

Wilderness Review Checklist for Oil and Gas Lease Parcels

Sec. 603 (43 USC 1782). The Wilderness Act states:

“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.”

“The word ‘roadless’ refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use. A ‘way’ maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.”

Lease Parcel	More than 5000 of roadless land (yes/no)	Imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable (yes/no)	Outstanding opportunity for solitude or primitive recreation (yes/no)	Contains natural features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value (yes/no)	In Citizen Proposed Wilderness Area (yes/no. If yes but dropped during RMP process, state why)
WYW-1511-001	No				No
002	No				No
003	No				No
004	No				No
005	No				No
006	No				No
008	Yes	No			No
009 Northwest Corner	No	No			No
009 Remaining Portion	Yes	No			No
010 West Portion	Yes	No			Yes. However, through development of the Rawlins RMP, the BLM found the lands to be unmanageable for wilderness character because of preexisting oil and gas leases. As such, the BLM elected to manage lands with wilderness character for multiple use and not for protection of wilderness character. See RMP ROD Page 1-3, bullet 4 and Proposed RMP/Final EIS page 2-10 & 11 “Expanded Wilderness Study Area Alternative.”
010 Remaining Portion	No				No

Lease Parcel	More than 5000 of roadless land (yes/no)	Imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable (yes/no)	Outstanding opportunity for solitude or primitive recreation (yes/no)	Contains natural features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value (yes/no)	In Citizen Proposed Wilderness Area (yes/no. If yes but dropped during RMP process, state why)
WYW-1511-011	Yes	No			No
012 North Portion	Yes	No			No
012 South Portion	No				No
013 South Portion	Yes	No			No
013 North Portion	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes. However, through development of the Rawlins RMP, the BLM found the lands to be unmanageable for wilderness character because of preexisting oil and gas leases. As such, the BLM elected to manage lands with wilderness character for multiple use and not for protection of wilderness character. See RMP ROD Page 1-3, bullet 4 and Proposed RMP/Final EIS page 2-10 & 11 "Expanded Wilderness Study Area Alternative."
014 West Portion	No				No
014 East Portion	Yes	No			No
015	No				No
016 Southwest Corner	No				No
016 Remaining Portions	Yes	No			No
019	No				No
020	No				No
037	Yes	No			No
038	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
039	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
040	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
041	Yes	No			No
042	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
043	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
044	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
045	No				No
046	No				No

Lease Parcel	More than 5000 of roadless land (yes/no)	Imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable (yes/no)	Outstanding opportunity for solitude or primitive recreation (yes/no)	Contains natural features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value (yes/no)	In Citizen Proposed Wilderness Area (yes/no. If yes but dropped during RMP process, state why)
WYW-1511-047	No				No
048	No				No
049	No				No
050	No				No
053	No				No
054	No				No
055	No				No
056	No				No
057	No				No
058	No				No
059	No				No
060	No				No
067	No				No
068	No				No
069	No				No
070	No				No
082	No				No
083	No				No
067	No				No
068	No				No
069	No				No
070	No				No
082	No				No

1 "The word 'roadless' refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use. A 'way' maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road."

2 Examples of manmade features that may be considered substantially unnoticeable in certain cases are: trails, trail signs, bridges, fire towers, fire breaks, fire presuppression facilities, pit toilets, fisheries enhancement facilities, fire rings, hitching posts, snow gauges, water quantity and quality measuring devices, research monitoring markers and devices, radio repeater sites, air quality monitoring devices, fencing, spring developments, overgrown and barely visible two-track ways, and small reservoirs.

NOTES: