

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):** Box Elder Creek MT-065-277

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-065-277	YES (15,500 BLM)	--	--	--	--
Comments	Parts of this unit meets minimum wilderness characteristics of contiguous to lands managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service which have potential wilderness values. The parts of the unit meeting minimum wilderness characteristics are those public lands within three miles of the "Burnt Lodge" WSA boundary. The naturalness of the remainder of the unit is impeded by reservoirs, fencing, and large areas of private lands with separate the unit into strips of land approximately one mile wide and fifteen miles long. The unit is further divided by the road which goes through from Section 16 of T.23.N., R.32E..				
Inventory source: Montana BLM's Intensive Inventory (August 1979 - November 1980)					
MT-065-277	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES
Comments	The CMR Wildlife Refuge has recently changed the boundary of its proposed Burnt Lodge Wilderness Area. The Box Elder Unit is now contiguous to this unit only on its eastern most side. This eastern parcel of the Box Elder Unit which was still in				

	<p>contention for wilderness because it was contiguous to the CMR Unit, is under 5,000 acres, does not add to the wilderness values of the CMR unit, and will not be studied for wilderness. This parcel also lacked the necessary topographical or vegetative screening to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined forms of recreation.</p>
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FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

a. Area Unique Identifier Box Elder Creek East - 52 Acreage 7,112
(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 boundaries of this unit are defined by the CMR NWR and State lands to the south, Fourchette Bay Road and private lands to the west, and private and State lands to the north and east. This unit has an irregular shape caused by the large, interspersed parcels of private lands.

During the inventory team review, it was determined that the Killed Woman Road transects the northwest portion of the original inventory unit, eliminating approximately 100 acres. The remaining portion of the unit still meets the minimum size criteria.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural? Yes _____ No X N/A X
(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 portions of 5 grazing allotments within this unit, approximately 2 miles of interior fences, and several small reservoirs.

At least 12 miles of vehicular routes transect this inventory unit. Some of these routes provide access to CMR NWR and receive high use especially during the fall hunting seasons.

During inventory team review it was determined that this inventory unit does not meet the naturalness criteria for wilderness characteristics based on the above conditions.

Topography is breaks. Major vegetation is sagebrush, greasewood, conifers and a mixture of short and mid-grasses.

(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: Box Elder Creek East - 52

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).)

During the inventory team review, it was determined that the Killed Woman Road transects the northwest portion of the original inventory unit, eliminating approximately 100 acres. The remaining portion of the unit still meets the minimum size criteria.

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	3/14/2011
Fritz Prellwitz	Wildlife Biologist	3/22/2011
Roy Taylor	Range Management Specialist	3/14/2011
Jon Kautt	Range Management Specialist	3/14/2011
BJ Rhodes	Range Management Specialist	3/14/2011

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.

