of each and evaluate each separately).

*This write-up includes three sub-units; Area 32A (Lamere/Lambing Coulee North) and Area 32B (Lamere/Lambing Coulee South), and 32C (eastern portion). Area 32A contains 14,237 acres and Area 32B contains 25,744 acres. These two areas are divided by a bladed, BLM-maintained road. An additional 10,490 acres (32C) was found to lack apparent naturalness.

(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.)

Both areas (32A and 32B) contain over 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM-administered lands.

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

The initial inventory boundaries of this unit were mainly defined by surrounding private and State lands. The Black Coulee Road forms part of the west boundary, the North Dodson Road forms part of the south and west boundary, and the North Wagner and Lovejoy Roads help form the south and east boundaries. The interspersed nature of the surrounding private lands along with several large private parcels and State sections within the boundaries of the unit give this area an irregular edge and "Swiss cheese" form. Areas 32A and 32B are separated by a BLM-maintained road which runs along a northwest to southeast plane (T34N, R27E, Sections 5, 4, 3, 10, 11, 13 and T34N, R28E, Sections 18, 19, 20).

The eastern portion (32C) of the initial inventory unit was delineated from 32A and along a primitive route running along a north to south plane (T35N, R28E, Section 34 and T34N, R28E, Sections 3, 4, 9, 17, 20, 21).

The following discussion addresses the original unit as a whole - no attempt has been made to prorate the miles of fence and vehicle routes or supplemental values to the "new" subunits.

(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 are 5 plugged and abandoned gas wells within the initial inventory unit which is 38% leased. There are over 49 miles of routes within the area, mostly accessed by hunters, grazing permittees and adjacent landowners. Some of these routes have been bladed in the past but at the time of the inventory did not meet the definition of a wilderness inventory "road" due to the lack of maintenance and regular travel. Many small reservoirs are scattered throughout the unit but, due to topographical screening, no more than a few can be seen from any vantage point. Except for the reservoirs visible from the Black Coulee Road on the western boundary, most of the reservoirs appear to be natural features on the landscape. The majority of the man-made features described above were considered substantially unnoticeable during the field inspection.

There are two unfenced sections of state land and several small, unfenced parcels of private land inholdings in the unit. Livestock grazing on the comingled private and state lands is managed in conjunction with adjacent public land grazing allotments.

The eastern portion of the unit (32C) has several large, noticeable blocks of chisel plowing and crested wheatgrass interspersed throughout and does not meet the criteria of apparent naturalness.

Topography of the area is rolling hills and breaks typical of the northern glaciated plains. Vegetation consists mainly of short and mid grasses, sagebrush, and greasewood. Much of the surrounding private land is cropland and CRP but, for the most part, is only visible along the boundaries of the 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 No N/A

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

The rolling prairie, hills and occasional breaks within the unit provide sufficient opportunities for seclusion. Overall, the remoteness and relatively large size of units 32A and 32B (both over 14,000 acres) combined with the dissected and broken topography provides 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
(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):

It's possible to participate in a variety of primitive and unconfined recreation activities in the Lamere/Lambing Coulee units including hiking, backpacking, hunting, horseback riding, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, rock hounding, photography and sightseeing for botanical,

zoological and geological features. Big game and upland bird hunting are currently the most popular recreational pursuits in the area attracting hunters from across Montana as well as many nonresident hunters.

(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:

Many fossils and cultural resources are evident throughout the area. The unit provides mule deer and pronghorn winter range as well as important nesting habitat for waterfowl and other grassland birds. Sharp-tailed grouse dancing grounds and greater sage-grouse strutting grounds can also be found in the area.

Summary of Analysis*

Area Unique Identifier: Lamere/Lambing Coulees - Areas 32A & 32B

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).)

Sub-unit 32C was eliminated due to lack of apparent naturalness. 32A and 32B meet the minimum requirements for wilderness characteristics.

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
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Fritz Prellwitz	Wildlife Biologist	3/22/2011
Barney Whiteman	Petroleum Engineer	3/09/2011
Jon Kautt	Range Management Specialist	7/06/2011

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: Richard E Adams

Title: Field Manager

Date: 6/29/12

*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.