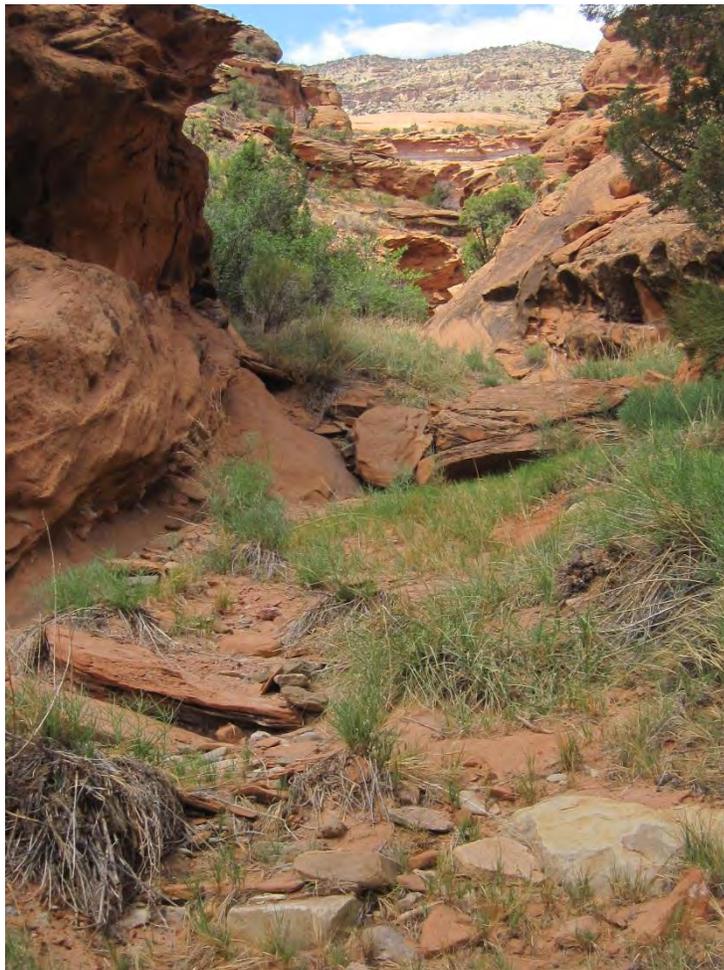


2012

Bureau of Land Management

***Dominguez-Escalante National
Conservation Area***



**UPDATED INVENTORY OF LANDS WITH
WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS**

Table of Contents:

Introduction:	2
Wilderness Characteristics:	2
Summary of Findings:	3
Cottonwood Canyon LCON06000-1	5
Dry Fork of Escalante Creek LCON06000-2011-2	17
Dominguez Addition LCON06000-2011-4	29
Gunnison Slopes LCON06000-2011-6	40
Escalante Slopes LCON06000-2011-3	50
Gibbler LCON06000-2011-5	59
<i>Appendix A: Route Analysis</i>	70

Introduction:

Through the land use planning process, the BLM will consider all available information to determine the mix of resource use and protection that best serves the FLPMA multiple use mandate. The BLM has numerous authorities under FLPMA to maintain inventories of all public lands and their resources, including wilderness characteristics, and to consider such information during land use planning processes. During the DE-NCA RMP process, the BLM completed a review of lands within the NCA to determine whether they possess wilderness characteristics. This review included only BLM lands outside the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness and WSA. Wilderness characteristics include naturalness and outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation within an area of sufficient size to allow associated management and protection.

Through this updated inventory, the BLM is meeting its obligations for updating and maintaining an inventory of wilderness resources under sections 102, 201, and 202 of FLPMA. In addition, BLM Handbook 1601-1, Land Use Planning Handbook, identifies broad decisions that guide future land management actions and subsequent site-specific implementation decisions. Specifically, Appendix C, Part K of the BLM Handbook directs field offices to identify decisions to protect or preserve wilderness characteristics.

Wilderness Characteristics:

The updated wilderness characteristics inventory is designed to answer the following question: Do any portions of the DE-NCA lands outside the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness and WSA meet the overall criteria for wilderness character? The process of updating the inventory included the identification of wilderness inventory units, an inventory of roads and wilderness character, and a determination of whether the area meets the criteria for wilderness character. Units found to possess such character are evaluated during the land use planning process to address future management. The following factors are documented in the updated inventory:

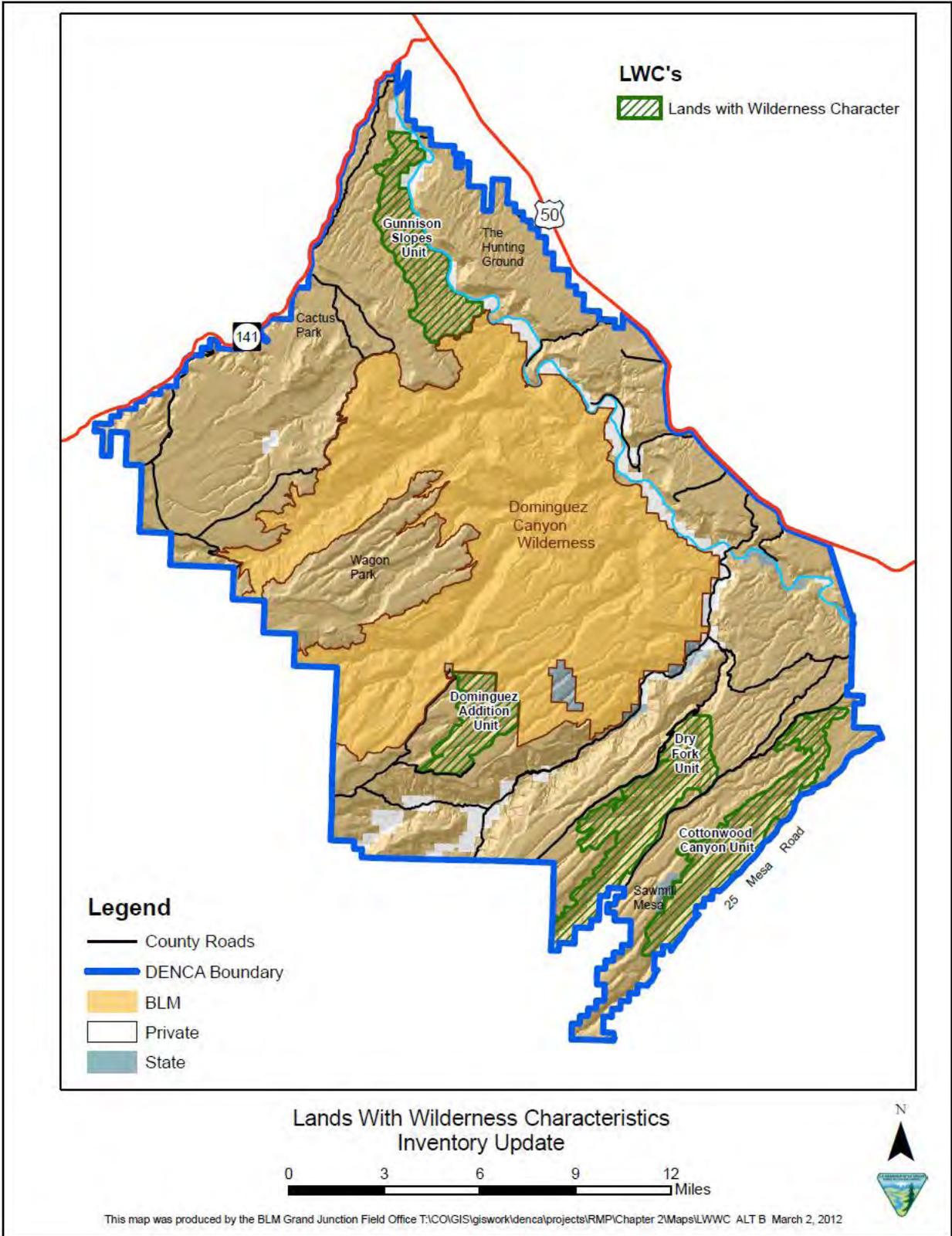
- A. Size: For an area to qualify as lands with wilderness characteristics, it must possess sufficient size:
 1. Roadless areas over 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM lands. Non-federal lands are not considered.
 2. Roadless areas under 5,000 acres of contiguous BLM lands where any of the following applies:
 - a. Contiguous with lands formally determined to have wilderness or potential wilderness values
 - b. or with any Federal lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics, including designated wilderness, BLM WSAs, USFWS areas proposed for wilderness designation USFS WSAs or areas recommended for designation as wilderness, and NPS areas recommended or proposed for designation. Does not include NPS areas merely considered eligible for wilderness study or FS Roadless Areas unless also designated or recommended for designation through a forest plan revision.
 3. Of sufficient size to make practicable their preservation and use in an unimpaired condition.
- B. Naturalness: Lands and resources exhibit a high degree of naturalness when affected primarily by the forces of nature and where the imprint of human activity is substantially unnoticeable. An area's naturalness may be influenced by the presence or absence of roads and trails, fences or other developments, and the nature and extent of landscape modifications.
- C. Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or Primitive and Unconfined Types of Recreation: Visitors may have outstanding opportunities for solitude, or primitive and unconfined types of recreation, when the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people are rare or infrequent, where visitors can be isolated, alone or secluded from others, or where the use of an area is through non-motorized, non-mechanical means.

- D. Supplemental Values: These include ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

The BLM used all available information while updating the inventory including public proposals, scoping comments, GIS data, program specialist’s knowledge, field visits, and existing wilderness inventory documents.

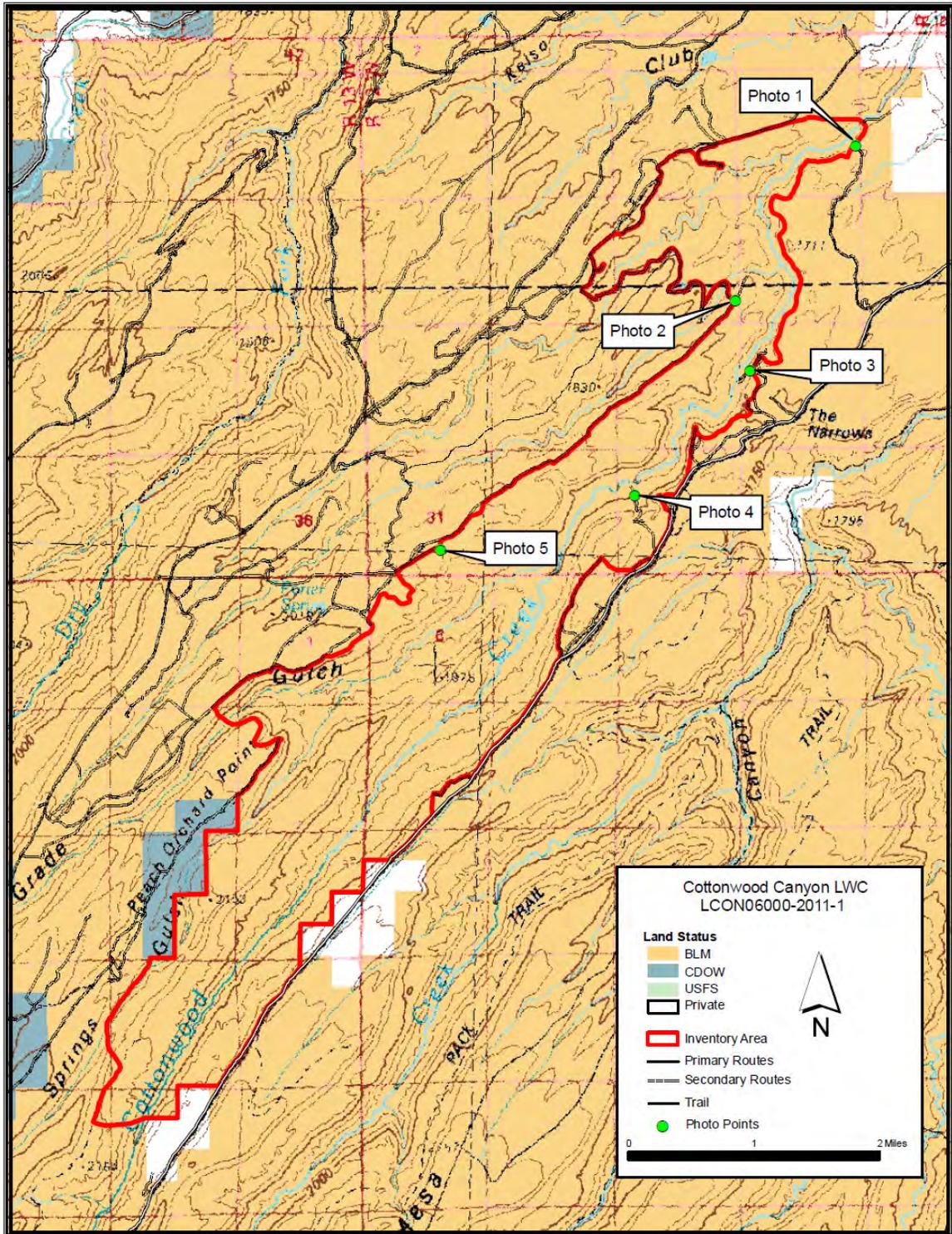
Summary of Findings:

Inventory Area	Size	Natural	Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude	Outstanding Opportunities for Primitive and Unconfined Recreation	Supplemental Values	Findings of Wilderness Character	Acres
Cottonwood Canyon	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6,576
Dry Fork of Escalante	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	7,021
Dominguez Addition	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	3,025
Gunnison Slopes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	5,194
Escalante Slopes	Yes	Yes	No	No	N/A	No	7,073
Gibbler	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	6,162
Total Acres of Lands with Wilderness Characteristics							21,816



Cottonwood Canyon LCON06000-1

Overview Map:



Photos:



Photo 1: On south rim looking west



Photo 2: Looking east

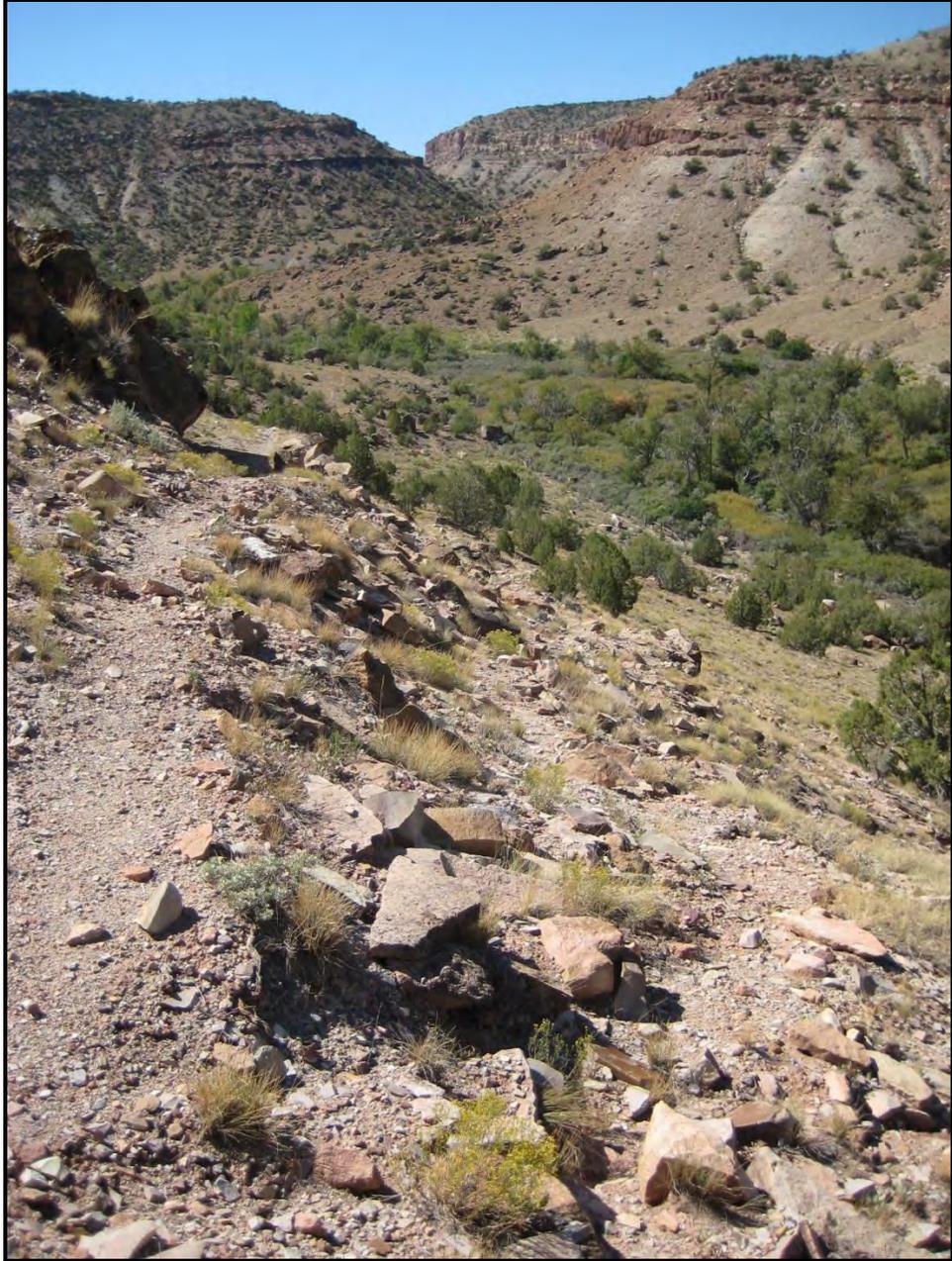


Photo 3: Looking west



Photo 4: Looking east



Photo 5: Looking south

Year 2010

Inventory Unit Number/Name LCON06000-1/Cottonwood Canyon

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 X Yes

a) Inventory Source: N/A

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): N/A

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

FORM 2

DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

a. Unit Number/Name LCON06000-1/Cottonwood Canyon

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Yes X No

The unit is 6,576 acres. There are no private inholdings in the unit.

