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6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY

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U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

**BLM
MANUAL**

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6300-1-WILDERNESS INVENTORY

.01 Purpose. This manual contains the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) policy, direction, general procedures, and guidance for conducting wilderness inventories under Section 201 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). This manual does not address Wilderness areas designated by Congress or Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) pending before Congress. This manual does apply to any WSAs that were established after 1991 and are not pending before Congress.

.02 Objective. This manual establishes BLM guidance for identifying Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (LWCs).

.03 Authority. Principal authorities affecting the inventory of public lands for LWCs are:

A. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), 43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*

B. The Wilderness Act of 1964, 16 U.S.C. 1131.

.04 Responsibility.

A. The BLM Director shall:

1. Establish policy, goals, objectives, and procedures for conducting a wilderness inventory.
2. Coordinate with BLM State Directors, field offices, other agencies, or entities in conducting a wilderness inventory.
3. Ensure adherence to delegations of authority related to decisions, actions, and policies concerning wilderness inventory.

B. State Directors, within their respective jurisdictions, shall:

1. Implement policy and provide statewide program coordination and guidance for conducting a wilderness inventory.
2. Provide program development, technical management assistance, and funding support to field offices as required to review information and document decisions made with respect to LWCs.

C. Field Managers, within their respective jurisdictions, shall:

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1. Gather, review, and document relevant data and public input for conducting and maintaining the wilderness inventory on a continuing basis.
2. Determine and document which areas or portions of areas possess or lack wilderness characteristics.
3. Maintain a permanent documentation file for inventoried areas.

.05 References.

- A. FLPMA, 43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*
- B. The Wilderness Act of 1964, 16 U.S.C. 1131.
- C. Land use planning regulations, 43 CFR 1600 and 1601.

.06 Policy. Managing the wilderness resource is part of the BLM's multiple-use mission. In addition to its value as a setting for primitive and unconfined recreation or solitude, these lands provide a range of other uses and benefits.

A. Wilderness Inventory. Regardless of past inventory, the BLM must maintain, i.e. keep current, an inventory of the wilderness resource on public lands. The wilderness inventory may need to be updated when:

1. The public or the BLM identifies wilderness characteristics as an issue during scoping in a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis;
2. An RMP is being developed or an amendment or revision is being initiated;
3. The BLM has new information concerning resource conditions, including where the public has submitted new wilderness characteristics information that meets The BLM's minimum threshold as described at 1.12;
4. The BLM has determined that the land appears to have wilderness characteristics and a proposed project may impair those apparent characteristics; or
5. Additional lands are acquired.

B. Documentation. Managers must document a wilderness inventory.

.07 Historical Background

The inventory will evaluate wilderness characteristics as discussed in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964, and incorporated in FLPMA, which 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.”

.1 Wilderness Inventory Procedures

.11 Introduction. This chapter contains procedural guidance for conducting wilderness inventories of BLM lands.

Maintaining the Inventory.

Section 201 of FLPMA requires the BLM to maintain an inventory of all public lands and their resources. It also provides that the preparation and maintenance of such inventory shall not, of itself, change or prevent change of the management or use of the lands. The BLM has discretion in implementing this inventory direction. Field Offices will determine when it is appropriate to conduct a wilderness inventory, consistent with the Secretary’s Order 3310. Normally, Field Offices conduct a wilderness inventory in the context of a land use plan, when new information exists, or when conditions change. Also, when making project-level decisions in areas where the BLM determines that the land appears to have wilderness characteristics that have not been both inventoried and analyzed in accordance with Secretary’s Order 3310 the BLM must conduct an inventory before authorizing a proposed project that may impair those apparent wilderness characteristics. The primary function of an inventory is to determine the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. Keeping an inventory current requires gathering information and preparing a permanent file for any new inventory. It is essential that an adequate record of the inventory and subsequent updates be maintained that documents inventory findings, including relevant narratives, maps, photographs, citizen information, and any other relevant information.

.12 The Wilderness Inventory Process. Wilderness inventory is the process of determining the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. The BLM must document the existing conditions as opposed to potential conditions that may result from a future planning decision. Where inventory data exists, a team familiar with the area may conduct much of

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the inventory using available information (e.g., existing maps and photos) and field checking as necessary. (The wilderness inventory process directive does not mean that the BLM must conduct a completely new inventory and disregard the inventory information that it already has for a particular area. Rather, the BLM must ensure that its current inventory is updated with appropriate information to conform to Secretary's Order 3310 and this policy.)

When citizen information regarding wilderness characteristics is received, document the submitted materials including: date of submission; name of proponent; name of proposal and/or area identified by the proponent; BLM District(s) and Field Office(s) affected; type of material submitted (e.g., narrative, map, photo); and, whether or not the public information meets the minimum standard for further review by BLM. The minimum standard that citizen information must meet in order for BLM to consider the information during a wilderness inventory update process requires a submission of the following information to BLM: (a) a map of sufficient detail adequate to determine specific boundaries of the area in question; (b) a detailed narrative that describes the wilderness characteristics of the area and documents how that information significantly differs from the information in prior inventories conducted by BLM regarding the wilderness values of the area; and, (c) photographic documentation.

When citizen information regarding wilderness characteristics meets the minimum standard for further review, as soon as practicable, the BLM shall evaluate the information regarding the validity of proposed boundaries of the area(s), the existence of roads and other boundary features, the size of the area(s), and the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. This evaluation may be based on relevant information available in the office (prior BLM inventories, interdisciplinary team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc.). Field checking may also be needed. Compare existing BLM knowledge with the submitted information. Determine if the conclusion reached in previous BLM inventories remains valid, and document your findings. Document the rationale for your findings and make the findings available to the public. Retain a record of the evaluation and your findings as evidence of BLM's consideration.

When the BLM confirms that LWCs exist, refer to BLM Manual 6300-2 "Consideration of Lands with Wilderness Characteristics in the Land Use Planning Process". BLM Manual 6300-2 establishes the BLM's policy on considering LWCs in land use plans, land use plan amendments or revisions, and management of LWCs as administratively designated Wild Lands. The guidance also establishes the BLM's policy for considering project-level decisions in areas that have not yet been inventoried and analyzed consistent with the new policy described in 6300-2.

A. Identify Lands Requiring Inventory.

1. Identifying the specific area where inventory is needed requires combining existing land status and available road inventory data. Where acquired lands are inventoried, the area inventoried may be larger than the acquired lands because of the need to look at contiguous roadless Federal lands.
2. Assign each area a name and number.

3. Initiate a Permanent Documentation File for each area (Appendix A).

B. Conduct the Inventory.

Complete the Inventory Area Evaluation (Appendix B), a Route Analysis (Appendix C), and a Photo Log (Appendix D) for each area. The forms in Appendices B, C, and D should be adequate for most wilderness inventories but minor modifications may be made to meet Field Office needs.

.13 Wilderness Characteristics.

A. Analysis of Roads and Other Impacts to Naturalness. Offices undertaking an inventory may take different approaches to addressing the effect of roads and other impacts on wilderness characteristics. Offices may:

1. Identify any roads and their influence on the boundary of the area described (see Glossary for definitions).

or

2. Determine the impact of an area's transportation system and other visual remnants of human activities on naturalness.

B. Analysis of Wilderness Characteristics. The inventory will evaluate wilderness characteristics as defined in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964, and incorporated in FLPMA. In order for an area to be classified as an LWC, it must possess sufficient size, naturalness, and outstanding opportunities for either solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation. In addition, it may also possess supplemental values.

1. Size. Determine if the size criteria will be satisfied for areas by meeting one of the following situations and circumstances:

- a. Roadless areas with over 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM lands. State or private lands are not included in making this acreage determination.

- b. Roadless areas of less than 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM lands where any one of the following apply:

- (1) They are contiguous with lands which have been formally determined to have wilderness or potential wilderness values. Such lands include designated Wilderness; BLM Wilderness Study Areas; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service areas Proposed for Wilderness Designation; U.S. Forest Service (FS) Wilderness Study Areas or areas of Recommended Wilderness; and

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National Park Service (NPS) areas Recommended or Proposed for Designation. They do not include NPS areas merely considered “Eligible for Wilderness Study”, nor do they include FS Roadless Areas unless they are also designated as “Recommended Wilderness” through a Forest Plan Revision.

- (2) It is demonstrated that the area is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition.
- (3) Any roadless island of the public lands.

Note: If an inventory area does not meet the size criterion, it does not contain wilderness characteristics. Document the findings.

2. Naturalness.

a. Affected Primarily by the Forces of Nature. Determine if the area appears to be in a natural condition.

(1) It must appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, and any work of human beings must be substantially unnoticeable. Examples of human-made features that may be considered substantially unnoticeable in certain cases are: trails, trail signs, bridges, fire towers, fire breaks, fire pre-suppression 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.

b. Describing Human Impacts. Document significant human impacts within the area. If several minor impacts exist, summarize their cumulative effect on the area’s degree of apparent naturalness.

