

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 (if yes, and if more than one area is within the area, list the names of those areas):

a) **Inventory Source:** ___Encampment River

b) **Inventory Area Name(s)/Number(s):** _Encampment River
Inventory_____

c) **Map Name(s)/Number(s):** _
Encampment, WY-030-301_____

d) **BLM District (s)/Field Office(s):** ___
Rawlins Field Office_____

2. BLM Inventory Finds 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:

M:\gis_workareas\Pionke\CCSM\Chris LWC Shapefile\LandWildCharc1979(1)

Area #/Name	Sufficient Size? Yes/No (acres)	Naturalness? Yes/No	Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No	Supplemental Values? Yes/No
Encampment, WY-030-301	Yes (6795 acres)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

a. Area Number/Name Encampment River Perimeter WY-T14R84S13____
Acreage 2248_____

(1) Is the area of sufficient size?

Yes X_____ No _____

Describe the boundaries of the area (roads, property lines, etc.). If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check "Yes" and describe the exception. If more than one inventory area is involved, list the acres in each and evaluate each area/sub-area separately. In completing steps (1) – (5), use additional space as necessary. The unit is bounded on the west by County Road 363 and by the private Water Valley Ranch Road. The north boundary is private land. The east boundary is County Road 211 and private land. The south boundary is the Encampment WSA inholding.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS: (Include acreage, land ownership, location, topography, vegetation and summary of the major human issues/activities)

The unit has 2248 acres in it in three separate blocks all of which are bounded by the Encampment River WSA. The bordering Encampment River WSA totals 4547 acres. The total acreage of the Encampment River Perimeter Inventory Unit added to the bordering Encampment River WSA equals 6794.4 acres. It is this total acreage that provides the exception to the sufficient size requirement of greater than 5000 acres for LWC status consideration.

The unit is located within the following townships: Township 14, Range 84, Sections 6-8 and 12-14; Township 14, Range 83, Sections 18-19 and 30-31.

The area is comprised of steep slopes, high ridges and a scenic river gorge, as it is adjacent and bordering to the Encampment WSA. Lower elevations and drainages along the Encampment River are characterized by narrow belts of deciduous tree (cottonwoods, willows, alders), mixed conifer/aspen, and grasses. The middle elevations and rocky slopes are primarily composed of bunch grasses, shrubs (sagebrush, mountain mahogany, bitterbrush, serviceberry), and mixed conifer/aspen. The upper elevations and ridges above the canyon rim are generally supportive of the same species as the middle zone, but with smaller proportions of shrubs and less dense stands of grass. The lands are administered by the Rawlins Field Office of the BLM. The lands are located from one to five miles south of Encampment, Wyoming. The area is used for livestock grazing, hunting, fishing, hiking, rock collecting, and by whitewater kayakers.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes No N/A

Description: The 10.73 miles of primitive routes (i.e., unimproved roads and two-track trails) and 0.93 miles of wilderness inventory roads (i.e., well access roads) detract from the unit's

naturalness. Examples of these primitive routes and wilderness inventory roads are demonstrated in photos 1-10, 12-16, and 18-19. When hiking across the Encampment River Perimeter Unit, the casual observer cannot escape the constant view of primitive routes. These primitive routes create noticeable linear intrusions and disturbances that interrupt the experience of any wilderness character briefly encountered in areas untrammelled by the works of man.

The casual observer is often attracted to bodies of water while hiking. Water adds interest and diversity to the landscape. When arriving at the one spring and one water well in this unit, the casual observer would notice that these are not natural sources for water and that they have encountered water sources designed for cattle operations where the water is unfit for human consumption. The numerous range improvements, including one fence, one well, and one spring within this small unit were developed, primarily, for commercial grazing operations giving the casual observer a perception that they are visitors to a cattle range rather than a wilderness untrammelled by the works of man. While the presence of cattle is compatible with a natural landscape for wilderness inventory purposes, the noticeable presence of numerous grazing-related developments in this small unit is not.

In sum, the cumulative impacts on naturalness including the primitive routes, wilderness inventory roads and permanent range improvements have impaired the naturalness in the Encampment River Perimeter Unit to a level that is incompatible with the definitions of wilderness provided in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (incorporated in FLPMA 1976):

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

(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: The area does not meet naturalness criteria.

(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

Description: The area does not meet naturalness criteria.

(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 area does not meet naturalness criteria.

Summary of Analysis

Area Name and/or Number: ___ Encampment River Perimeter WY-T14R84S13_____

Summary

Results of analysis:

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 of 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 and is identified as Land with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC).

X The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

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Date: _____

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