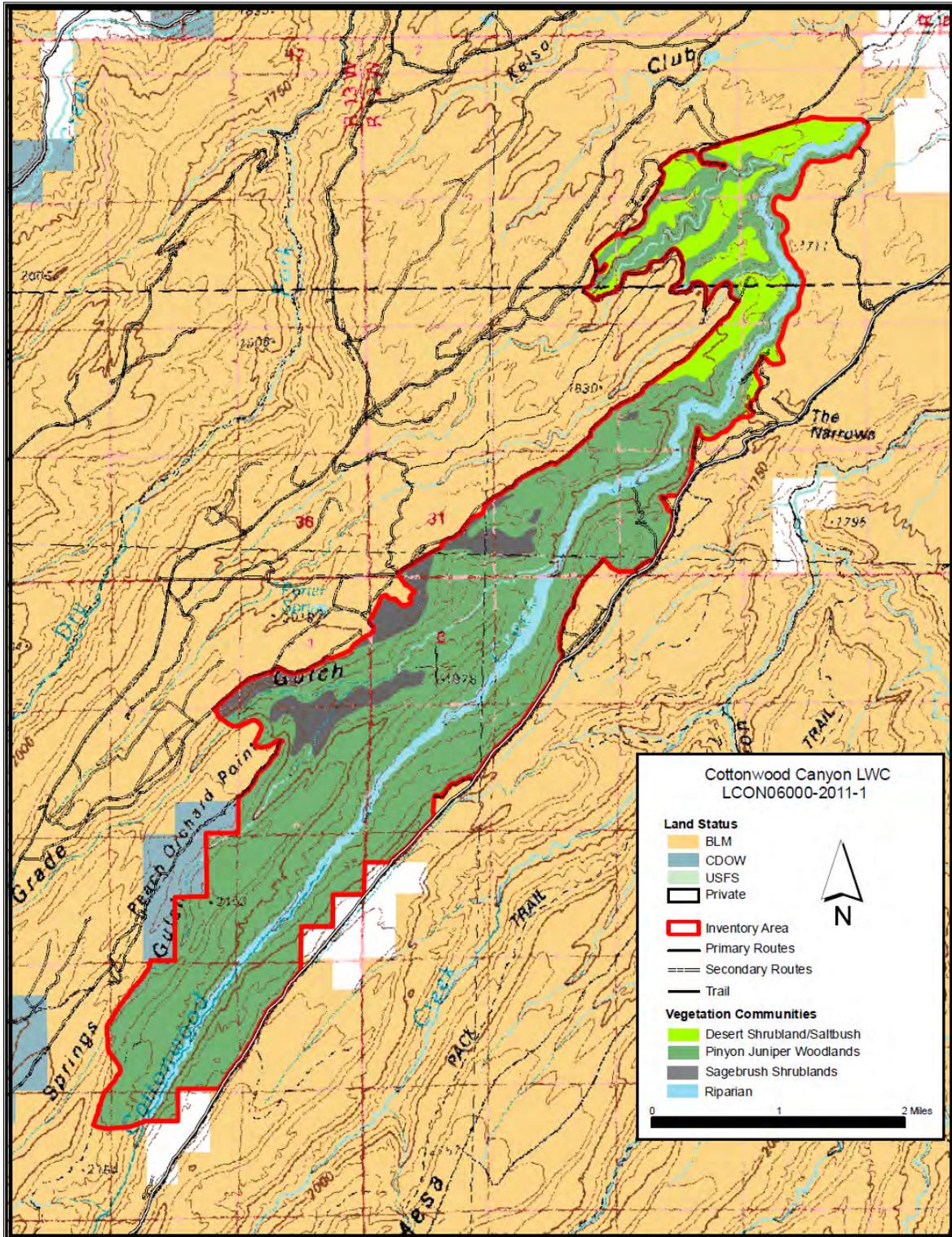
DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

The inventoried unit is approximately ten miles west of Delta. The unit includes the main drainage of Cottonwood Creek, making it a long, narrow unit. The bottom of the canyon is characterized by narrowleaf cottonwood and willows along the creek. The rim of the canyon rises over 700 feet in elevation above the creek. The south facing slope of the canyon has little vegetation cover. The north facing slope is scattered with pinon/juniper trees and low shrubs.

Cottonwood Creek is intermittent due to a diversion outside the inventoried area that diverts water for agricultural purposes.

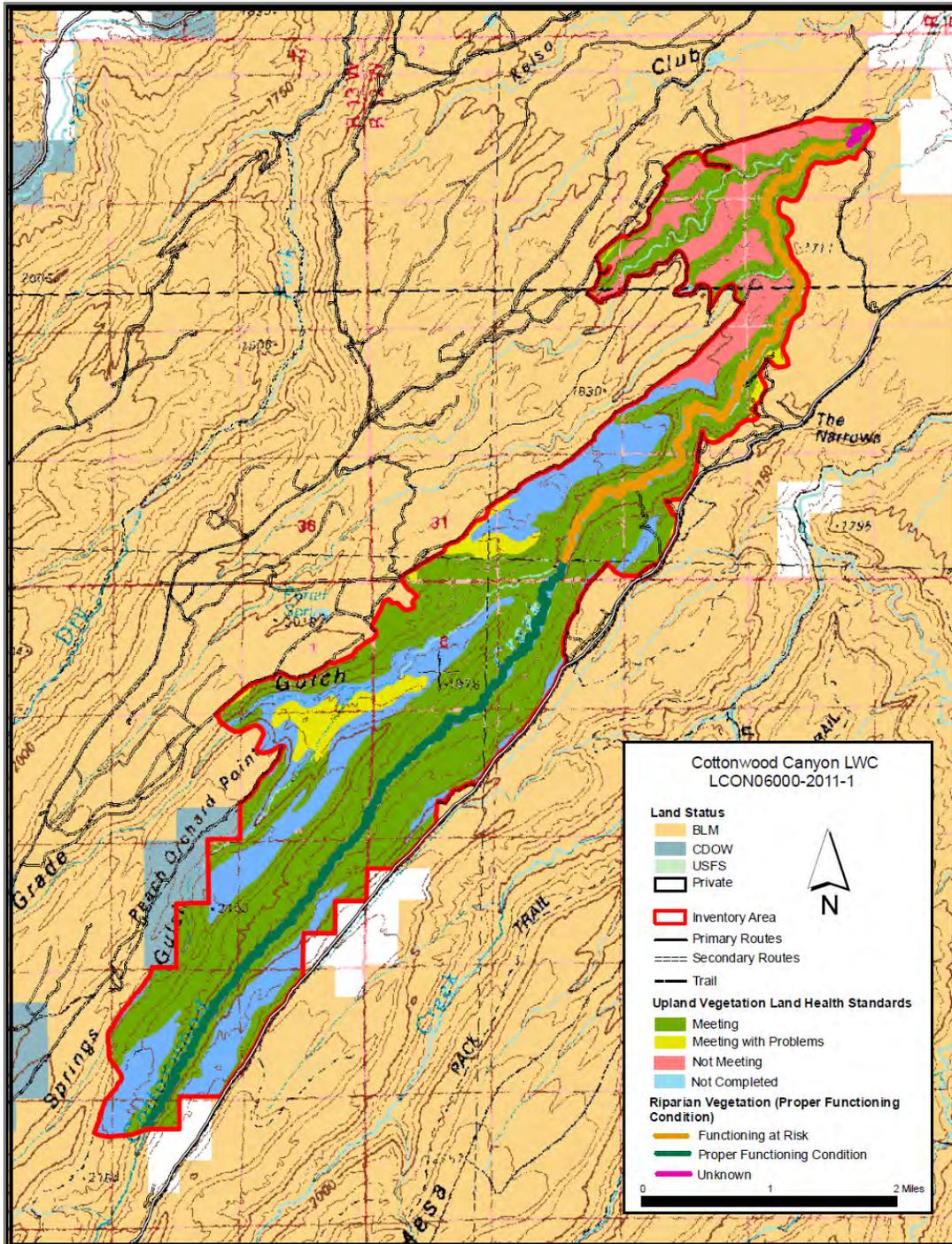
The upland vegetation is typical of the area and shows little sign of manipulation. Cheatgrass is present, interspersed with native vegetation. The riparian vegetation appears healthy with narrowleaf cottonwoods along the drainage. A variety of age classes of cottonwood were noted during the field inspection.

Vegetation Map:



Based on Land Health Standards assessment, 3,859 acres were determined to be “meeting”. 307 acres were determined to be “meeting with problems”. And, 532 acres of desert shrublands were determined to be “not meeting”. 1,878 acres have not been assessed for Land Health Standard. Of the 14.2 miles of riparian vegetation along the Dry Creek of Escalante Creek, 7.5 miles are in Proper Functioning Condition, 6 miles are Functioning at Risk, and 0.7 miles have not been evaluated.

Vegetation Health Map:



(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

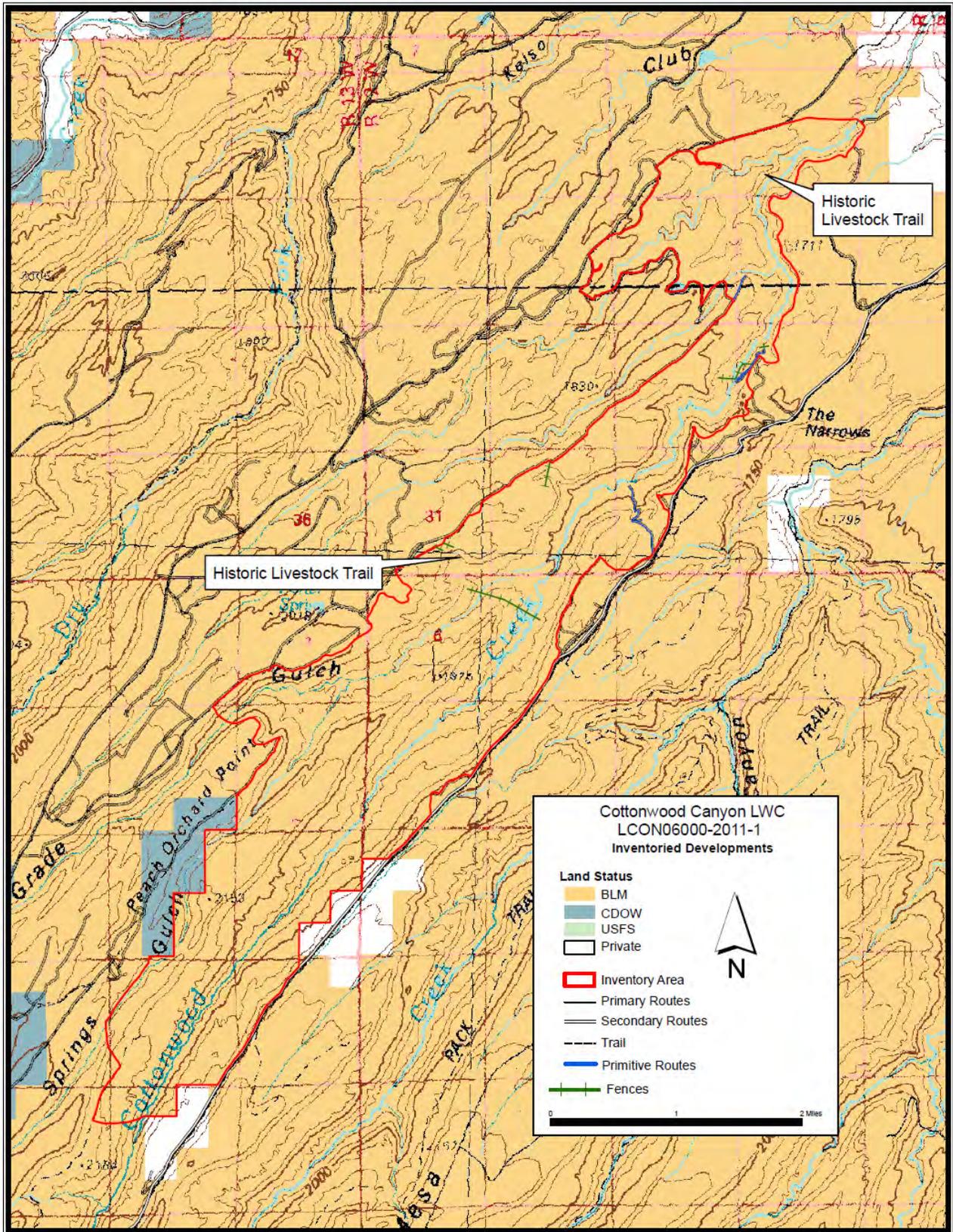
Yes X No N/A

The area appears to be primarily affected by the forces of nature. There are three primitive routes in the area. Two of the routes do not appear to have vehicle use. One route has limited OHV use. The two routes with little or no motorized use descend into the canyon from the south rim. Both routes have evidence of construction (noticeable bench cuts). That said, neither appears to have been maintained or had any recent use. The third route is on top to the mesa along the north rim of Cottonwood Canyon. There is no evidence of construction or improvement. The route appears to have been created by the passage of vehicles. All three routes are substantially unnoticeable. (see Appendix A Route Analysis)

Six fences were identified during the inventory. All the fences are maintained and used for livestock grazing operations. All the fences combine with topography to create separation from one pasture to the next. As a result they are not continuous and are substantially unnoticeable.

Two historic livestock trails were noted during the inventory. These trails have evidence of construction and minimal maintenance to support livestock operations.

No other developments were noted during the inventory.



(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

The area is predominately within the Cottonwood Creek Canyon. As such, the sights and sounds of other human activity cannot be seen or heard by a visitor in the bottom of the canyon.

There appears to be very little recreation traffic in the canyon. Field inspection during the inventory noted no motorized vehicle tracks going into or in the bottom of the canyon.

The area is 15 plus miles from the nearest town (Delta). As a result, few visitors target the area as a recreation destination.

Enough water runs in Cottonwood Creek to support a health riparian community of willows, cottonwoods and sumac. The riparian vegetation provides ample screening to block views to the slopes of the canyon.

Combined, these factors provide a visitor an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

The area offers opportunities for hiking and horseback riding. These opportunities are considered outstanding due to the relatively easy access from the 25 Mesa and Sawmill Mesa Roads and the variety of terrain (either the main drainage or the multiple side drainages) available to a visitor visiting the area. Accessing the main canyon along historic livestock trails and the primitive routes offers easy hiking or horseback riding providing the visitor with outstanding views of the canyon. The location of the historic livestock trails and primitive routes allows a visitor to access the canyon in one location and exit the canyon in another location, creating a potential point-to-point outing.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

The Colorado Natural Heritage Program has identified a Potential Conservation Area (PCA) within the inventory area. The PCA is ranked both for the biodiversity in the riparian vegetation and an excellent occurrence of the Narrowleaf Cottonwood/Skunkbush vegetation community. The biodiversity ranking is B3 (high biodiversity significance) and the vegetation community is ranked as G3 (globally vulnerable).

Cottonwood Canyon is important habitat for Desert Bighorn Sheep, a BLM sensitive species. The sheep use the area throughout the year, and the water in Cottonwood Creek is considered an important component of their overall range.

The area is winter range for Bald Eagles, a BLM sensitive species.

The area is important winter range for mule deer, elk and pronghorn antelope. The area is severe winter range for mule deer and elk.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: LCON06000-1/Cottonwood Canyon

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
- 3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion

Check One:

- The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.
- The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by:

Team Members:

Andy Windsor (Outdoor Recreation Planner/Wilderness Specialist)

Lynae Rogers (Rangeland Management Specialist)

Approved by:

Katei A. Steen

8-27-2012

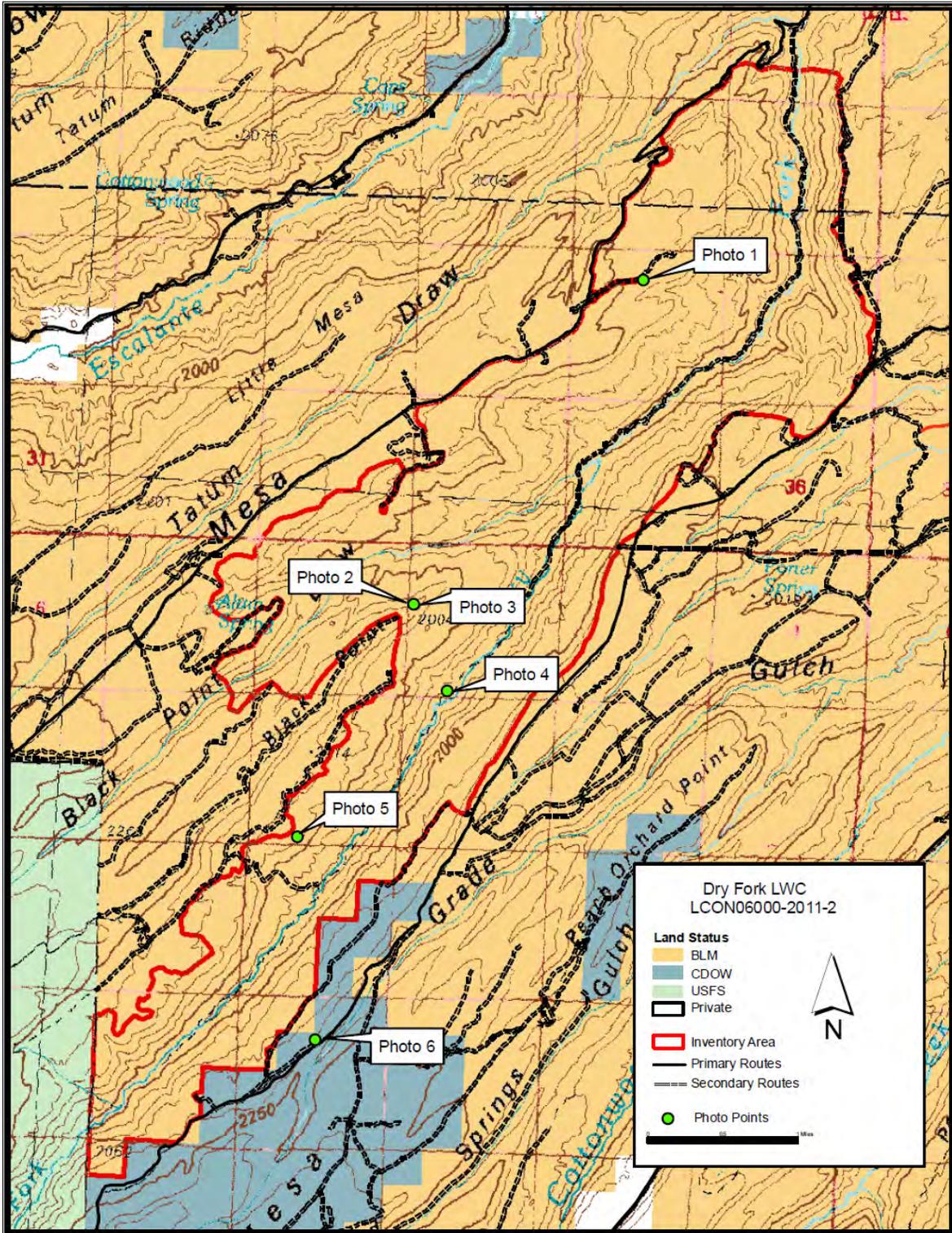
NCA Manager

Date

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 1610.5-2.