(1) The review of human impacts will assess the presence or absence of apparent naturalness (i.e., do the works of humans appear to be substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor?). There is an important difference between an area’s natural integrity and its apparent naturalness as explained below.

(a) Natural integrity refers to the presence or absence of ecosystems that are relatively unaffected by modern human activities.

(b) Apparent naturalness refers to whether or not an area looks natural to the average visitor who is not familiar with

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the biological composition of natural ecosystems versus
human-affected ecosystems.

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(2) Caution should be used in assessing the effect of relatively minor human impacts on naturalness. Some human works are acceptable so long as they are substantially unnoticeable. Avoid an overly strict approach to assessing naturalness. For example, the presence of a water trough is a relatively minor human impact on naturalness, and may be considered substantially unnoticeable.

c. Outside Human Impacts. Human impacts outside the area will not normally be considered in assessing naturalness of an area. If, however, an outside impact of major significance exists, it should be noted in the overall inventory area description and evaluated for its direct effects on the area.

Note: If an inventory area does not meet the naturalness criterion, it does not contain wilderness characteristics. Document the findings.

3. Opportunities for Solitude or a Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation. Determine if the area has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. The word “or” in this sentence means that an area only has to possess one or the other. The area does not have to possess outstanding opportunities for both elements, nor does it need to have outstanding opportunities on every acre. This also holds true when an area is contiguous to lands with identified wilderness characteristics. In most cases, the two opportunities can be expected to go hand-in-hand. An outstanding opportunity for solitude, however, may be present in an area offering only limited primitive recreation potential. Also, an area may be so attractive for primitive recreation that it would be difficult to maintain an opportunity for solitude.

Each area must be assessed on its own merits or in combination with any adjacent LWCs as to whether an outstanding opportunity exists. Do not disqualify an area based on a finding that outstanding opportunities exist in only a portion of the area. Do not compare the lands in question with other parcels, nor use any type of rating system or scale, whether numerical, alphabetical, or qualitative, in making the assessment. Use good judgment in determining that outstanding opportunities either do or do not exist in each area.

a. Solitude. Determine whether or not the area has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

(1) In making this determination, consider factors that influence solitude only as they affect a visitor’s opportunity to avoid the

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sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in the area. Only consider the impacts of sights and sounds from outside the wilderness on the opportunity for solitude if these impacts are pervasive and omnipresent.

(2) Factors or elements influencing solitude may include size, configuration, topographic and vegetative screening, and ability of the visitor to find seclusion. It is the combination of these and similar elements upon which an overall solitude determination will be made. It may be difficult, for example, to avoid the sights and sounds of people in some areas unless the area is relatively large. Outstanding opportunities for solitude can be found in areas lacking vegetation or topographic screening. A small area could also provide opportunities for solitude if, due to topography or vegetation, visitors can screen themselves from one another.

b. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation.

(1) Determine whether or not the area offers an outstanding opportunity for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. In making this determination, consider those activities that provide dispersed, undeveloped recreation which do not require facilities or motorized equipment.

(2) Some examples of primitive and unconfined types of recreation are: hiking; backpacking; fishing; hunting; spelunking; horseback riding; climbing; river running; cross-country skiing; snowshoeing; dog sledding; photography; bird watching; canoeing; kayaking; sailing; sightseeing for botanical, zoological, or geological features; or other activities permitted in Wilderness Areas.

(3) An area may possess outstanding opportunities for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation through either the diversity in primitive and unconfined recreational activities possible in the area or the outstanding quality of one opportunity. Other factors to consider include:

(a) Present visitor use of an area is not necessary in evaluating this criterion. The factor to be determined is whether an outstanding opportunity is present, regardless of the amount of use.

(b) A trail system or convenient access is not essential for an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined

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recreation. The absence of these facilities may increase opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

(c) The presence or absence of water is not essential for an outstanding primitive recreation opportunity.

(d) The presence of “challenge” and “risk” are appropriate, but not essential, for an outstanding primitive recreation opportunity to exist in an area.

Note: If an inventory area does not meet the solitude criterion and does not meet the primitive and unconfined recreation criterion, it does not contain wilderness characteristics. If the area contains the primitive recreation and/or solitude criteria as well as the size and naturalness criteria, it does contain wilderness characteristics. Document the findings.

