

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):** Marsh Hawk Hills/MT-064-336, Caravan/MT-064-330

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/Valley 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-064-336	YES (78,340)	--	--	--	--
Comments	Original file missing				
MT-064-330	YES (10,840)	--	--	--	--
Comments	Original file missing				
Inventory source: Montana BLM's Intensive Inventory (August 1979 - November 1980)					
MT-064-336	YES	NO	--	--	--
Comments	The Marsh Hawk Hills Unit will not be studied for wilderness suitability. Although the unit retains a natural appearance, the openness of the terrain, lack of vegetative screening, and lack of diversity do not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation.				
MT-064-330	YES	NO	NO	NO	--
Comments	The unit will not be studied for wilderness. The area is so severely impacted and open, that it lacks a natural appearance. It also neither provides an outstanding opportunity for solitude nor a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.				

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

a. Area Unique Identifier Caravan/Marsh Hawk Hills Acreage 63,380
(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 initial inventory unit is somewhat diamond in shape and is approximately 20 miles wide (east to west) and 10 miles long. The north boundary of this unit is formed by the Triple Crossing Road while the Ridge Road forms the west boundary. The Stonehouse road defines the southwest boundary and Willow Creek Road and private lands form the southeast boundary. There are 5 sections of State land within the unit boundary.

During the course of the inventory update, the northern boundary of the unit was clipped to the existing fence line due to the presence of a large water spreader system across the northern edge of the original unit that is substantially noticeable. This eliminated approximately 6,400 acres. The western portion (approximately 3,200 acres) was eliminated due to the presence of an old county road that is currently used and maintained by grazing permittees. Another 4,200 acres was clipped from the southeast portion of the unit due to the presence of a water facility right-of-way and several large apparent reservoirs, including Forest Reservoir with its access road and concrete structure. The remaining lands with wilderness characteristics come to 49,564 acres.

The following descriptions apply to the initial inventory unit.

(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 7 grazing allotments within the inventory unit, approximately 35 miles of interior fences and several medium to large reservoirs, including the Forest Reservoir in the south which contains a large, concrete water control structure. Approximately 40 miles of

vehicular routes are also found within the area including a maintained/constructed road to the Forest Reservoir and an old, maintained county road in the west.

The northern portion contains a water spreader system across approximately 700 acres.

There is one water facility right-of-way (MTM 0-044728) which encumbers a total of about 80 acres in T. 25N., R. 38E., sec 19, NESE, sec. 30, Lot 1, NENW (see map). The other right-of-ways are roads and power lines which apparently form the unit boundaries.

This unit consists of gently rolling hills vegetated with sagebrush, prairie grasses, and isolated stands of cottonwood and willows.

(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 size and remoteness of the unit combined with its rolling topography provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The majority of lands surrounding the inventory unit are public lands consisting of native range. 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 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 Caravan Marsh Hawk Hills 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 No N/A

Description:

Mule deer winter range
Pronghorn winter range
Grassland bird nesting
Greater sage-grouse strutting grounds
Important waterfowl nesting

Summary of Analysis*

Area Unique Identifier: Caravan/Marsh Hawk Hills

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	6/15/2011
Fritz Prellwitz	Wildlife Biologist	3/22/2011
Micah Lee	Realty Specialist	06/23/2011
Kirsten Boyle	Natural Resource Specialist	3/24/11
Ray Neumiller	Rangeland Management Specialist	7/11/2011
Brian Hockett	Planning & Environmental Coordinator	7/11/2011
Jordan Thompson	Rangeland Management Specialist	7/11/2011

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: Steve Klossner

Title: acting FM

Date: 6-28-2012

*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.