Dry Fork of Escalante Creek LCON06000-2011-2

Overview map:



Photos:



Photo 1: On the north rim looking south



Photo 2: On Black Point looking north

Date: 6/20/2011 12:48 PM
Lat: 38.628819 Lon: -108.315933



Photo 3: On Black Point looking east

Date: 6/22/2011 2:10 PM
Lat: 38.6205 Lon: -108.311522



Photo 4: In the bottom of the canyon looking west

Date: 6/20/2011 2:33 PM
Lat: 38.605908 Lon: -108.329294



Photo 4: On north slope of the canyon looking southeast

Date: 6/20/2011 10:52 AM
Lat: 38.586278 Lon: -108.326236



Photo 4: On Sawmill Mesa Road looking north

Year 2011

Inventory Unit Number/Name LCON06000-2/Dry Fork of Escalante

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 X Yes _____

a) Inventory Source: N/A

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): N/A

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

FORM 2

Use additional pages as necessary

DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

a. Unit Number/Name LCON06000-2/Dry Fork of Escalante

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Yes X No

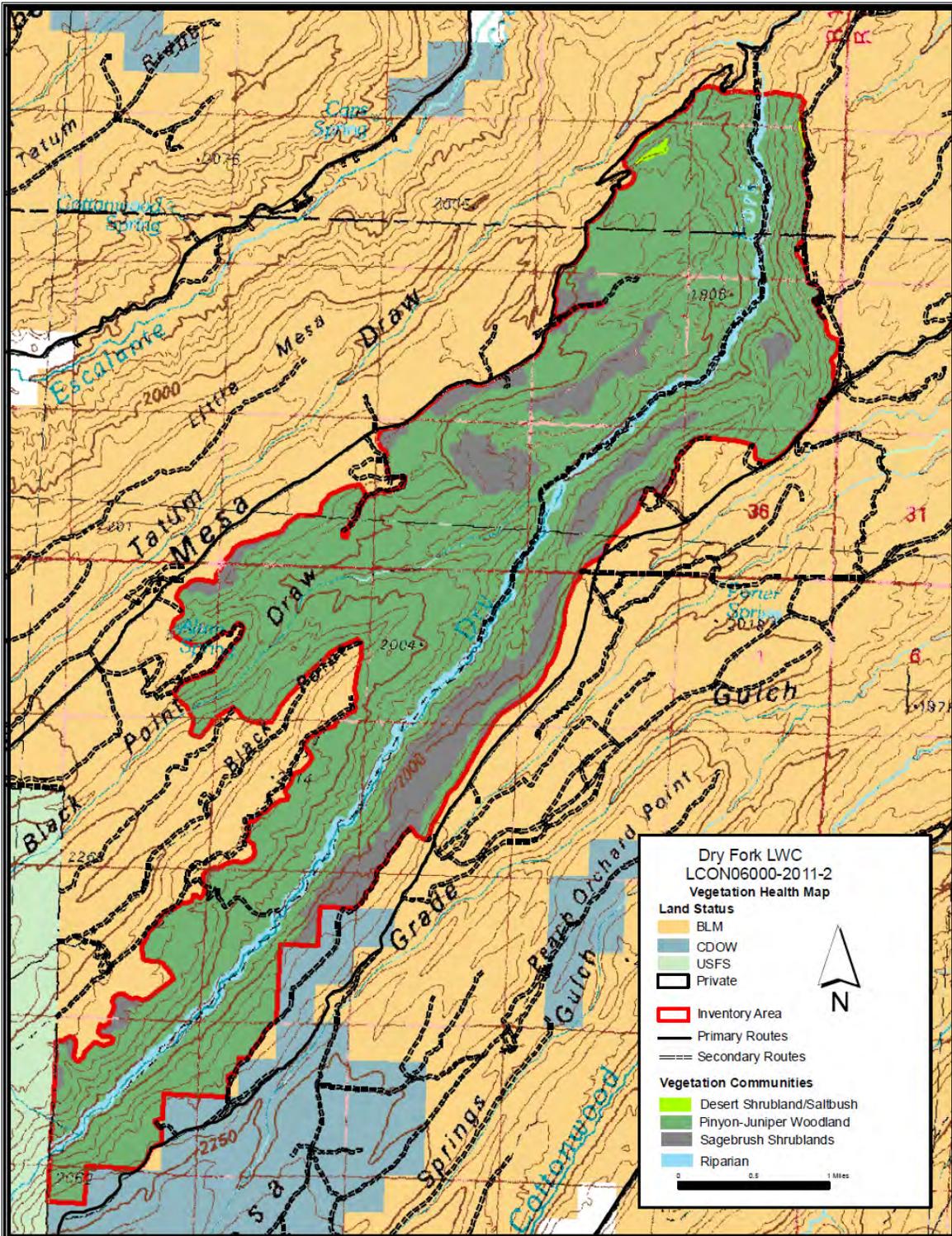
The unit is 7,021 acres. There are no private inholdings in the unit.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

The inventoried unit is approximately ten miles west of Delta. The unit includes the main drainage of the Dry Fork of Escalante Creek, making it a long, narrow unit. The bottom of the canyon is characterized by narrowleaf cottonwood, shrub oak and willows along the creek. The rim of the canyon rises over 700 feet in elevation above the creek. The south facing slope of the canyon has little vegetation cover. The north facing slope is scattered with pinon/juniper trees and low shrubs.

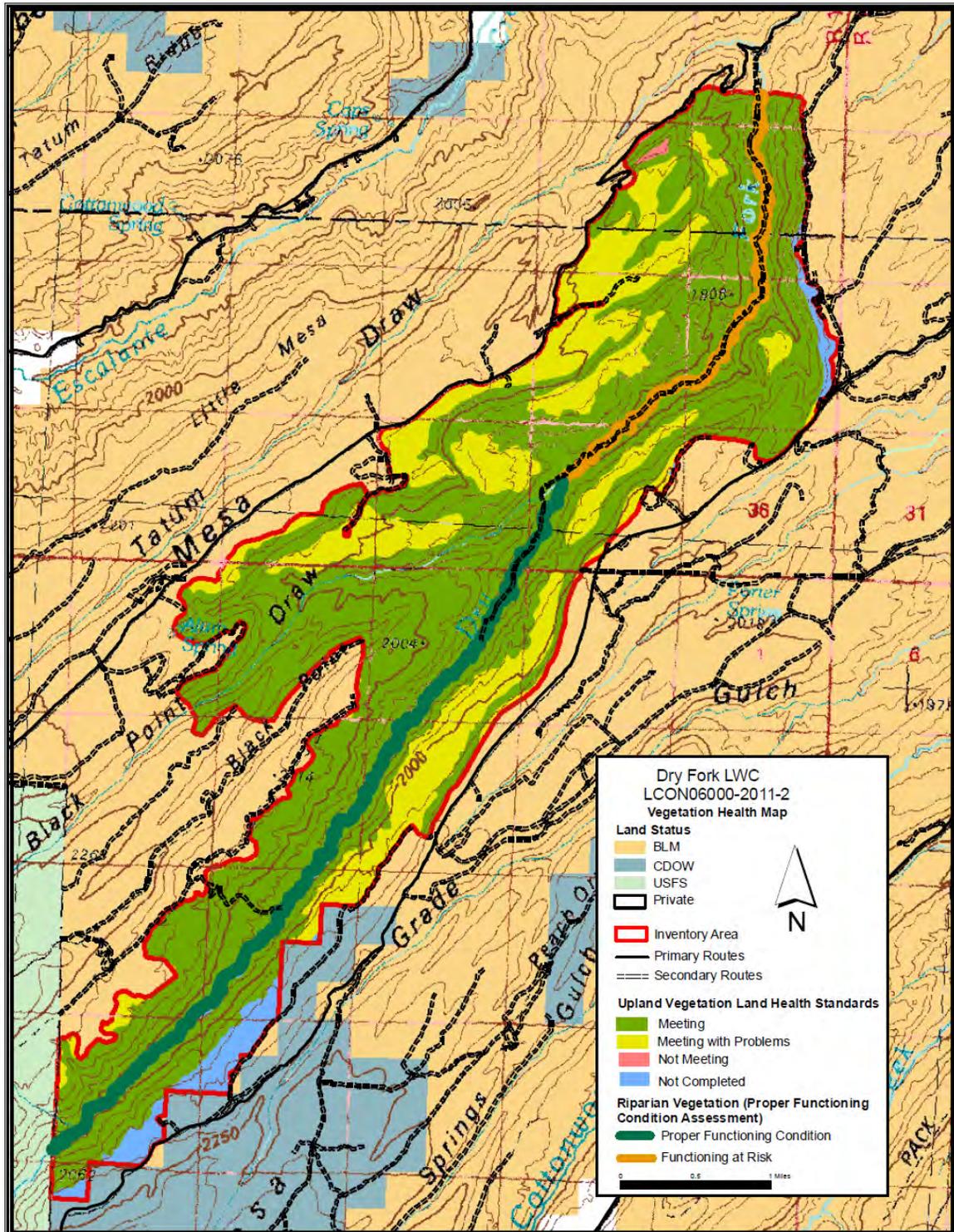
The Dry Fork of Escalante Creek is intermittent with high seasonal flows in the spring and following intense summer thunder storms and low to minimal flows in late summer into the fall.

The upland vegetation is typical of the area and shows little sign of manipulation. Cheatgrass is present, interspersed with native vegetation. The riparian vegetation appears healthy with narrowleaf cottonwoods along the drainage. A variety of age classes of cottonwood were noted during the field inspection. There are also healthy, dense stands of Gambels Oak throughout the riparian corridor. Higher in the drainage, above the confluence with Black Point Draw, there are individual Douglas fir and Ponderosa Pines. One small patch, 20' X 20', of Russian Knapweed was noted along the ATV trail in the bottom of the canyon.



Based on Land Health Standards assessment, 4,804 acres were determined as “meeting”. 1,535 acres were determined as “meeting with problems” (613 acres of Pinyon Juniper Woodlands and 922 acres of Sagebrush

Shrublands). And, 22 acres of desert shrublands were determined as “not meeting”. Of the 10.4 miles of riparian vegetation along the Dry Creek of Escalante Creek, 6.7 miles are in Proper Functioning Condition and 3.7 miles are Functioning at Risk. (see attached vegetation map)



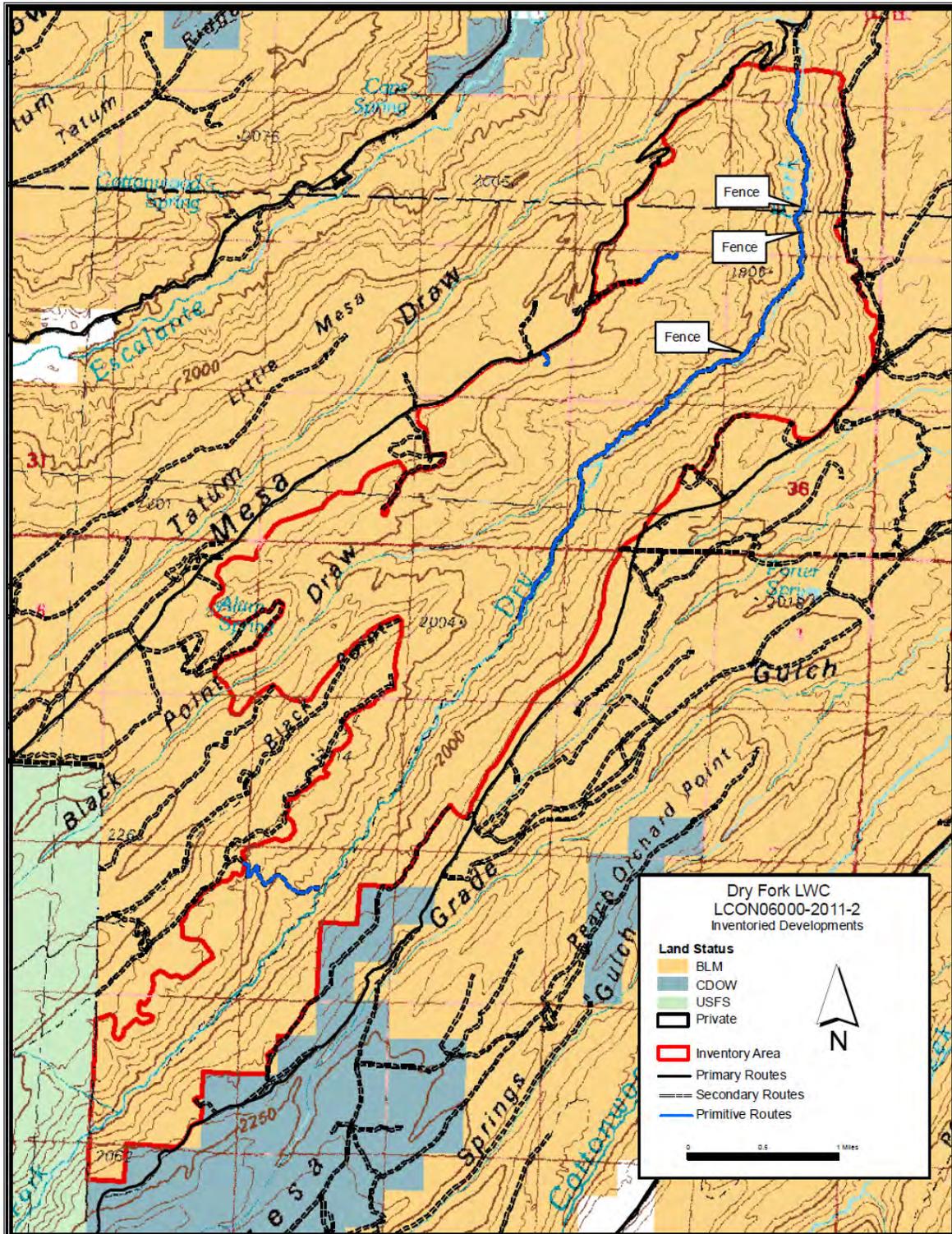
(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No N/A

Description:

The area appears to be primarily affected by the forces of nature. There are primitive routes in the area that are used infrequently by ATVs. One route follows the bottom of the drainage from the confluence with Tatum Draw approximately four miles upstream. There is evidence the trail was constructed (bench cuts); however, no evidence of maintenance other than the passage of ATVs was noted during field investigations. Another route descends from the bench on the north side of the canyon approximately four miles up the canyon from the confluence with Black Point Draw. The route has evidence of construction but no evidence of maintenance. At one time these two routes may have connected, creating a through route. Another route extends beyond the final livestock water trough associated with a rangeland pipeline along Dry Mesa. This route extends less than 0.5 miles beyond the rangeland development. The other route in the unit connects to the main Dry Mesa Road and accesses a scenic overlook. (see Appendix A Route Analysis)

Two cross fences were noted. Both were designed to control livestock from moving up or down the canyon. Both are substantially unnoticeable. No vegetation treatments were noted during field inspection.



(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

The area is predominately within the Dry Fork of Escalante Canyon. As such, the sights and sounds of other human activity cannot be seen or heard by a visitor in the bottom of the canyon.

There appears to be very little recreation traffic in the canyon. Field inspection during the inventory noted a few ATV tracks along the route in the bottom of the canyon. That said, the tracks appeared old and the trail did not show much use.

The area is 20 plus miles from the nearest town (Delta). As a result, few visitors target the area as a recreation destination.

Enough water runs in the Dry Fork of Escalante Creek to support a health riparian community of willows, cottonwoods and sumac. Beginning at the confluence of the main canyon and Black Point Draw the riparian vegetation includes Gambels Oak. The riparian vegetation provides ample screening to block views of the open slopes of the canyon; shielding visitors along the creek from the sights and sounds of other visitors.

Combined, these factors provide a visitor outstanding opportunities for solitude.

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

Description:

The area offers opportunities for hiking and horseback riding. These opportunities are considered outstanding due to the relatively easy access from the Dry Mesa Road and the variety of terrain (either the main drainage or the multiple side drainages) available to a visitor when they are visiting the area. Accessing the main canyon along the primitive route in the lower reaches of the canyon offers easy hiking or horseback riding providing the visitor with outstanding views of the canyon. Above the confluence with Black Point Draw, the route becomes less evident and requires route finding skills. Here the visitor has the opportunity to participate in a more rigorous, and adventurous outing.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ N/A _____

The vegetation in the bottom of the canyon includes the Narrowleaf Cottonwood/Skunkbrush community. This community is ranked as G3 (globally vulnerable) by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program.

The Dry Fork of Escalante is important habitat for Desert Bighorn Sheep, a BLM sensitive species. The sheep use the area throughout the year.

The area is winter range for Bald Eagles, a BLM sensitive species.

The area is important winter range for mule deer and elk.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: LCON06000-2/Dry Fork of Escalante

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
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion

Check One:

- The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.
- The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by:

Team Members:

Andy Windsor (Outdoor Recreation Planner/Wilderness Specialist)

Adam Straubinger (Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Contractor)

Reviewed by:

Katie A. Sten

8-27-2012

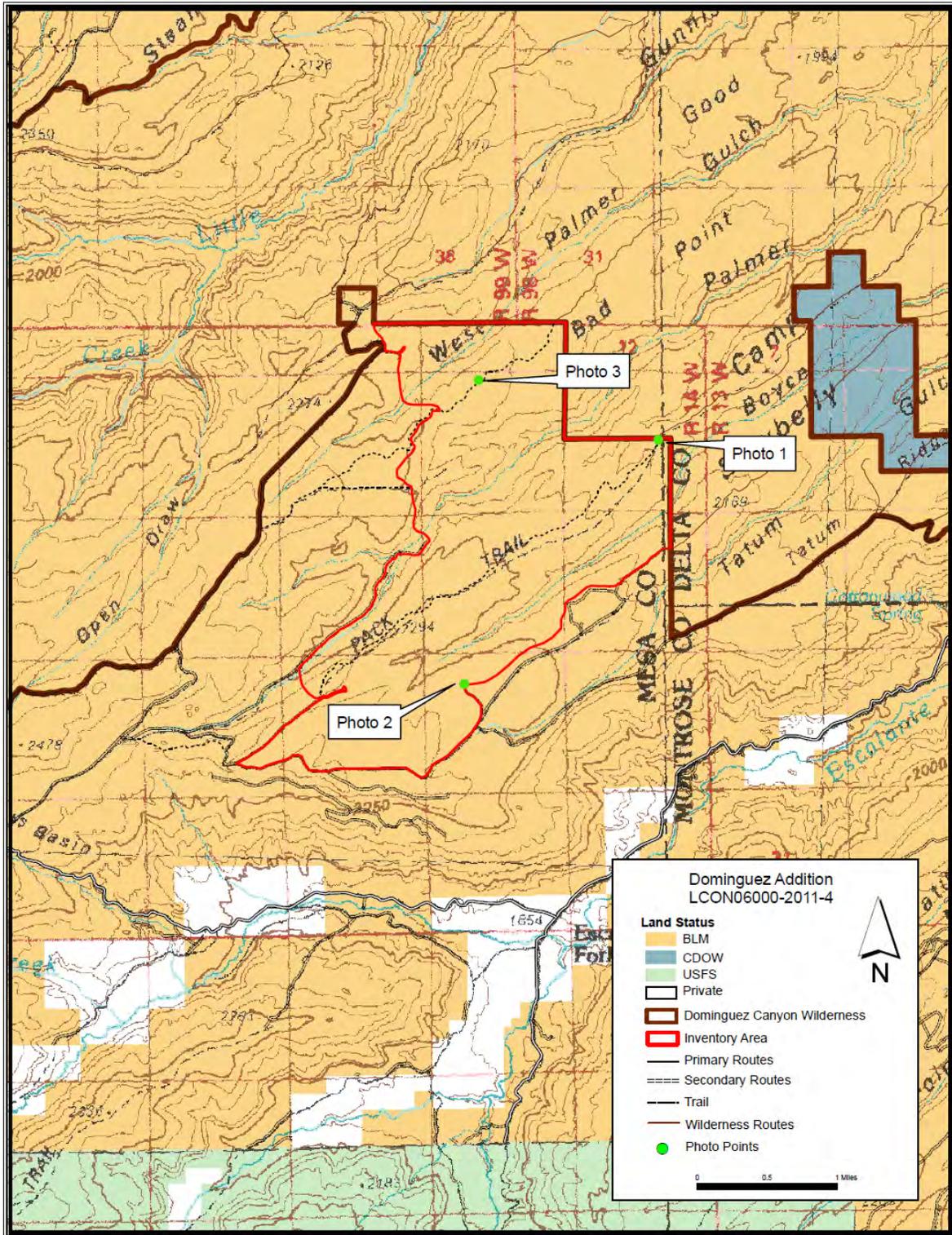
NCA Manager

Date

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 1610.5-2.