4. Supplemental Values. If size, naturalness and outstanding opportunities criteria are met, then determine if the area contains ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. Supplemental values are not required to be present in order to classify an area as an LWC, but their presence should be documented and taken into account where they exist.

C. Boundary Delineation. Define the area with wilderness characteristics to exclude substantially noticeable human-caused impacts. Minor impacts rarely require an adjustment. Where there are several minor impacts, they should be evaluated for their cumulative effect on an area’s apparent naturalness. The defined area of the LWC must meet the previously described size criterion.

1. Natural portions of an area located between individual human imprints should not be automatically excluded from the area.
2. When establishing the boundary, do not create a setback or buffer from the physical edge of the imprint of man.
3. Developed rights-of-way (ROW) are treated like other significant impacts and the boundary should be drawn at the outer edge of the ROW.
4. Undeveloped ROWs and similar undeveloped possessory interests (e.g., mineral leases) are not treated as an impact to wilderness characteristics. (Frequently, these rights are never developed; such areas will be further examined during planning for LWCs.)
5. An area can have wilderness characteristics even though every acre within the area may not meet all the criteria. The boundary should be determined largely

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on naturalness rather than being constricted on the basis of opportunity for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation. Locate boundaries to exclude only the unnatural portions of the area.

Note: Inventory areas that meet the size, naturalness, and the outstanding solitude and/or the outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation criteria are described as LWCs.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The following terms and definitions are applicable to this manual only.

A

apparent naturalness: See naturalness.

B

boundaries: Inventory unit boundaries are normally formed by roads, property lines, rights-of-way, or other substantially noticeable imprints of human activity. Dead-end roads (i.e., “cherry stem roads”) may extend into the unit and are excluded from the unit, which will modify the unit boundary.

C

contiguous: Lands or legal subdivisions having a common boundary; lands having only a common corner are not contiguous.

L

land use plan: A set of decisions that establish management direction for land within an administrative area, as prescribed under the planning provisions of the FLPMA. They are an assimilation of land use plan level decisions developed through the planning process, regardless of the scale at which the decisions were developed.

Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (LWCs): Inventory areas that meet the size, naturalness, and the outstanding solitude and/or the outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation criteria.

N

National Landscape Conservation System: A legislated system of Congressional or Presidential areas managed by the BLM, the components of which include National Monuments, National Conservation Areas and similar designations, Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, and National Scenic and Historic Trails.

naturalness: The degree to which an area generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of people’s work substantially unnoticeable. It is not synonymous with “natural integrity”.

O

opportunity: A situation or condition favorable for attainment of a goal.

outstanding: Standing out from a group: conspicuous.

P

primitive and unconfined recreation: Non-motorized, non-mechanized (except as provided by law), and undeveloped types of recreational activities. Bicycles are mechanical transport.

public lands: Any land and interest in land owned by the United States within the several States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management, without regard to how the United States acquired ownership, except: lands located on the Outer Continental Shelf; lands held in trust for the benefit of Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos; and lands where the United States retains the mineral estate but the surface is private.

R

road: For the purpose of inventorying wilderness characteristics only, the BLM will continue to base the wilderness inventory “road” definition from the FLPMA’s legislative history. The language below is from the House of Representatives Committee Report 94-1163, page 17, dated May 15, 1976, on what became the FLPMA.

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

The BLM previously adopted and will continue to use the following sub-definitions of certain words and phrases in the BLM road definition stated above:

- a. **“Improved and maintained”** – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.
- b. **“Mechanical means”** – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.
- c. **“Relatively regular and continuous use”** – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources, which may entail lengthy return intervals for this purpose; access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities; or access roads to mining claims.

A route that was established or has been maintained solely by the passage of vehicles would not be considered a road, even if it is used on a relatively regular and continuous basis. Vehicle routes constructed by mechanical means but that are no longer being maintained by mechanical methods are not roads. Sole use of hands and feet to move rocks or dirt without the use of tools or machinery does not meet the definition of

“mechanical means.” Roads need not be “maintained” on a regular basis but rather “maintained” when road conditions warrant actions to keep it in a usable condition. A dead-end (cherry-stem) road can form the boundary of an inventory area and does not by itself disqualify an area from being considered “roadless.”

route: Any linear feature located within areas that have been identified as having wilderness characteristics and not meeting the wilderness inventory road definition.

S

setback: A buffer or border, including “zone of influence.”

solitude: The state of being alone or remote from others; isolation. A lonely or secluded place.

supplemental values: Ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. These values may be present in an area with wilderness characteristics, but they are not required.

T

trammel: Anything that impedes or hinders free action.

transportation system: The roads, primitive roads, and trails designated as facility assets and maintained by the BLM.

W

wilderness: An area defined in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891), and included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

wilderness characteristics: These include the area’s size, its apparent naturalness, and outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. It may also include supplemental values.

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APPENDIX A – PERMANENT DOCUMENTATION FILE

The permanent documentation file should include the following:

1. **Inventory Area Evaluation:** Appendix B.
2. **Route Analysis:** Appendix C.
3. **Inventory Maps:** Inventory maps used in conducting and documenting findings of wilderness inventories must be retained. Maps should depict the area name or number, boundary, and any photo points.
4. **Photo Documentation:** Documentation could include a descriptive log and photographs (Appendix D).
5. **Miscellaneous:** Include additional notes, forms, and documents.

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APPENDIX B – INVENTORY AREA EVALUATION

Evaluation of Current Conditions:

- 1) Document and review the existing BLM wilderness inventory findings on file regarding the presence or absence of individual wilderness characteristics, using Form 1, below.
- 2) Consider relevant information regarding current conditions available in the office to identify and describe any changes to the existing information use interdisciplinary team knowledge, aerial photographs, field observations, maps, etc., and document your findings on Form 2, below. Document current conditions regarding wilderness characteristics, as opposed to potential conditions that may result from a future planning decision.

Conduct field reviews as necessary to verify information and to ascertain current conditions. Reach conclusions on current conditions including boundaries, size of areas and presence or absence of wilderness characteristics. Fully explain the basis for each conclusion on Form 2, including any critical differences between BLM and citizen information.

Document your findings regarding current conditions for each inventoried area. Describe how the present conditions are similar to, or have changed from, the conditions documented in the original wilderness inventory. Document your findings on Form 2 for each inventory area. Cite to or attach data considered, including photographs, maps, GIS layers, field trip notes, project files, etc.

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: _____

b) Inventory Area Name(s)/Number(s): _____

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): _____

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s):_____

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: _____

[illegible]

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

a. Area Number/Name _____ Acreage _____

(1) Is the area of sufficient size?

Yes _____ 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 acreage in each and evaluate each area/sub-area separately.

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

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

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A _____

Description:

(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:

(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:

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A _____

Description:

Summary of Analysis

Area Name and/or Number: _____

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

☐ The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by:

Team members:

(Name, Title)

Reviewed by:

_____ **Date:** _____

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APPENDIX C – ROUTE ANALYSIS

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road for wilderness inventory purposes.)

Wilderness Inventory Area Name and/or Number: _____

Route Name and/or Identifier: _____

(Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known; include route number supplied by citizen information when available.)

- I. LOCATION:** refer to attached map _____ and BLM corporate data (GIS).
List photo point references (where applicable): _____

II. CURRENT PURPOSE OF ROUTE:

Examples: Rangeland/Livestock facilities (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment).

Describe: _____

III. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Is a road right-of-way associated with this route? Yes ____ No ____

IV. CONSTRUCTION:

Is there evidence that the route was originally constructed using mechanical means?

Yes ____ No ____

Examples:

Paved ____ Bladed ____ Graveled ____ Roadside Berms ____

Cut/Fill _____ Other _____

Describe: _____

V. IMPROVEMENTS:

Is their Evidence or Documentation of Improvements using hand tools or machinery?

Yes _____ No _____

By Hand Tools _____ By Machine _____

Examples:

Bladed _____ Surfaced _____ Culverts _____ Stream Crossings _____

Bridges _____ Drainage _____ Barriers _____ Other _____

Describe: _____

VI. MAINTAINANCE:

A. Is their Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes _____ No _____

Hand Tools (Yes/No) _____ Machine (Yes/No) _____

Describe: _____

B. If the route is in passable condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM to meet the purpose(s) of the route in the event this route became impassable?

Yes _____ No _____

Describe: _____

VII. REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS USE:

Yes _____ No _____

Describe evidence (*e.g.* direct: vehicle tracks observed, or indirect: evidence of use associated with purpose(s) of the route, such as maintenance of facility that route accesses) and other rationale for whether use has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis (i.e. regular use relative to the purpose(s) of the route). _____

VIII. SUMMARY:

To meet the definition of a road, items V, VI-A or B, and VII must be checked yes.

Road: Yes _____ No _____

Explanation:

Evaluator(s): _____ Date: _____

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APPENDIX D – PHOTO LOG

Photographer(s): _____

Inventory Area Name & No.: _____

[illegible]