

6301 -Wilderness Characteristics Inventory (public)

FORM 1

Documentation of BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings on Record

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

No (Go to Form 2) Yes

(If yes, and if more than one area is within the area, list the unique identifiers for those areas.):

- a) **Inventory Source:** GIS, Specialist's Field Knowledge
- b) **Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s):** Devils Creek Common, MT020-039
- c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** T21N, R 32E
- d) **BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):** MCFO

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: GIS

Area Unique Identifier	Sufficient Size? Yes/No (acres)	Naturalness? Yes/No	Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No	Supplemental Values? Yes/No
MT-020-039	Y/5,236 Ac.	Y	Y	Y	Y

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FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier: Devils Creek Common, MT020-039

Acreage: 5,236 Ac.

(If the inventory area consists of subunits, list the acreage of each and evaluate each separately).

In completing steps (1)-(5), use additional space as necessary.

(1) Is the area of sufficient size? (If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, highlight "Yes" and describe the exception in the space provided below),

Yes

No

Note: If "No" is highlighted the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.

Description (describe the boundaries of the area--wilderness inventory roads, property lines, etc.): BLM administered public land bordering private land is the boundary on the south, west and east sides. The Charles M. Russell (CMR) National Wildlife Refuge borders the northern edge. There is one state section bordering the southeast portion of the unit. Devils Creek drainage runs through the middle of the unit. Other, unnamed tributaries, are within the unit which create heavily dissected terrain.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes

No

N/A

Note: If "No" is highlighted the area does not have wilderness characteristics; highlight "NA" for the remaining questions below.

Description (include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation, and summary of major human uses/activities): The unit is completely BLM administered public lands, however, there is no vehicular public access as one has to cross private land to gain entry to the unit. The unit does adjoin CMR land to the north, walk-in access is available. Topography is rough with steep buttes and mesas. Ponderosa pine stands and juniper are evident throughout the unit, as well as native grasses and sage. Devils Creek transects the unit. There are very few man-made developments with the exception of two reservoirs. These developments are substantially unnoticeable. There are offsite impacts which include ranch-related developments and activity on the periphery of the unit.

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(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 unit is contiguous to CMR lands which have outstanding opportunities for solitude. CMR and BLM lands are topographically and vegetatively indistinguishable along the common boundary. The unit itself does provide outstanding solitude, good vegetation and topographic screening. Sights and sounds within the unit would be very limited.

(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 highlighted for both 3 and 4 the area does not have wilderness characteristics; highlight "NA" for question 5.

Description (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation): The unit does provide outstanding recreation for primitive and unconfined recreation in conjunction with contiguous CMR lands. Outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation include horseback riding, , backpacking, hunting and hiking.

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)?

Yes

No

N/A

Description: The unit is very scenic.

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Summary of Analysis *

Area Unique Identifier: Devils Creek Common, MT020-039

Summary

Results of analysis:

The entire unit has the characteristics of size, naturalness, and outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. The northern portion of the unit is contiguous with CMR lands, which has the same characteristics. The lands demonstrate lands with wilderness characteristics.

(Note: explain the inventory findings for the entirety of the inventory unit. When an LWC has been identified that is smaller than the size of the total inventory unit, explain why certain portions of the inventory unit are not included in the LWC (e.g. the inventory found that certain parts lacked naturalness).

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|--|------------|----|-----|
| 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 |

Highlight one:

The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as Land with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC).

The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by (team members):

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Date: March 25, 2011 and November 26th, 2012

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: 

Title: Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management Miles City Field Office

Date: 12/4/12

• 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.

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