

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)

b) Inventory Area Name(s)/Number(s): Brazil Creek MT-064-349, MT-064-345, MT-064-341

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-064-349 | YES (11,000) (BLM) | NO | -- | -- | -- |
| Comments | The railroad, which is heavily used, and the open mining operations are more than enough to totally compromise any natural quality which may have existed. It is impossible to escape any of these impacts. Bentonite trucks and other heavy equipment proliferate along support roads, and at the mining locations. This unit is not recommended for intensive inventory. | | | | |
| | Original files not available for 345 and 341 | | | | |
| Inventory source: Montana BLM's Intensive Inventory (August 1979 - November 1980) | | | | | |
| Comments | | | | | |

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

a. Area Unique Identifier Miller Coulee - 74 Acreage 54,246
(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 area is bordered by Little Beaver Road on the south, Arranbide road on the west, and by patches of State and private land and various county roads on the rest. There are several State and private inholdings, giving the unit a "Swiss cheese" effect.

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

An old mining (bentonite) railroad bed runs through the inventory unit. There are 346 mining claims in the area with active mining scattered throughout as well as some un-reclaimed pits.

Portions of 16 grazing allotments overlap the unit with many miles of interior fences. A pipeline and stock tanks run through the eastern portion and there are several large reservoirs and spreader dykes throughout the unit.

There are many miles of vehicle routes associated with the grazing allotments and bentonite mines throughout the inventory unit.

During team review, the inventory unit was determined to not meet the apparent naturalness criteria of wilderness characteristics for the above reasons.

(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: Miller Coulee - 74

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 | 3/5/2011 |
| Fritz Prellwitz | Wildlife Biologist | 3/22/2011 |
| Barney Whiteman | Petroleum Engineer | |
| Steve Klessens | Field Manager (Acting) | 3/31/2011 |
| Ray Neumiller | Rangeland Management Specialist | 3/31/2011 |
| Jordan Thompson | Rangeland Management Specialist | 3/31/2011 |

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: Steve Klessens

Title: Acting FM

Date: 6-29-2012

**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.*