Dominguez Addition LCON06000-2011-4

Overview Map:



Photos:



Photo #1: McCarty Trail at the Wilderness boundary



Photo #2: Campsite on Sowbelly Ridge

Date: 12/9/2010 1:08 PM
Lat: 38.691378 Lon: -108.402961



Photo #3: Typical vegetation cover on Bad Point

Year 2010

Inventory Unit Number/Name LCON06000-4/Dominguez Addition

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 Yes

a) Inventory Source: BLM Intensive Inventory – Final Wilderness Study Areas 1980

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Dominguez Canyon CO-030-363

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

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

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory unit is associated with the area, list each unit and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics:

Inventory Source: 1980 Intensive Inventory Grand Junction District

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
Dominguez Canyon	47,487	See note below	See note below	See note below	See note below

Note:

This initial inventory unit was combined with the Grand Junction District initial inventory unit #CO-070-150 for the purpose of conducting the intensive inventory. At that time, 3,680 acres were excluded from the Montrose District unit. The rationale was the excluded area was not natural due to the presence of multiple routes and evidence of uranium exploration.

FORM 2

DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

a. Unit Number/Name LCON06000-4/Dominguez Addition

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Yes X No

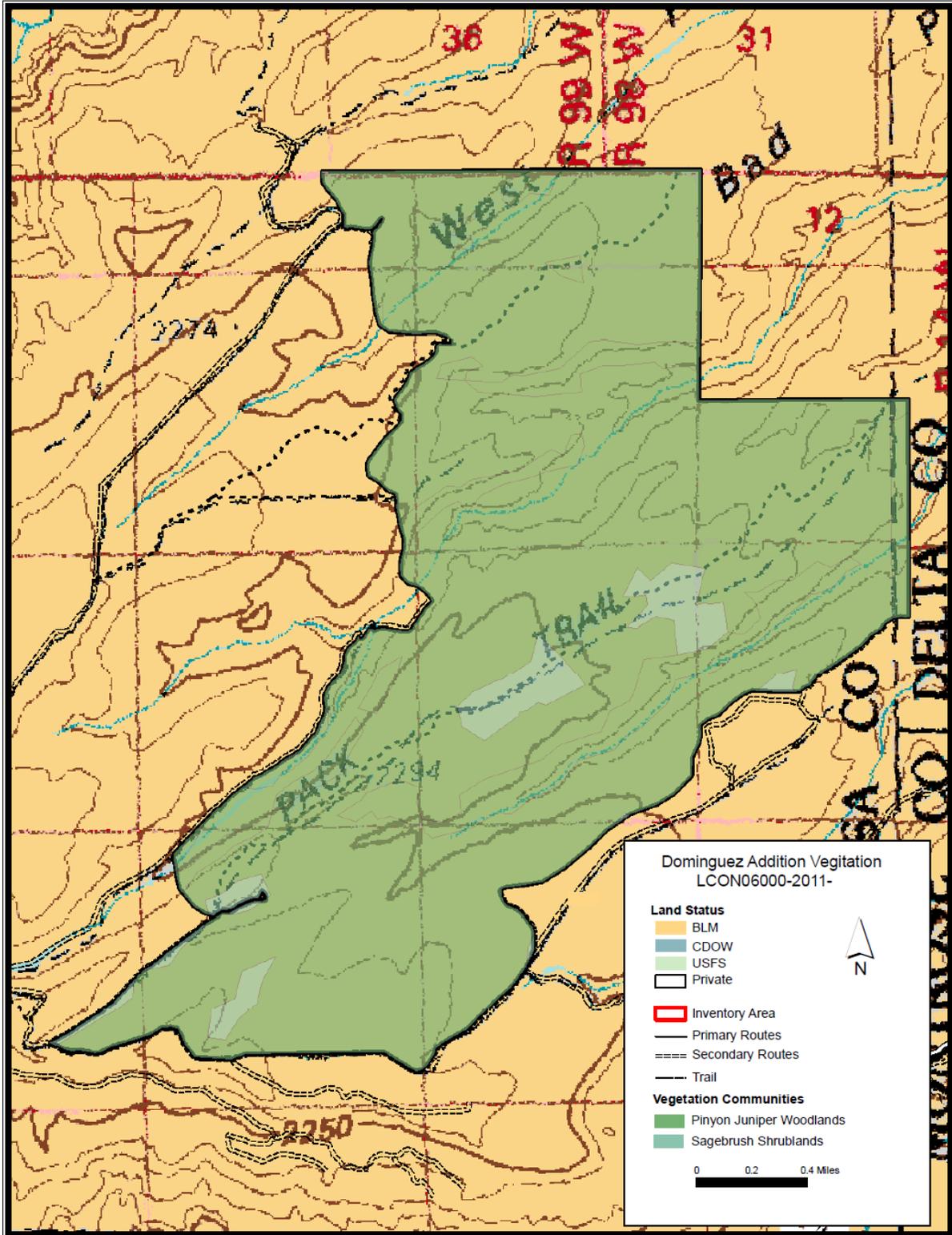
The unit is 3,025 acres and adjacent to the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

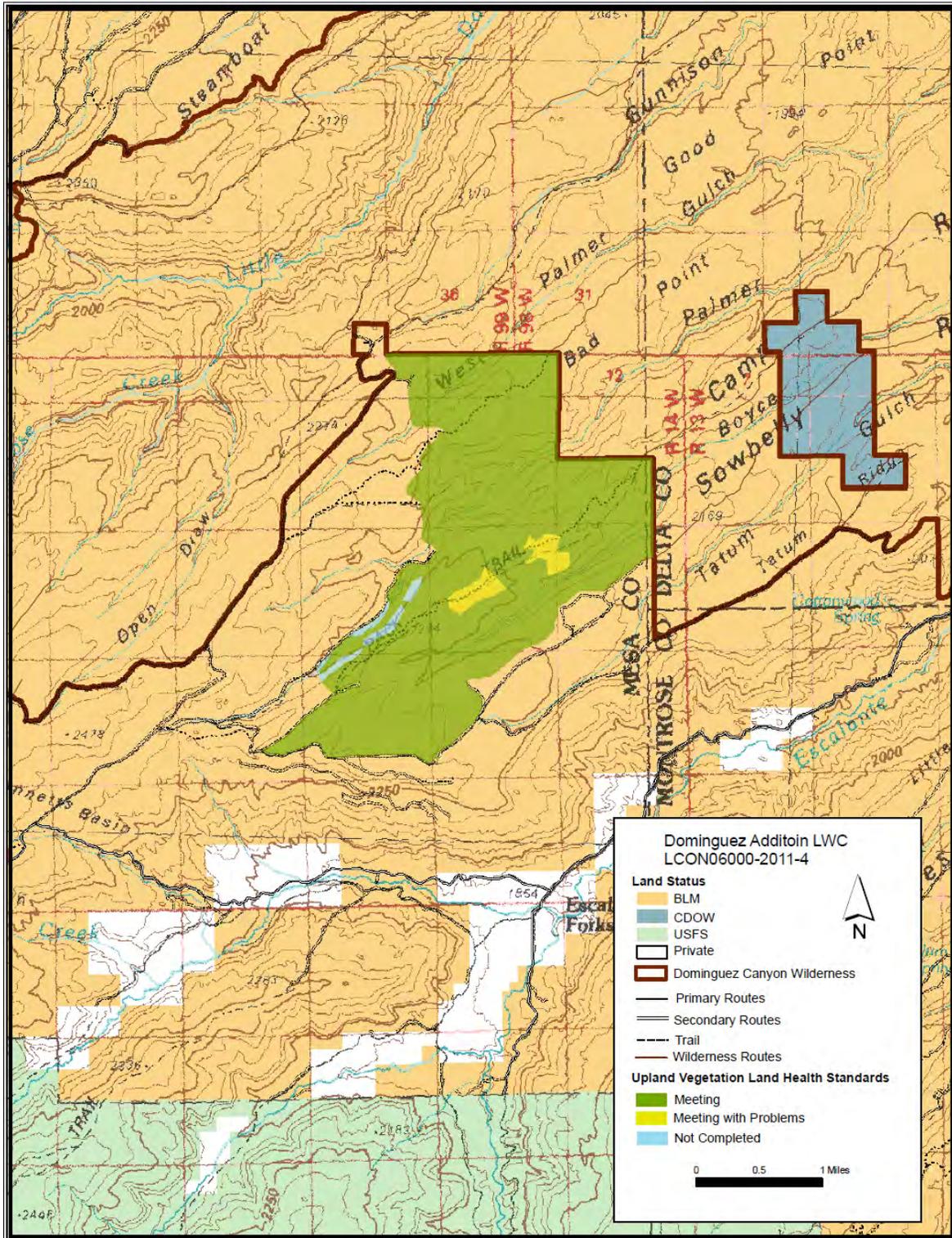
The inventoried area is on the southwest boundary of the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness. The unit was part of the area that was excluded during the original inventory. As noted above, evidence of uranium exploration and numerous vehicle routes were the rationale for not including the area in the intensive inventory. This inventory refined the inventory boundary in a way that excluded most of the imprints of man.

Mesas broken by steep draws and gulches characterize the topography. Mesa tops are dominated by Pinon/Juniper woodlands with occasional sagebrush openings. The mesas and drainages slope from west to east, draining the east slope of the Uncompahgre Plateau.

The area provides outstanding habitat for big game species. Animals use the area as part of the annual migration from lower elevation winter range to the higher elevation summer range on the Uncompahgre Plateau.



Based on Land Health Assessments, 2,888 acres (95%) are meeting Land Health Standards, 89 acres (3%) are meeting with problems, and 48 acres (2%) have not been inventoried.



(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

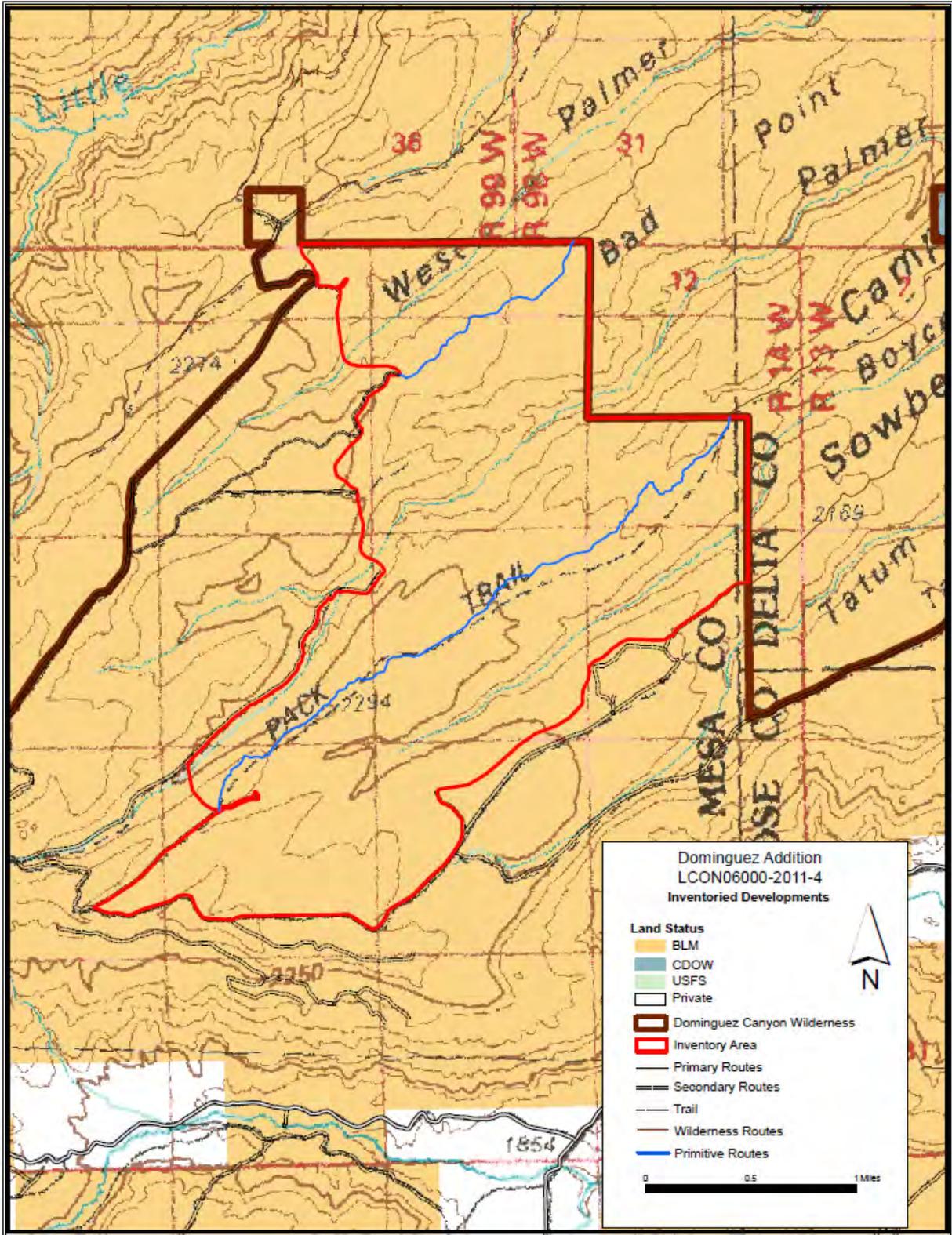
Yes X No N/A

Description:

The area appears to primarily effected by the forces of nature. There are two primitive routes in the area. Evidence of ATV use was noted on both routes during the inventory. The routes are generally two-tracks with vegetation growing between the tracks. Both routes meander through the trees with evidence of saw cuts on branches that have be cut to clear the corridor. Unless a visitor is on either route, both are not substantially noticeable due to the minimal nature of the routes and the dense vegetation cover. (see Appendix A Route Analysis)

No mining, livestock developments or vegetation treatments were noted through record searches and field inspection.

No other developments were noted during the inventory



(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes No N/A

Description:

Visitation to the area primarily occurs during the big game hunting season. As a result, there are very few visitors in the area most of the year.

Both the vegetation layer and the broken topography allow a visitor to be isolated from access routes and other visitors. As such, the sights and sounds of other human activity cannot be easily seen or heard by a visitor.

The area is 30 plus miles from the nearest town (Delta). As a result, few visitors target the area as a recreation destination.

Combined, screening from the continuous pinon/juniper cover, the broken topography, the area's remoteness, and the low number of visitors to the area all provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes No N/A

Description:

The area offers outstanding opportunities for hiking, hunting and horseback riding. These opportunities are considered outstanding due to the relatively easy access from the county road out of Escalante Canyon and the area's proximity to the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness. Visitors have the opportunity to combine an outing in the area with an outing in the Wilderness, creating a rigorous day trip or a multi-day trip. The primitive routes provide easy walking or riding through the area. These primitive routes are located on the top of two ridges, separated by Palmer Gulch. A visitor could use the routes combined with cross-county travel through Palmer Gulch to create a loop hike.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes No N/A

The area is important winter range for mule deer and elk.

The area has a high concentration of cultural resources.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: LCON06000-4/Dominguez Addition

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
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion

Check One:

- The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.
- The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by:

Team Members:

Andy Windsor (Outdoor Recreation Planner/Wilderness Specialist)
Ben Blom (Planner, Forester)

Approved by:



8-27-2012

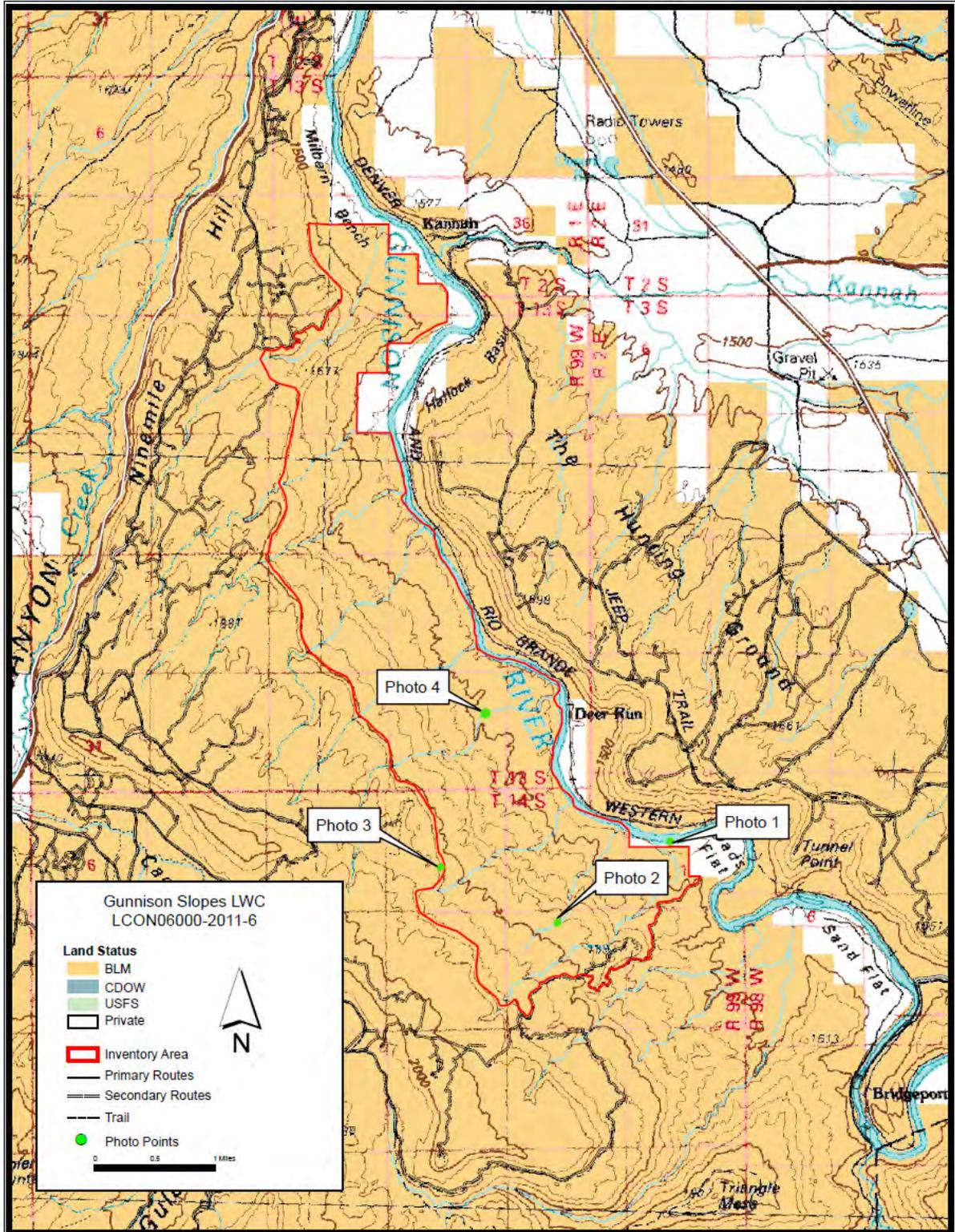
NCA Manager

Date

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 1610.5-2.

Gunnison Slopes LCON06000-2011-6

Overview Map:



Photos:



Photo #1: Looking west from the Gunnison River

Date: 11/15/2010 11:54 AM
Lat: 38.858883 Lon: -108.440364



Photo #2: Looking north from the bench mid-slope between the river and the rim

Date: 11/15/2010 2:24 PM
Lat: 38.862764 Lon: -108.446517



Photo #3: Looking northeast from rim



Photo #4 Looking west up one of the many short side canyons

Year 2010

Inventory Unit Number/Name LCON06000-6/Gunnison Slopes

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 Yes

a) Inventory Source: BLM Intensive Inventory – Final Wilderness Study Areas 1980

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): Gunnison River CO-070-150A

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Grand Junction

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics:

Inventory Source: 1980 Intensive Inventory Grand Junction District

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
Gunnison River	11,600	Yes	No	No	Yes

DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

a. Unit Number/Name LCON06000-6/Gunnison Slopes

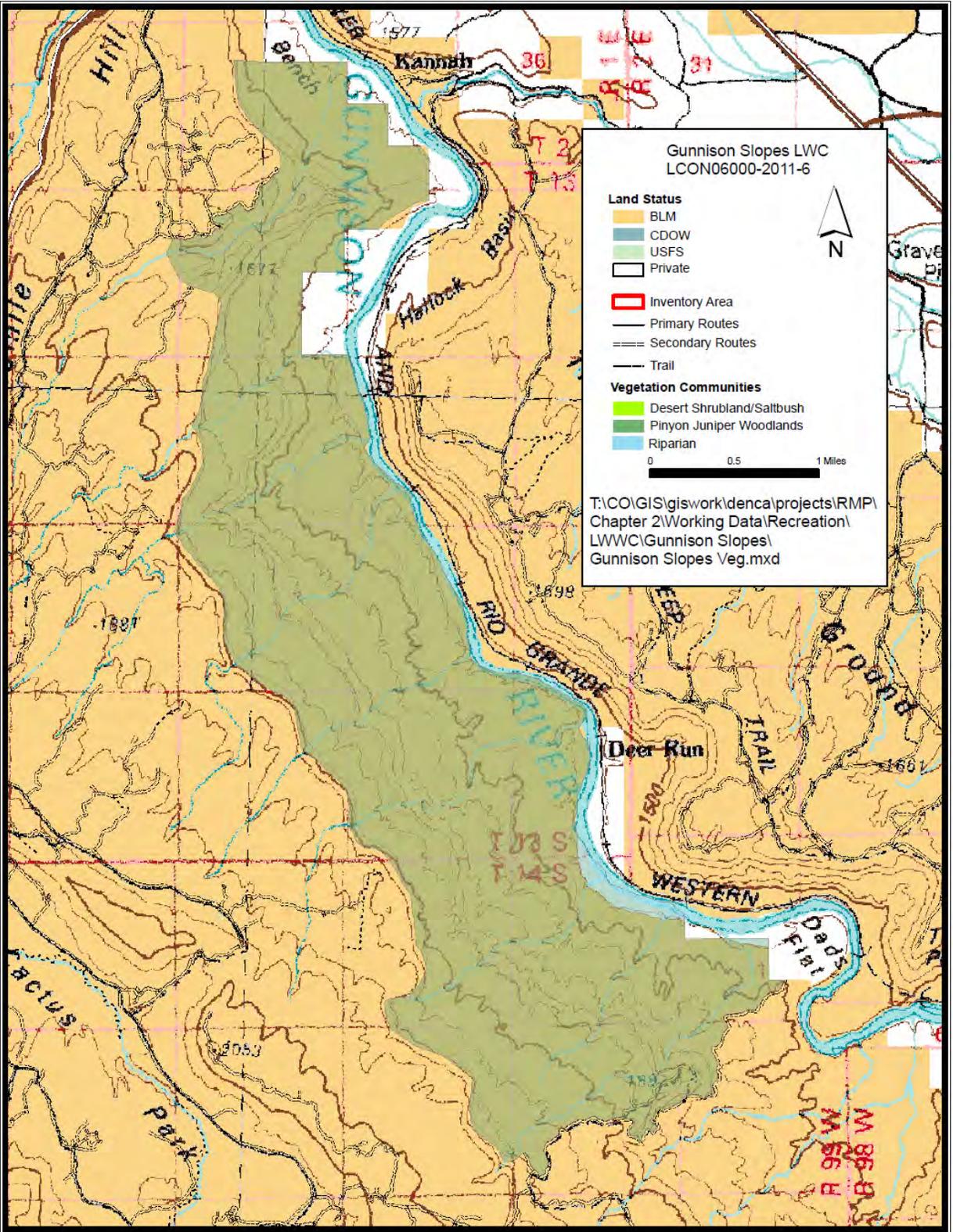
(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

Yes X No

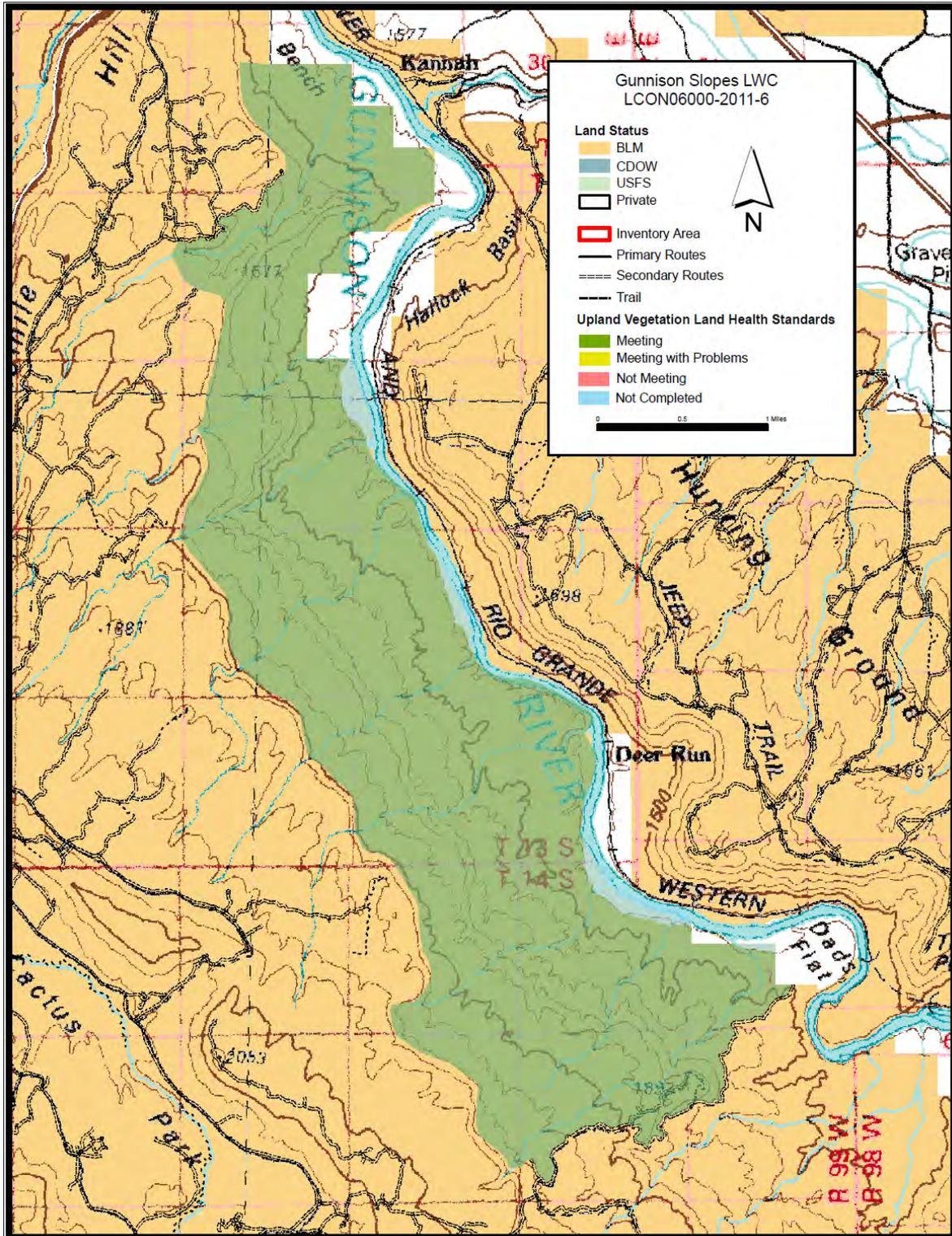
The unit is 5,194 acres.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

The area is approximately eleven miles south of Grand Junction. As mentioned above, the area is confined by a cliff band on the west and the Gunnison River on the east. There are two private-land parcels, one on the south end of the unit and one on the north end of the unit. Otherwise the area is one contiguous piece of BLM-administered public land. The topography is broken by several side drainages flowing from west to east into the Gunnison River. Several of the side drainages cut through both the entrada and wingate sandstone near the river. Occasionally, cattle are moved through the area along the river. The Dominguez Canyon Wilderness Area is directly south of the unit, separated by a primitive road that connects Cactus Park with a private parcel on the Gunnison River.



Based on Land Health Assessments, 5,077 acres (98%) were determined to be meeting. The remaining acres have not been inventoried.



(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes No N/A

Description:

There is one short route in the unit, less than 0.5 miles. The route has little use and is substantially unnoticeable. No other developments were noted during the inventory.

The vegetation in the area appears natural. On the west side of the unit, there are scattered pinon/juniper stands. The trees give way to shrubs and grasses and forbs as the terrain drops in elevation toward the river. Along the river the riparian habitat includes native cottonwoods, boxelder, and willow. With the exception of the riparian zone along the river, there is little evidence of livestock grazing. No livestock developments were noted in the area during field inspection or record searches.

(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes No N/A

Description:

The intensive inventory did not find outstanding opportunities for solitude in the area due to the openness of the terrain and lack of vegetative screening. This inventory update agrees with the intensive inventory. The canyons running from the rim down to the river do give a visitor a sense of isolation. The canyons are short, and the same type of opportunity is readily available in other parts of the region. As such, there are opportunities for solitude; however, they were not determined to be outstanding.

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes No N/A

Description:

The area offers opportunities for primitive recreation like hiking, hunting and horseback riding; and the Gunnison River flows along the east boundary. As a result, there are outstanding opportunities for hiking from the river up the numerous side canyons that drain into the river. A visitor experiences narrow (almost slot) canyons leaving the river opening up to more open terrain in the higher elevations of the unit. Combined with river boating and camping, these hiking opportunities are not readily available in the surrounding area were therefore considered outstanding.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes No N/A

Description:

The unit has populations of Colorado Hookless Cactus, a species listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

The unit is important habitat for Desert Bighorn Sheep (a BLM sensitive species). The area is summer and winter range for the sheep. The area is also important to the sheep as a production area.

The area is winter range for Bald Eagles, a BLM sensitive species.

The Colorado Natural Heritage Program has identified a Potential Conservation Area (PCA) in part of the inventory area. The PCA is ranked B2 (very high biodiversity significance) due to combination of the three endangered fish species in the Gunnison River (razorback sucker, pikeminnow, and humpback chub) and the riparian vegetation community along the banks of the river. The riparian vegetation community is within the inventory area. The vegetation community (Fremont Cottonwood/Skunkbush) is ranked as G3 (globally vulnerable).

Both the Longnose Leopard Lizard and the Northern Leopard Frog occupy the area. Both species are listed as BLM sensitive species.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: LCON06000-6/Gunnison Slopes

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
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion

Check One:

- The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.
- The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by:

Team Members:

Andy Windsor (Outdoor Recreation Planner/Wilderness Specialist)

Ben Blom (Planner, Forester)

Matt McGrath (Outdoor Recreation Planner/Wilderness Specialist)

Approved by:

Kate A. Steen

8-27-2012

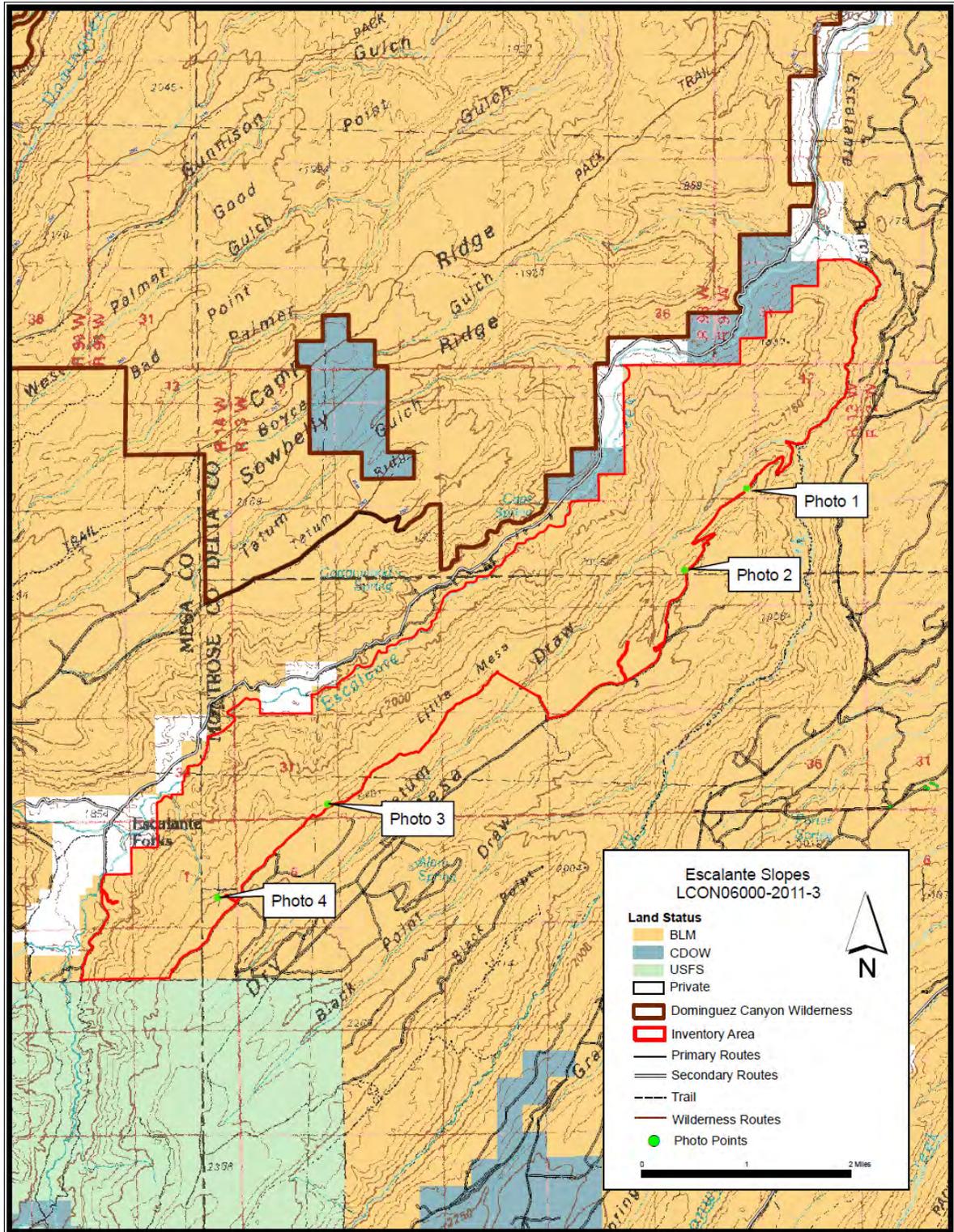
NCA Manager

Date

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 1610.5-2.

Escalante Slopes LCON06000-2011-3

Overview Map:



Photos:

Date: 6/30/2011 9:51 AM
Lat: 38.679781 Lon: -108.281492



Photo #1: Tatum Draw looking southwest

Date: 6/30/2011 10:07 AM
Lat: 38.668647 Lon: -108.292367



Photo #2: Looking west

Date: 6/30/2011 12:59 PM
Lat: 38.636514 Lon: -108.355825



Photo #3: Looking northeast

Date: 6/30/2011 12:02 PM
Lat: 38.623636 Lon: -108.375469



Photo #4: Looking northwest

Year 2011

Inventory Unit Number/Name LCON06000-3/Escalante Slopes

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 X Yes _____

a) Inventory Source: N/A

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): N/A

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

FORM 2

DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

a. Unit Number/Name LCON06000-3/Escalante Slopes

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

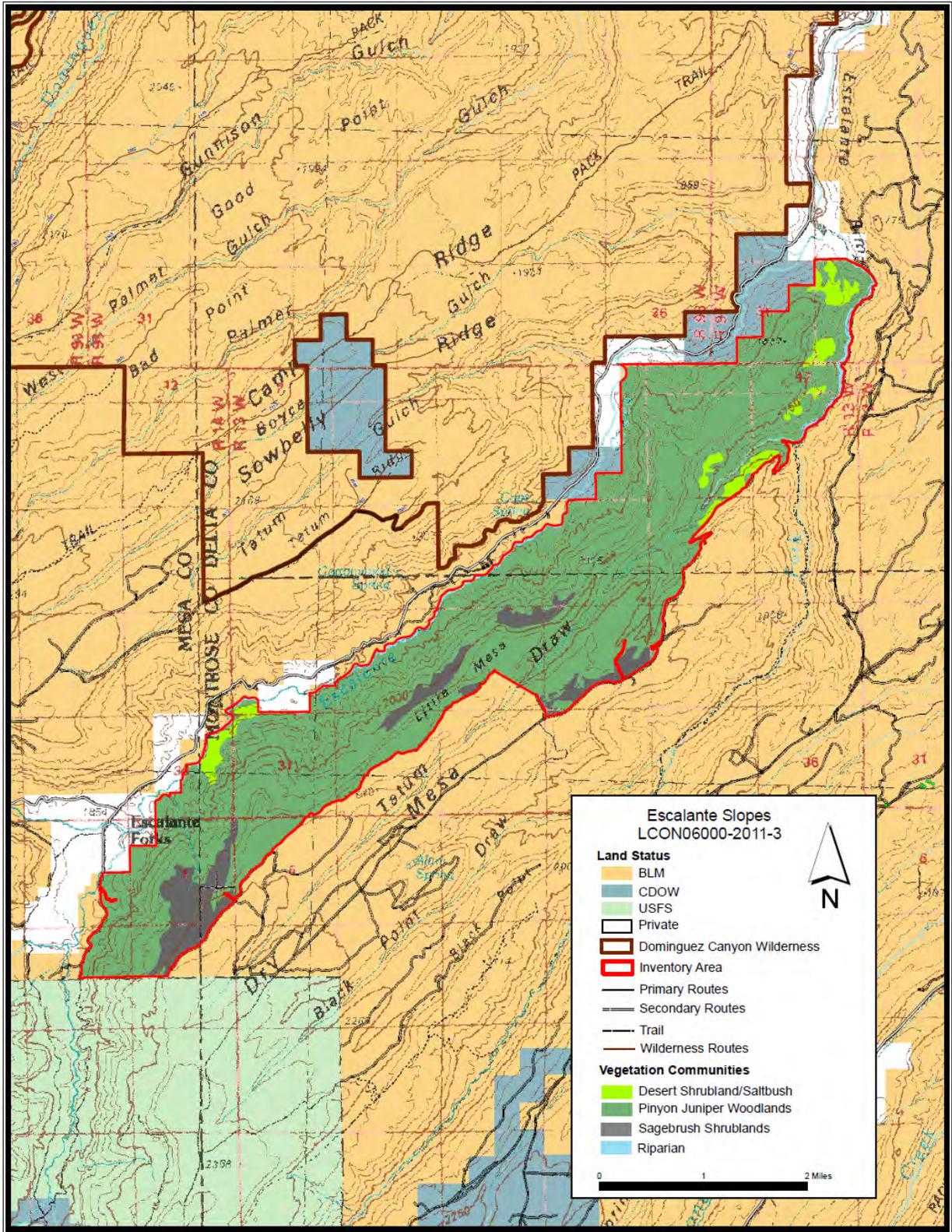
Yes X No

The unit is 7,073 acres. There are no private inholdings in the unit.

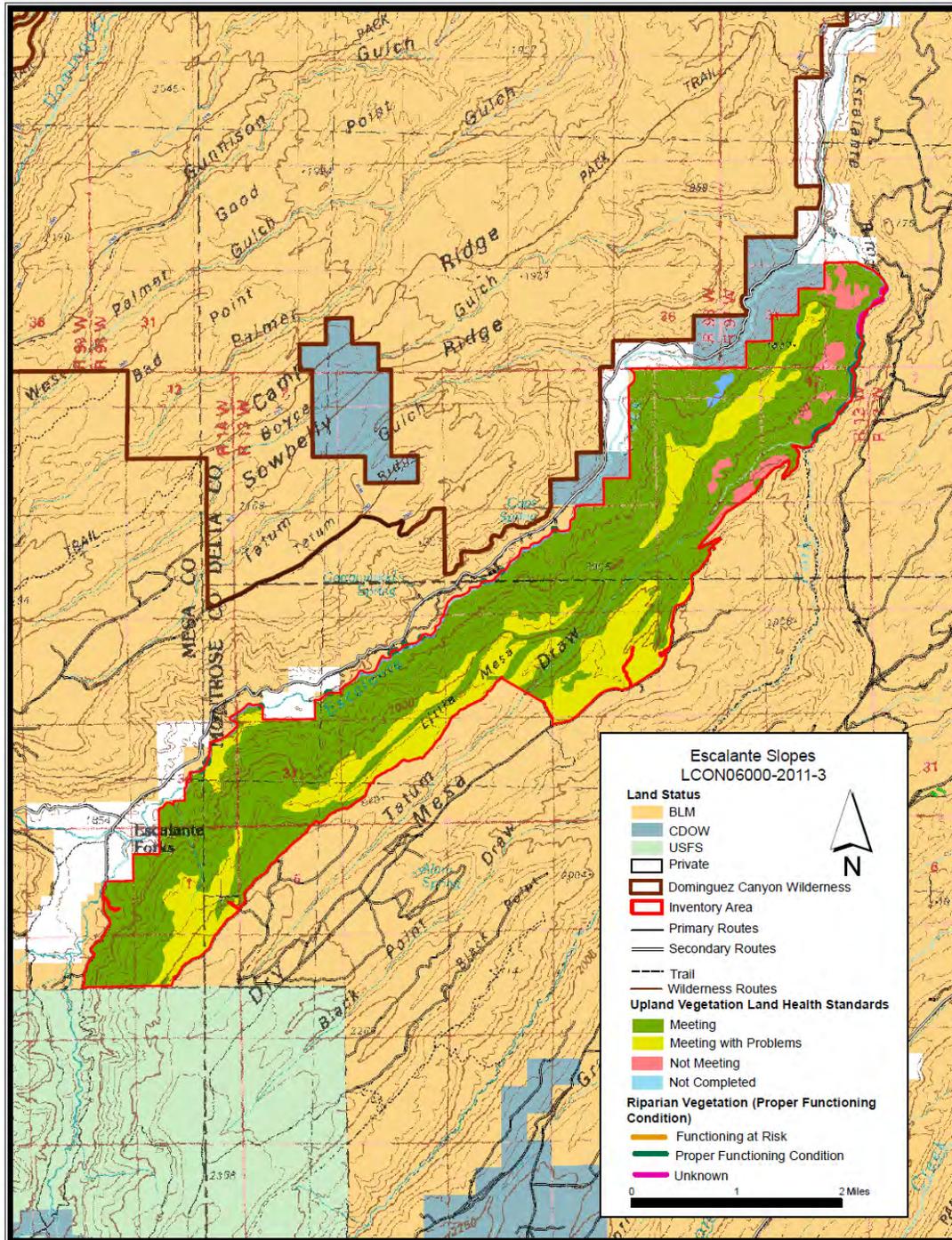
DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

The inventoried unit is approximately 20 miles west of Delta. The unit includes the north-facing slope of Escalante Canyon south of Escalante Creek, making it a long, narrow unit. The steep slope from the creek to the mesa has an elevation difference of 1,200 feet in 0.5 miles.

The vegetation is typical of the area and shows little or no sign of manipulation. Cheatgrass is present, interspersed with native vegetation. The upland vegetation is predominately along the north-facing slope and dominated by pinyon juniper woodlands. There is riparian vegetation along Escalante Creek in the northeast part of the unit.



Based on Land Health Standards assessment, 5,100 acres were determined to be “meeting”. 1,653 acres were determined to be “meeting with problems” (1,034 acres of Pinyon Juniper Woodlands, 551 acres of Sagebrush Shrublands and 68 acres of Desert Shrubland). And, 184 acres of desert shrublands were determined to be “not meeting”. Of the 5.3 miles of riparian vegetation along the Dry Creek of Escalante Creek, 4.3 miles are in Proper Functioning Condition and 1 mile has not been evaluated and the status is unknown. (see attached vegetation map)



(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes X No N/A

Description:

The area appears to primarily affected by the forces of nature. There are no known developments in the area.

(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes No X N/A

The area is primarily on the slope south of Escalante Canyon. The slope is continuous from one end of the unit to the other. As a result, a visitor has few opportunities to escape the view into the bottom of Escalante Creek and would see or hear the activity and development associated with the road and private land along Escalante Creek. There are few side drainages that have enough size or length to provide the opportunity for a visitor to feel isolated. The pinyon/juniper vegetation does provide screening. The limited screening and topographic features do provide a sense of isolation and solitude; however these were not determined to be outstanding opportunities.

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes No X N/A

Description:

The area offers opportunities for hiking and horseback riding. However, due to the nature of the topography of the area, a visitor would be limited to traveling from the creek to the top of the mesa or traversing across the slope. These limited options combined with the factors that impact solitude resulted in a determination that the area does not provide outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation.

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes No N/A X

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: LCON06000-3/Escalante Slopes

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
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion

Check One:

- The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.
- The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by:

Team Members:

Andy Windsor (Outdoor Recreation Planner/Wilderness Specialist)

Adam Staubinger (Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Contractor)

Approved by:

Katie A. Sten

8-27-2012

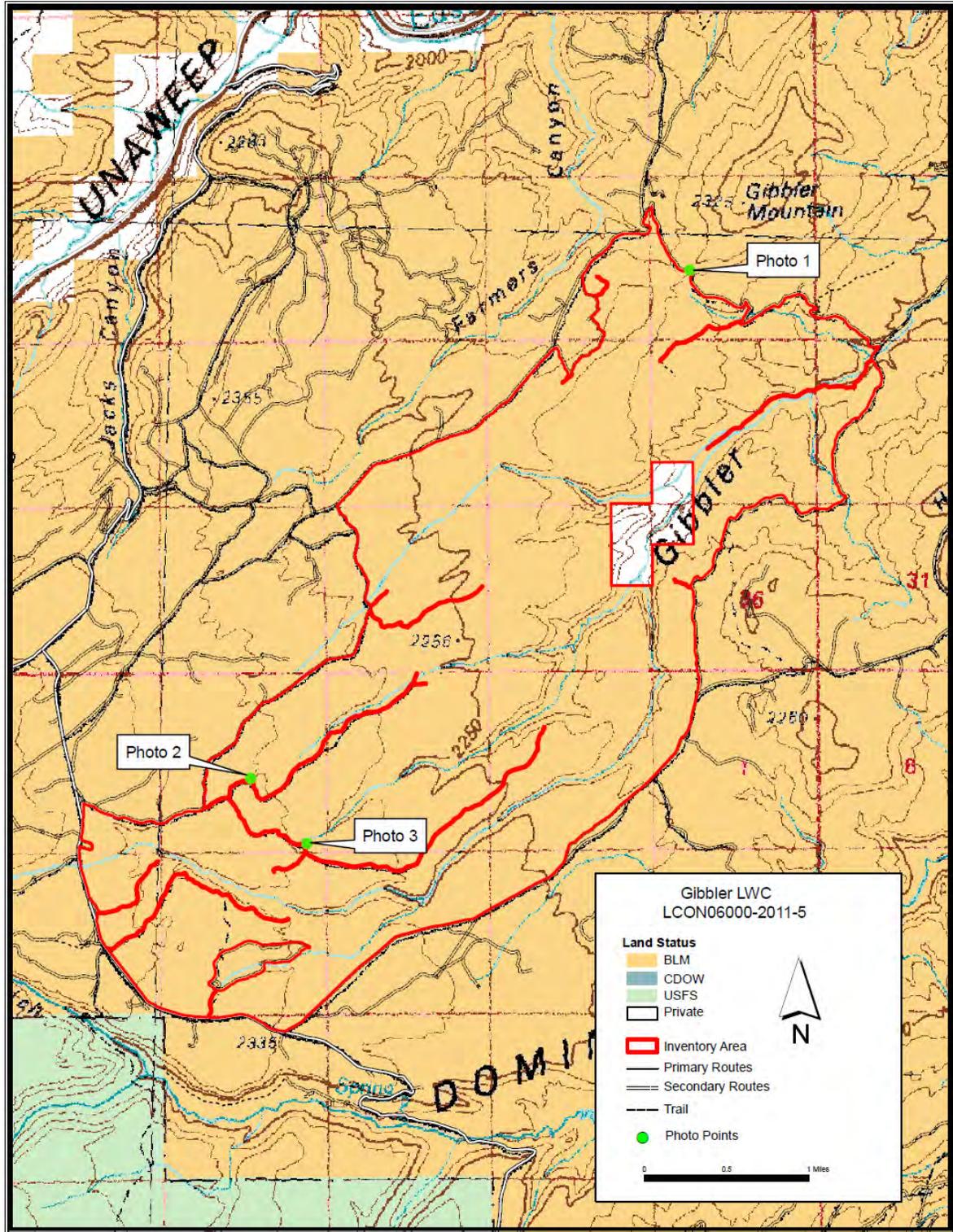
NCA Manager

Date

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 1610.5-2.

Gibbler LCON06000-2011-5

Overview Map:



Photos:



Photo #1: Near Gibbler Mountain looking south

Date: 7/5/2011 11:34 AM
Lat: 38.770828 Lon: -108.566275



Photo #2: Looking north from edge of chaining

Date: 7/5/2011 11:33 AM
Lat: 38.772811 Lon: -108.567203



Photo #3: Looking south toward chaining

Year 2010

Inventory Unit Number/Name LCON06000-5/Gibbler

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 Yes (if more than one unit is within the area, list the names/numbers of those units.):

a) Inventory Source: N/A

b) Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): N/A

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): N/A

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory unit is associated with the area, list each unit and answer each question individually for each inventory unit):

Unit#/ Name	Size (historic acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

FORM 2

DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT WILDERNESS INVENTORY CONDITIONS

a. Unit Number/Name LCON06000-5/Gibbler

(1) Is the unit of sufficient size?

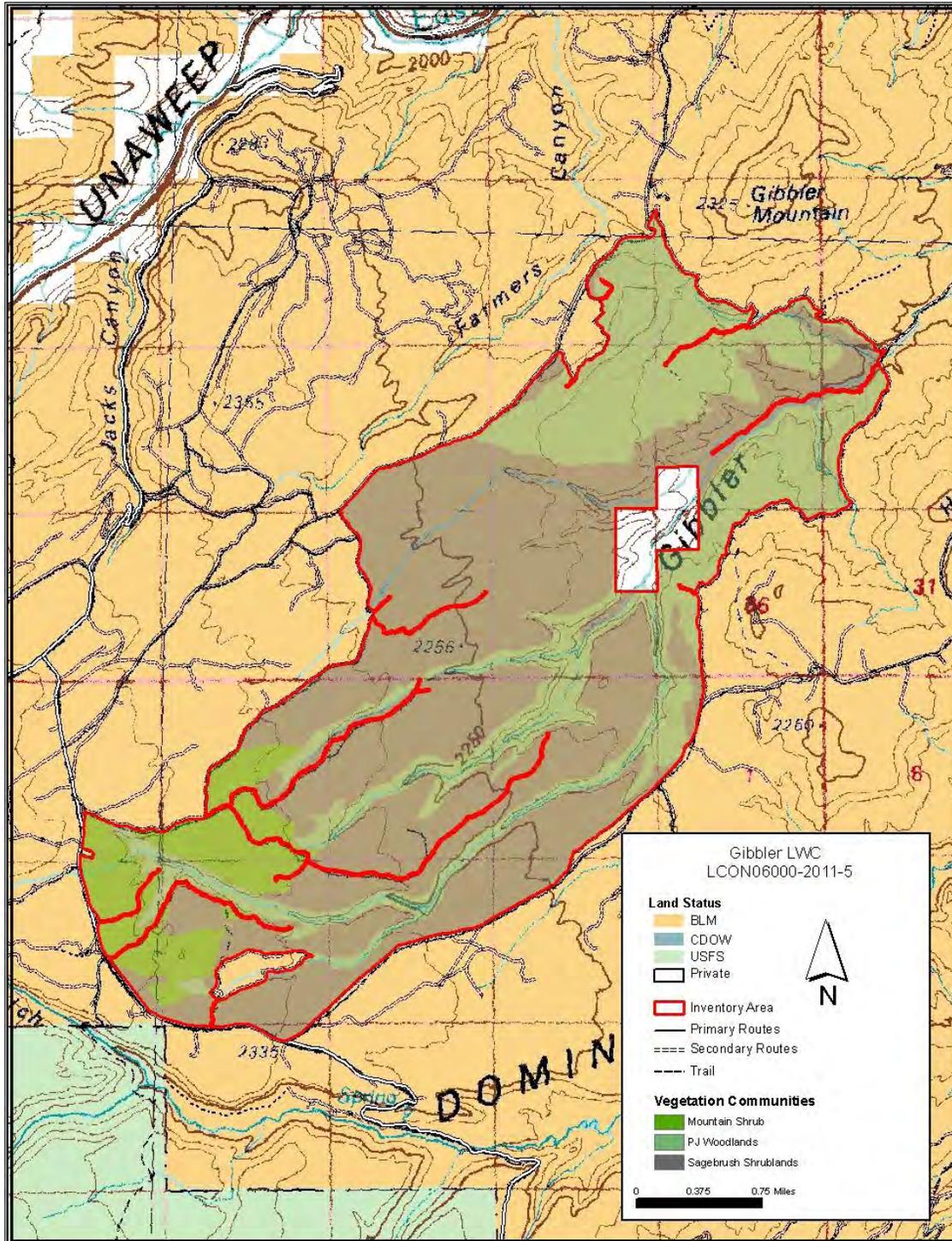
Yes X No

The unit is 6,162 acres. There is a 160 acre private inholding in Gibbler Gulch.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS:

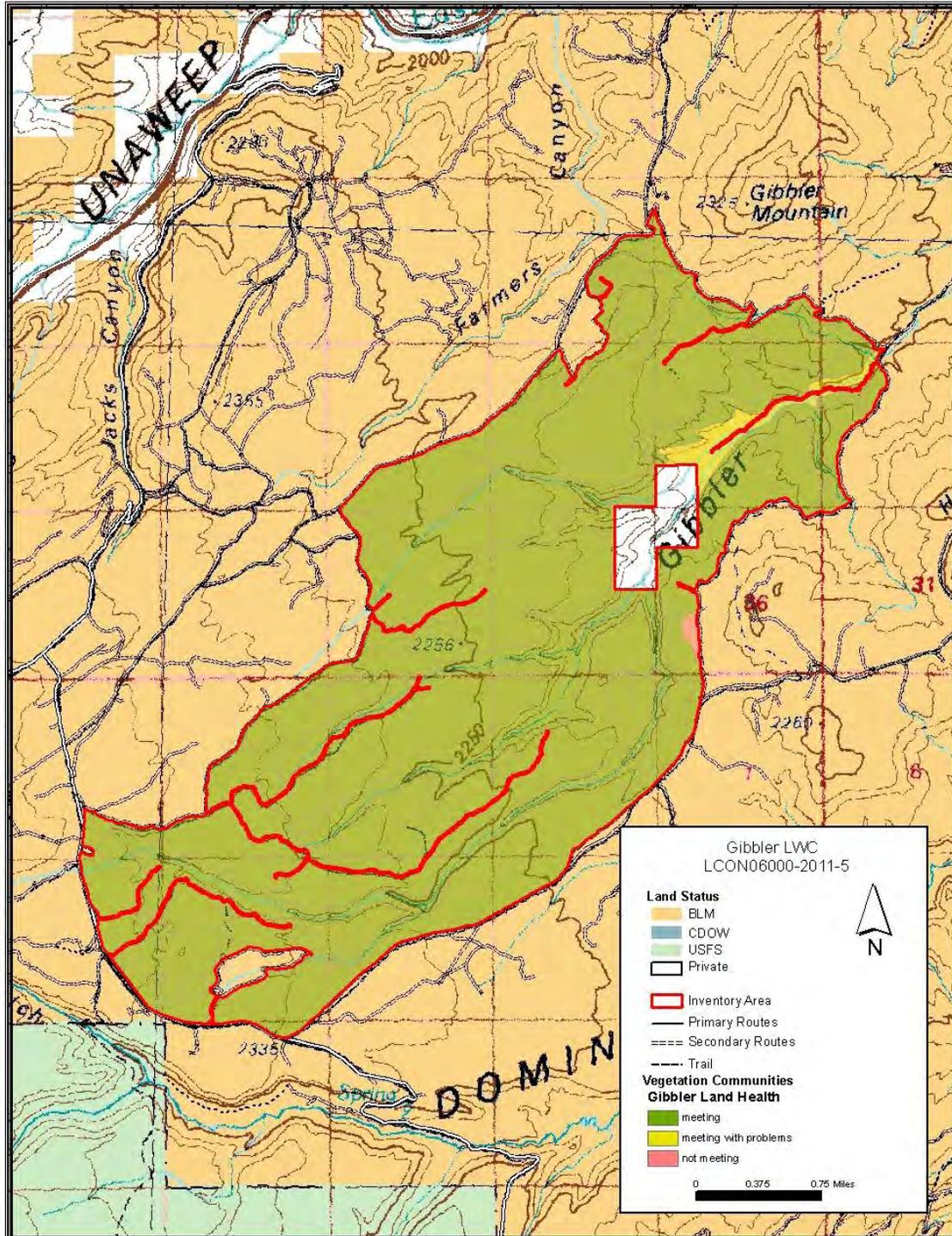
The inventoried area includes Gibbler Gulch and the surrounding mesas. The area is characterized by several side drainages with ponderosa pines, and mesa tops with sagebrush and pinyon/juniper. The main drainage of Gibbler Gulch has riparian vegetation and seasonal water.

Vegetation Map:



Based on Land Health Standards assessment, 5,965 acres were determined as “meeting”. 173 acres were determined as “meeting with problems”. And, 12 acres were determined as “not meeting”.

LHA Map:



(2) Is the unit in a natural condition?

Yes _____ No X N/A _____

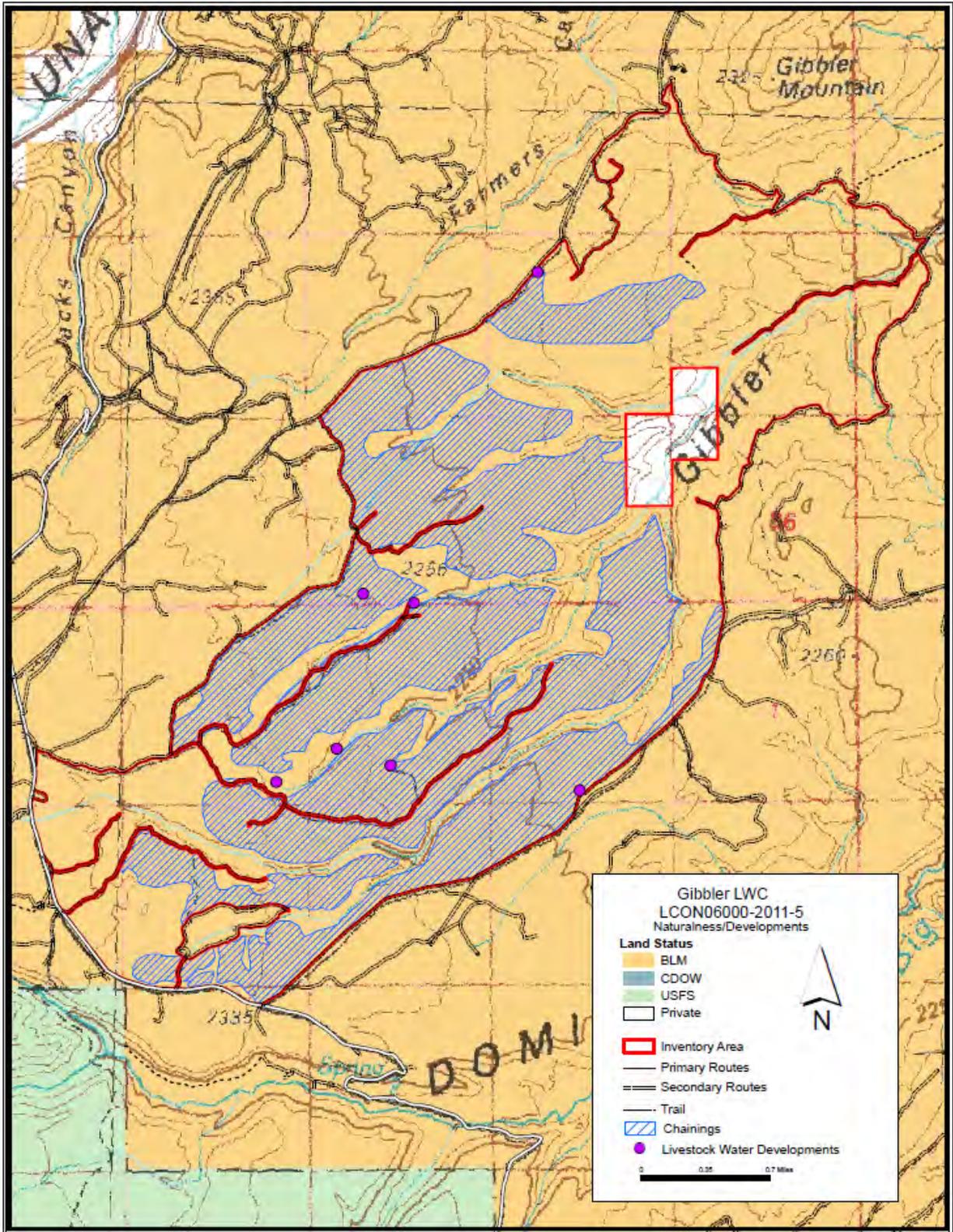
Description:

The area has been manipulated for livestock developments. Approximately 50% of the area was chained to open pinyon/juniper woodlands. Evidence of the chained areas is still apparent today. There are unnatural looking piles and windrows of old trees throughout the chained areas. Additionally, there is a visible contrast between the age class of the vegetation that was not chained and the vegetation that was chained.

There are seven livestock water developments in the unit.

Combined, the unnatural appearance of the chained areas and the livestock water developments makes the overall appearance of the area unnatural.

Naturalness Map:



(3) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X _____

(4) Does the unit have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X _____

(5) Does the unit have supplemental values?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X _____

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number LCON06000-5/Gibbler

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
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No NA
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No NA

Conclusion

Check One:

- The area-or a portion of the area-has wilderness character.
- The area does not have wilderness character.

Prepared by:

Team Members:

Andy Windsor (Outdoor Recreation Planner/Wilderness Specialist)
Mark Taber (Natural Resource Specialist)

Approved by:

Katie A. Str

8-27-2012

NCA Manager

Date

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 1610.5-2.

Appendix A: Route Analysis

Cottonwood Canyon:

Route LCON06000-2011-1a:

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-1**

Route or Route Segment¹ Name and/or Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-1a**

I. LOCATION: See map below

Describe: The route connects the bench (25 Mesa) south of the main Cottonwood drainage with the bottom of the canyon.

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current Purpose: **The purpose of the route is unknown. Livestock operations may use the route for trailing purposes. The connection of the route to 25 Mesa road is not obvious, leading to the conclusion the route’s original purpose no longer exists.**

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?

Yes ___ No **X** Unknown ___

2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW? NA

3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?

Yes ___ No ___ Unknown or N/A **X**

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:

Yes **X** (if either A.1 *or* A.2 is checked “yes” below) No ___ (if both A.1 *and* A.2 are checked “no” below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes **X** No ___

Examples: Paved ___ Bladed ___ Graveled ___ Roadside Berms ___ Cut/Fill **X** Other **X**

Describe: The route descends a steep slope as it drops into the canyon. There are switch backs and evidence of cut and fill. (see photos below)

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes ___ No **X** If “yes”: by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Examples: Culverts ___ Hardened Stream Crossings ___ Bridges ___ Drainage ___ Barriers ___
Other ___

Describe: **No evidence of maintenance of any kind was noted during field work**

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?):

Yes ___ (if either B.1 *or* B.2 is checked “yes” below) No **X** (if both B.1 *and* B.2 are checked “no” below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes ___ No **X** If “yes”: by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Explain: **NA**

2. If the route or route segment is in good 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 **X**

Explain: **The route is not in good condition and there are no livestock improvements along or at the end of the route.**

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?)

Yes ___ No **X**

Field work only noted wildlife signs and tracks along the route. There was no evidence of vehicle use.

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A *and* III.B *and* III.C all checked yes)?

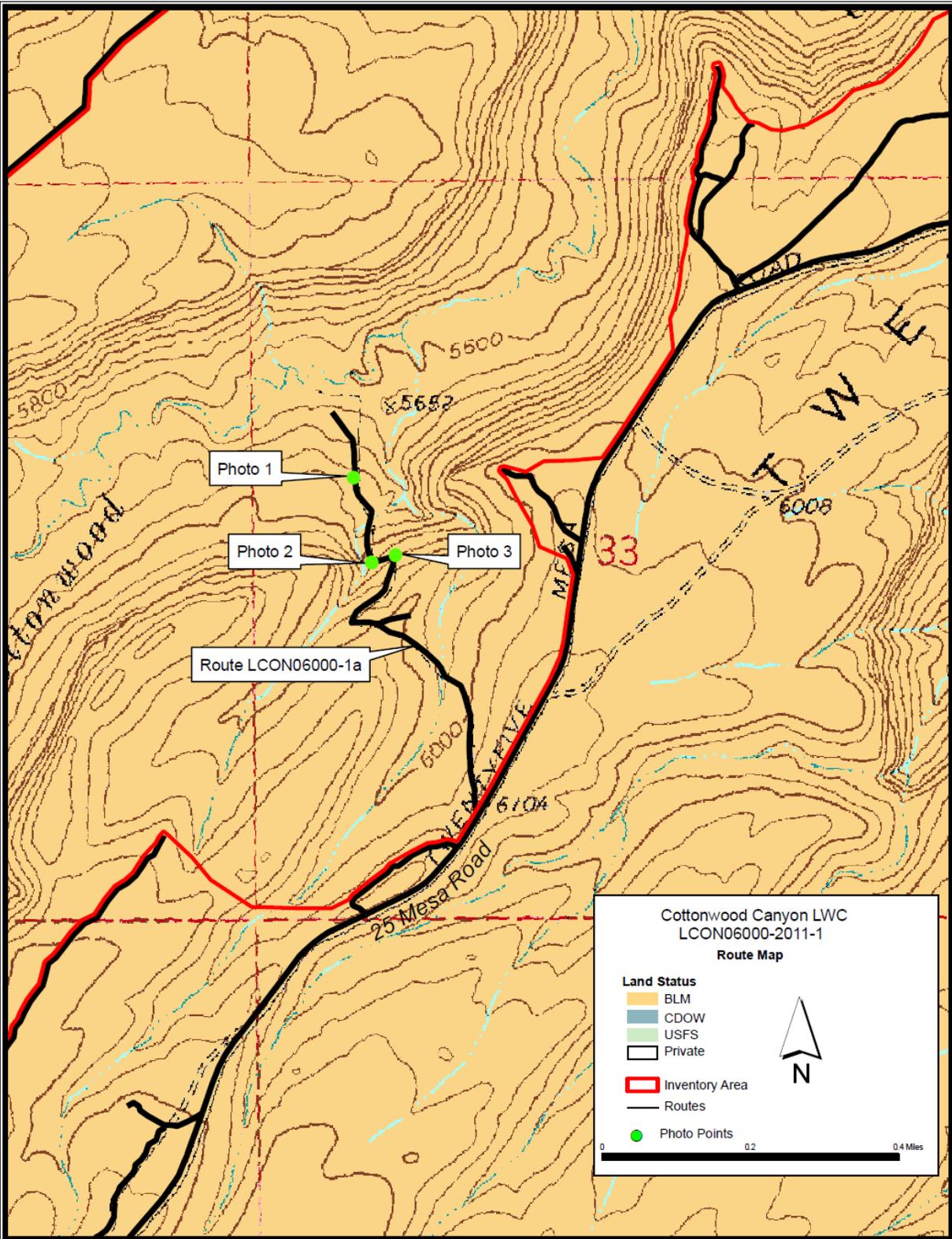
Yes ___ = Wilderness Inventory Road No **X** = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation: **The route was constructed; however, there was no evidence of maintenance or vehicle use. There are no permitted uses associated with the route other than livestock trailing.**

Evaluator(s): **Andy Windsor**

Date: **12/12/2011**

Photo Points Map:



Photos:

Date: 12/7/2010 2:02 PM
Lat: 38.643636 Lon: -108.220961



Photo Point 1: Evidence of route creating a contrasting line in vegetation.

Date: 12/7/2010 2:07 PM
Lat: 38.642167 Lon: -108.220508



Photo Point 2: Evidence of cut and fill

Date: 12/7/2010 2:08 PM
Lat: 38.642311 Lon: -108.219889



Photo Point 3: Evidence of cut and fill

Route LCON06000-2011-1b:

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-1**

Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-1b**

I. LOCATION: See map below

Describe: **The route connects the bench (25 Mesa) south of the main Cottonwood drainage with the bottom of the canyon.**

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current Purpose: **The purpose of the route is unknown. Livestock operations may use the route for trailing purposes. The route descends into the canyon below a livestock pond, and the fences in the area appear to direct livestock to use the route.**

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?
Yes ___ No **X** Unknown ___

2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW?
NA

3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?
Yes ___ No ___ Unknown or N/A **X**

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:

Yes **X** (if either A.1 or A.2 is checked "yes" below) No ___ (if both A.1 and A.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes **X** No ___

Examples: Paved ___ Bladed ___ Graveled ___ Roadside Berms ___ Cut/Fill **X**
Other **X**

Describe: **The route descends a steep slope as it drops into the canyon. There is evidence of cut and fill along the steep slope. (see photos below)**

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes ___ No **X** If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Examples: Culverts ___ Hardened Stream Crossings ___ Bridges ___ Drainage ___
Barriers ___ Other ___

Describe: **No evidence of maintenance of any kind was noted during field work**

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?):

Yes ___ (if either B.1 or B.2 is checked "yes" below) No **X** (if both B.1 and B.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?
Yes ___ No **X** If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

2. If the route or route segment is in good 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 **X**

Explain: **The route is not in good condition. There are livestock improvements (fences) at the end of the route.**

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?)

Yes ___ No **X**

Field work noted no evidence of vehicle use on the route.

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A *and* III.B *and* III.C all checked yes)?

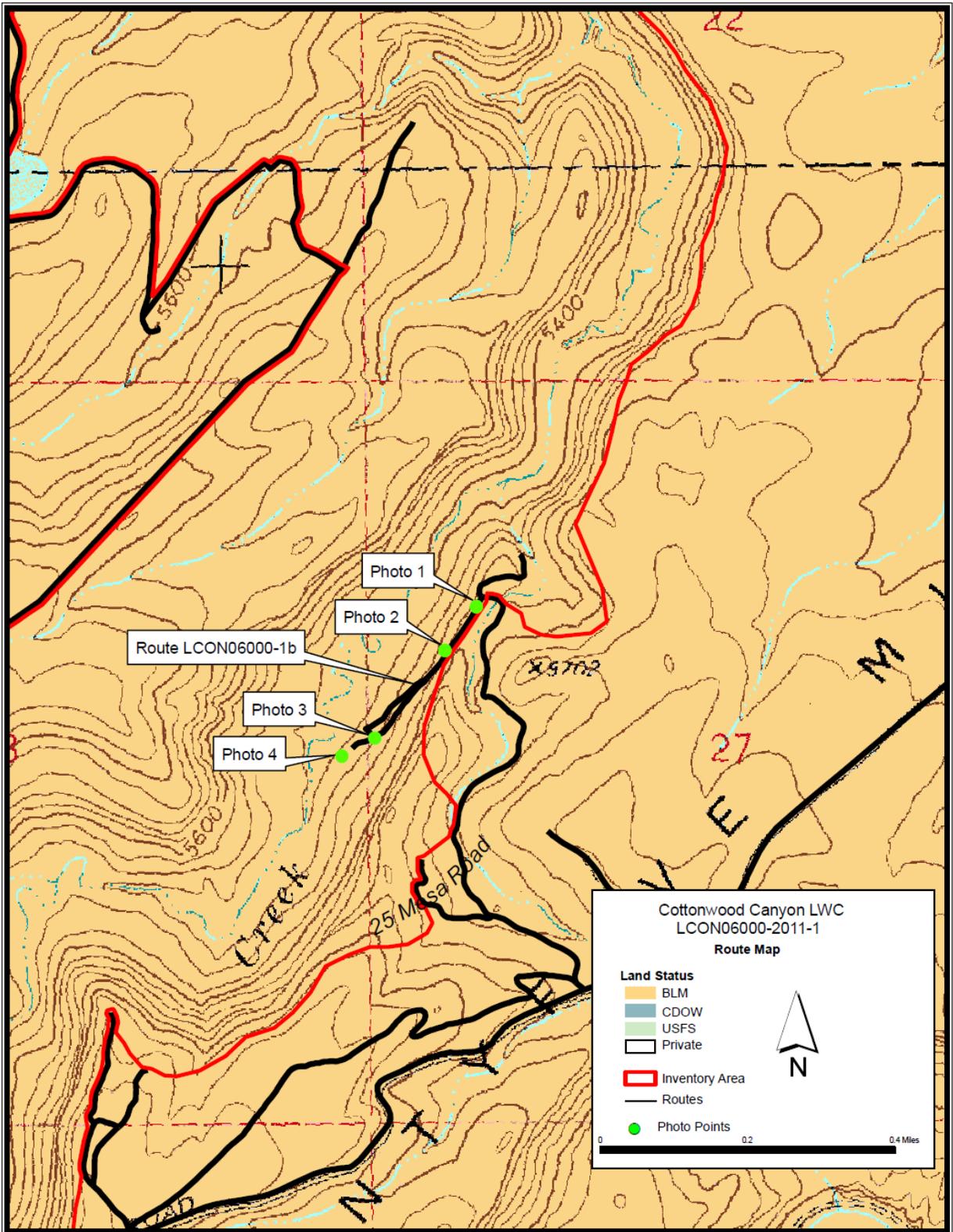
Yes ___ = Wilderness Inventory Road No **X** = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation: **The route was constructed; however, there was no evidence of maintenance or vehicle use. There are no permitted uses associated with the route other than livestock trailing.**

Evaluator(s): **Andy Windsor**

Date: **12/12/2011**

Photo Points Map:



Photos:



Photo Point 1: Evidence of cut and fill at the top of the route.



Photo Point 2: Evidence of cut and fill



Photo Point 3: Fence at the end of the route



Photo Point 4: Remnant of old vehicle at the end of the route

Route LCON06000-2011-1c:

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-1**

Route or Route Segment² Name and/or Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-1b**

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

I. LOCATION: See map below

Describe: **The route extends out to scenic viewpoint from the main route.**

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current Purpose: **The purpose of the route is unknown. The route appears to be a user-created route to access a scenic overlook.**

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?

Yes ___ No X Unknown ___

2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW?

NA

3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?

Yes ___ No ___ Unknown or N/A X

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:

Yes ___ (if either A.1 or A.2 is checked "yes" below) No X (if both A.1 and A.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes ___ No X

Examples: Paved ___ Bladed ___ Graveled ___ Roadside Berms ___ Cut/Fill X Other X

Describe: **The route descends a steep slope as it drops into the canyon. There is evidence of cut and fill along the steep slope. (see photos below)**

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes ___ No X If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Describe: **No evidence of maintenance of any kind was noted during field work**

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?):

Yes ___ (if either B.1 or B.2 is checked "yes" below) No X (if both B.1 and B.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes ___ No X If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

2. If the route or route segment is in good 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 **X**

Explain: **The route appears to get very little use and is largely unnoticeable.**

- C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?)
Yes ___ No **X**

Field work noted no evidence of vehicle use on the route.

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A and III.B and III.C all checked yes)?

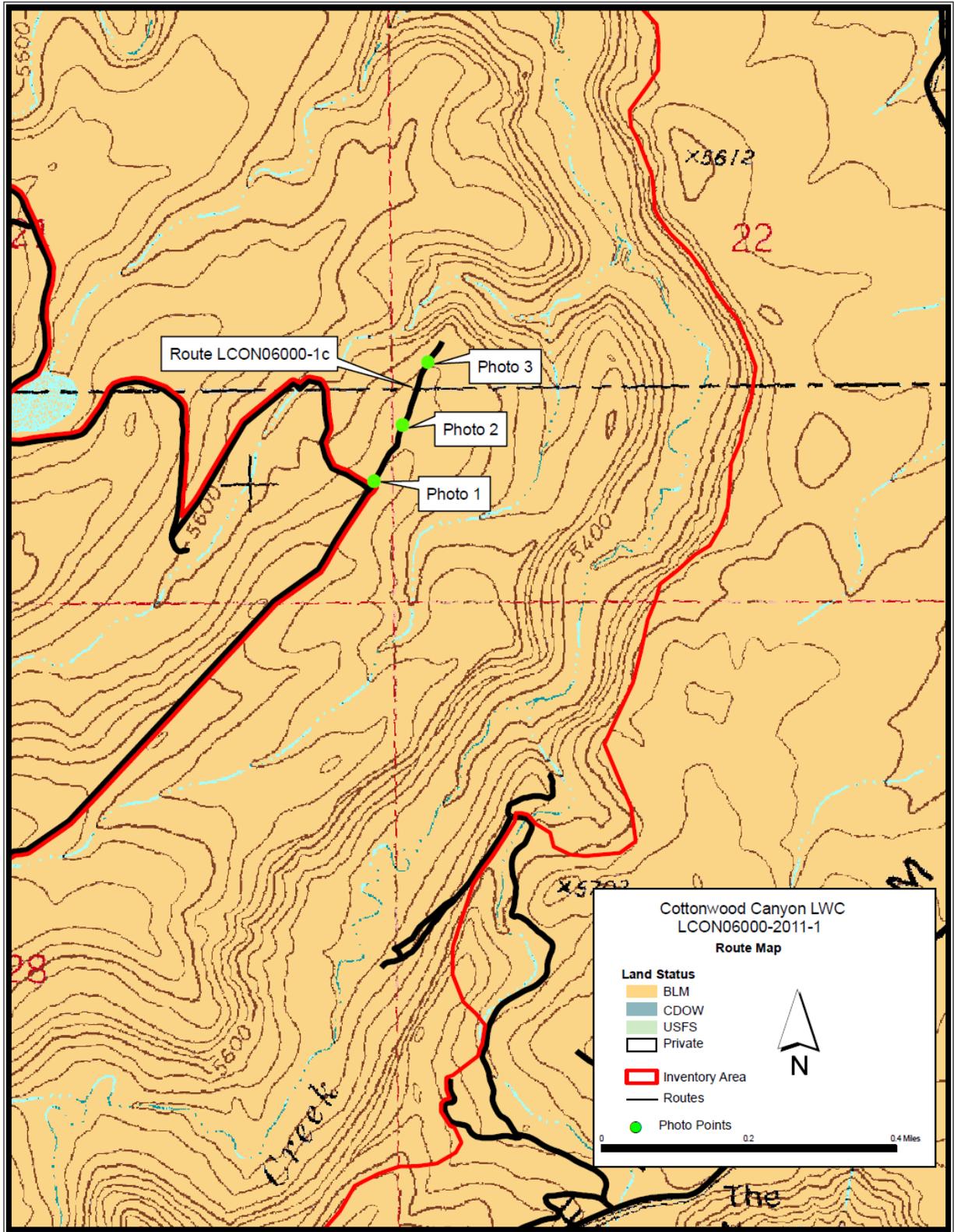
Yes ___ = Wilderness Inventory Road No **X** = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation: **The route was not improved or constructed; there was no evidence of maintenance or vehicle use. There are no permitted uses associated with the route.**

Evaluator(s): **Andy Windsor**

Date: **12/12/2011**

Photo Points Map:



Photos:



Photo Point 1: Beginning of route.



Photo Point 2: Nature of route



Photo Point 3: Nature of route

Dry Fork of Escalante Creek:

Route LCON06000-2011-2a:

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-2**

Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-2a**

I. LOCATION: See map below

Describe: **The route connects the bench north of the main Dry Fork drainage with the bottom of the canyon.**

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current Purpose: **The purpose of the route is unknown. Livestock operations may use the route for trailing purposes. It is possible this route connected with LCON06000-2011-2b at one time. No connection was found during field work.**

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?

Yes ___ No X Unknown ___

2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW? NA

3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?

Yes ___ No ___ Unknown or N/A X

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:

Yes X (if either A.1 or A.2 is checked "yes" below) No ___ (if both A.1 and A.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes X No ___

Examples: Paved ___ Bladed ___ Graveled ___ Roadside Berms ___ Cut/Fill X Other X

Describe: **The route descends a steep slope as it drops into the canyon. There are switch backs and evidence of cut and fill. The beginning of the route on the bench passes through pinyon and juniper trees. There is evidence of corridor clearing through the trees. (see photos below)**

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes ___ No X If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Describe: **No evidence of maintenance of any kind was noted during field work**

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?):

Yes ___ (if either B.1 or B.2 is checked "yes" below) No **X** (if both B.1 and B.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes ___ No **X** If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

2. If the route or route segment is in good 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 **X**

Explain: **The route is not in good condition and there are no livestock improvements along or at the end of the route.**

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?)

Yes ___ No **X**

Describe evidence **Field work only noted wildlife signs and tracks along the route. There was no evidence of vehicle use.**

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A and III.B and III.C all checked yes)?

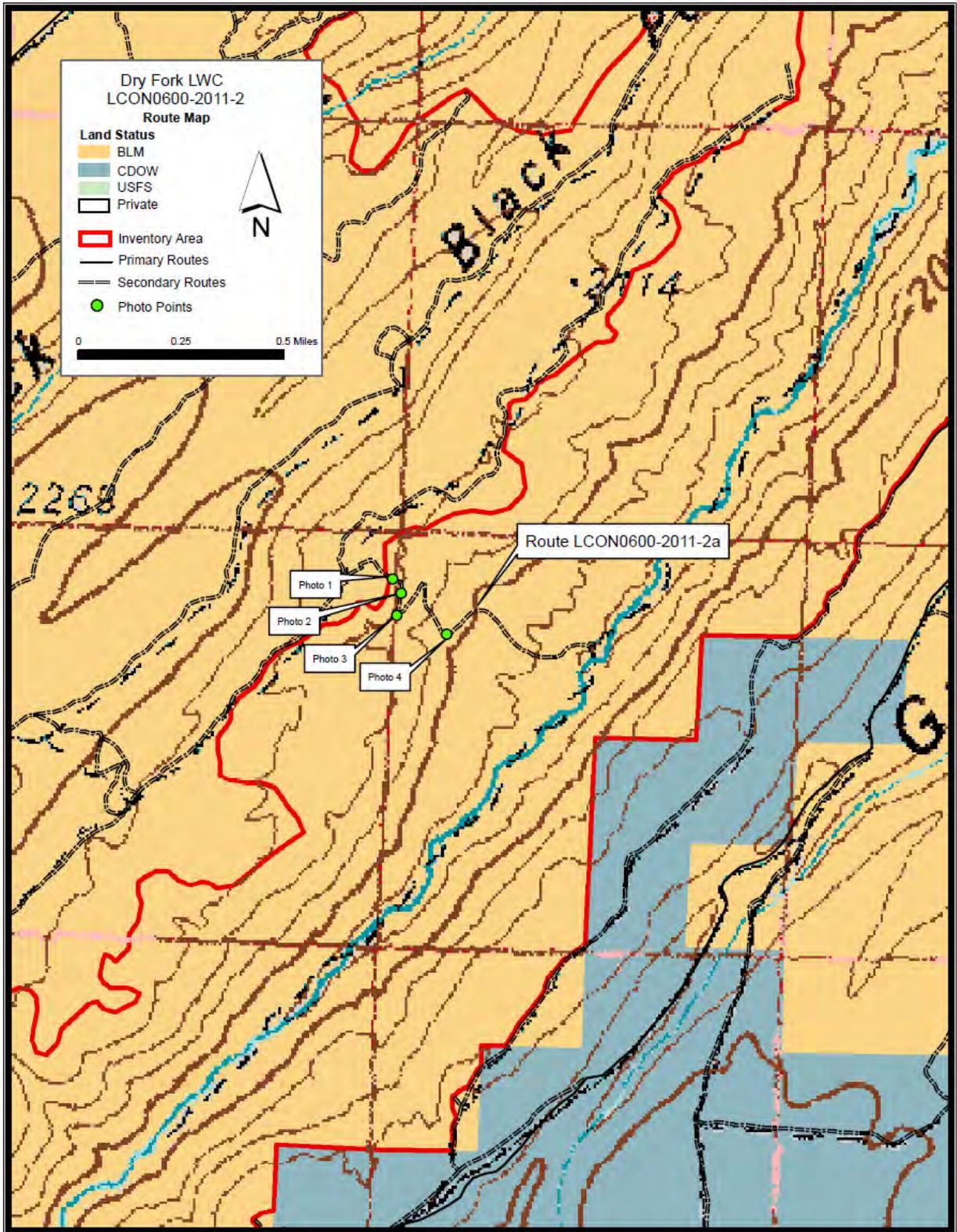
Yes ___ = Wilderness Inventory Road No **X** = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation: **The route was constructed; however, there was no evidence of maintenance or vehicle use. There are no permitted uses associated with the route other than livestock trailing.**

Evaluator(s): **Andy Windsor**

Date: **8/25/2011**

Photo Points Map:



Photos:

Date: 6/30/2011 2:18 PM
Lat: 38.603528 Lon: -108.335919



Photo Point 1: Evidence of corridor clearing

Date: 6/30/2011 2:17 PM
Lat: 38.6033 Lon: -108.33535



Photo Point 2: Route beginning descent into Dry Fork Canyon

Date: 6/30/2011 1:54 PM
Lat: 38.602267 Lon: -108.335417



Photo Point 3: Switchback

Date: 6/30/2011 2:06 PM
Lat: 38.601533 Lon: -108.333203



Photo Point 4: Evidence of cut and fill

Route LCON06000-2011-2b:

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-2**

Route or Route Segment³ Name and/or Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-2b**

I. LOCATION: See map below

Describe: **The route runs up the bottom of the canyon.**

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current Purpose: **The purpose of the route is unknown. Livestock operations may use the route for trailing purposes. It is possible this route connected with LCON06000-2011-2a at one time. No connection was found during field work.**

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?

Yes ___ No **X** Unknown ___

2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW? NA

3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?

Yes ___ No ___ Unknown or N/A **X**

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:

Yes **X** (if either A.1 or A.2 is checked "yes" below) No ___ (if both A.1 and A.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes **X** No ___

Examples: Paved ___ Bladed ___ Graveled ___ Roadside Berms ___ Cut/Fill **X** Other **X**

Describe: **The route appears to have been constructed to allow vehicle travel up the bottom of the canyon. There were numerous places where there was evidence of cut and fill.**

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes ___ No **X** If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Describe: **No evidence of improvements was noted during field work**

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?):

Yes ___ (if either B.1 *or* B.2 is checked “yes” below) No **X** (if both B.1 *and* B.2 are checked “no” below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes ___ No **X** If “yes”: by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

2. If the route or route segment is in good 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 **X**

Explain: **The route is not in good condition and there are no livestock improvements along or at the end of the route. The only sign of maintenance was the passage of ATVs.**

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?)

Yes ___ No **X**

Field work only noted evidence of infrequent ATV traffic along the route.

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment⁴ meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A *and* III.B *and* III.C all checked yes)?

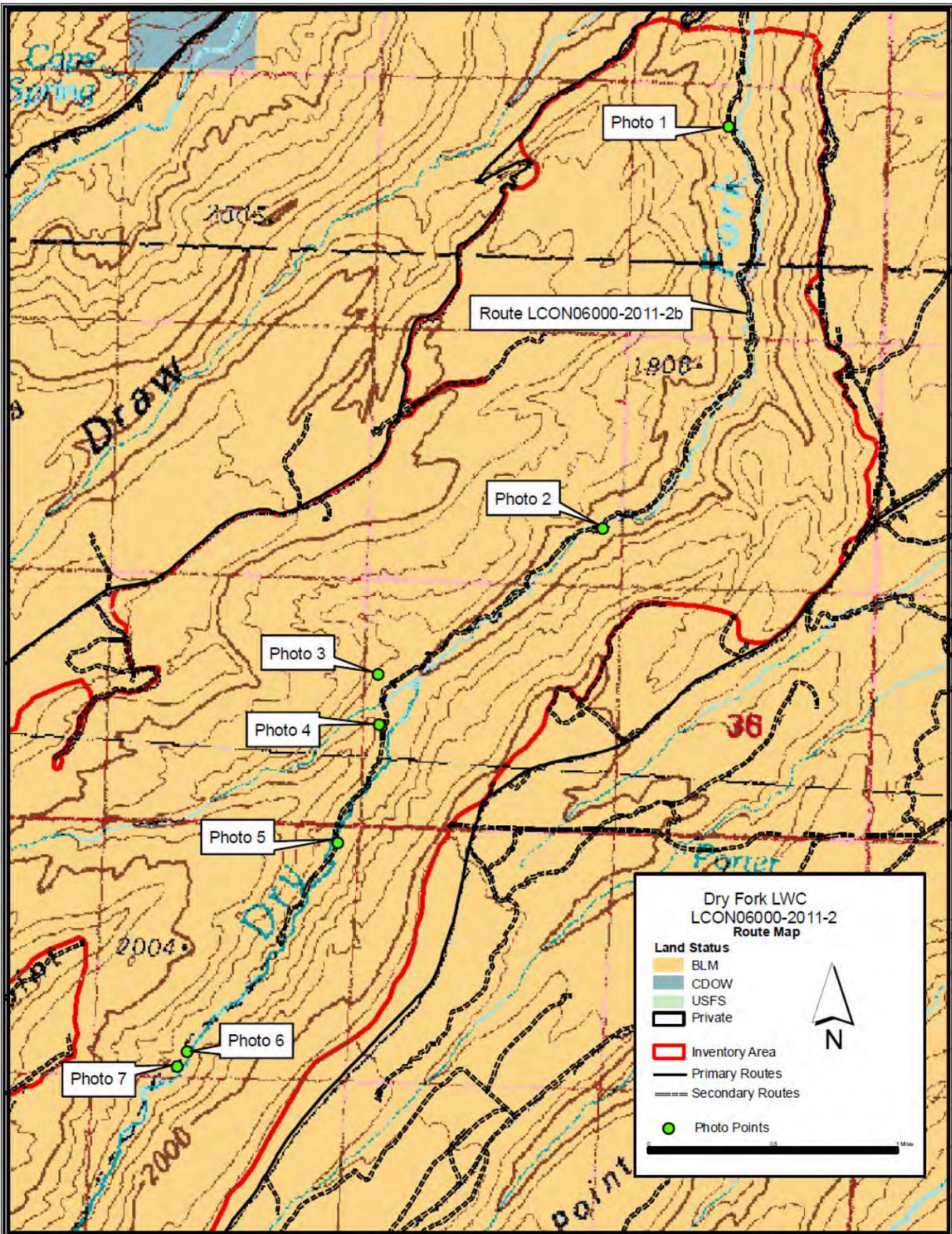
Yes ___ = Wilderness Inventory Road No **X** = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation⁵: **The route was constructed; however, there was no evidence of maintenance other than occasional ATV traffic. There are no permitted uses associated with the route other than livestock trailing.**

Evaluator(s): **Andy Windsor**

Date: **8/25/2011**

Photo Points Map:



Photos:

Date: 6/22/2011 10:51 AM
Lat: 38.676217 Lon: -108.272378



Photo Point 1: Evidence of cut and fill

Date: 6/22/2011 11:41 AM
Lat: 38.652628 Lon: -108.280419



Photo Point 2: Evidence of cut and fill

Date: 6/22/2011 12:12 PM
Lat: 38.643614 Lon: -108.296761



Photo Point 3: Drainage crossing

Date: 6/22/2011 12:17 PM
Lat: 38.640489 Lon: -108.296403



Photo Point 4: Evidence of cut and fill

Date: 6/22/2011 1:00 PM
Lat: 38.633842 Lon: -108.2993



Photo Point 5: Route corridor through shrub oak

Date: 6/22/2011 2:25 PM
Lat: 38.621386 Lon: -108.309944



Photo Point 6: Evidence of linear debris from construction

Date: 6/22/2011 2:22 PM
Lat: 38.620531 Lon: -108.310628



Photo Point 7: Evidence of bench cut

Route LCON06000-2011-2c:

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-2**

Route or Route Segment⁶ Name and/or Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-2c**

I. LOCATION: See map below

Describe: **The route continues beyond a livestock water trough.**

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current Purpose: **The purpose of the route is unknown. It appears the route is a user-created route. Recreationists did not stop at the livestock development and have continued to push the route east.**

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?
Yes ___ No **X** Unknown ___

2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW? **NA**

3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?
Yes ___ No ___ Unknown or N/A **X**

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:

Yes ___ (if either A.1 *or* A.2 is checked “yes” below) No **X** (if both A.1 *and* A.2 are checked “no” below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes ___ No **X**

Examples: Paved___ Bladed__ Graveled___ Roadside Berms___ Cut/Fill__ Other__

Describe: **The route appears to have been created by the passage of vehicles. No evidence of construction was noted during field work.**

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes ___ No **X** If “yes”: by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Describe: **No evidence of improvements was noted during field work**

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?):

Yes ___ (if either B.1 *or* B.2 is checked “yes” below) No **X** (if both B.1 *and* B.2 are checked “no” below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes ___ No **X** If “yes”: by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

2. If the route or route segment is in good 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 **X**

Explain: **The route is not in good condition and there are no livestock improvements at the end of the route. The only sign of maintenance was the passage of ATVs.**

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?)

Yes ___ No **X**

Field work only noted evidence of infrequent ATV traffic along the route.

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment⁷ meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A and III.B and III.C all checked yes)?

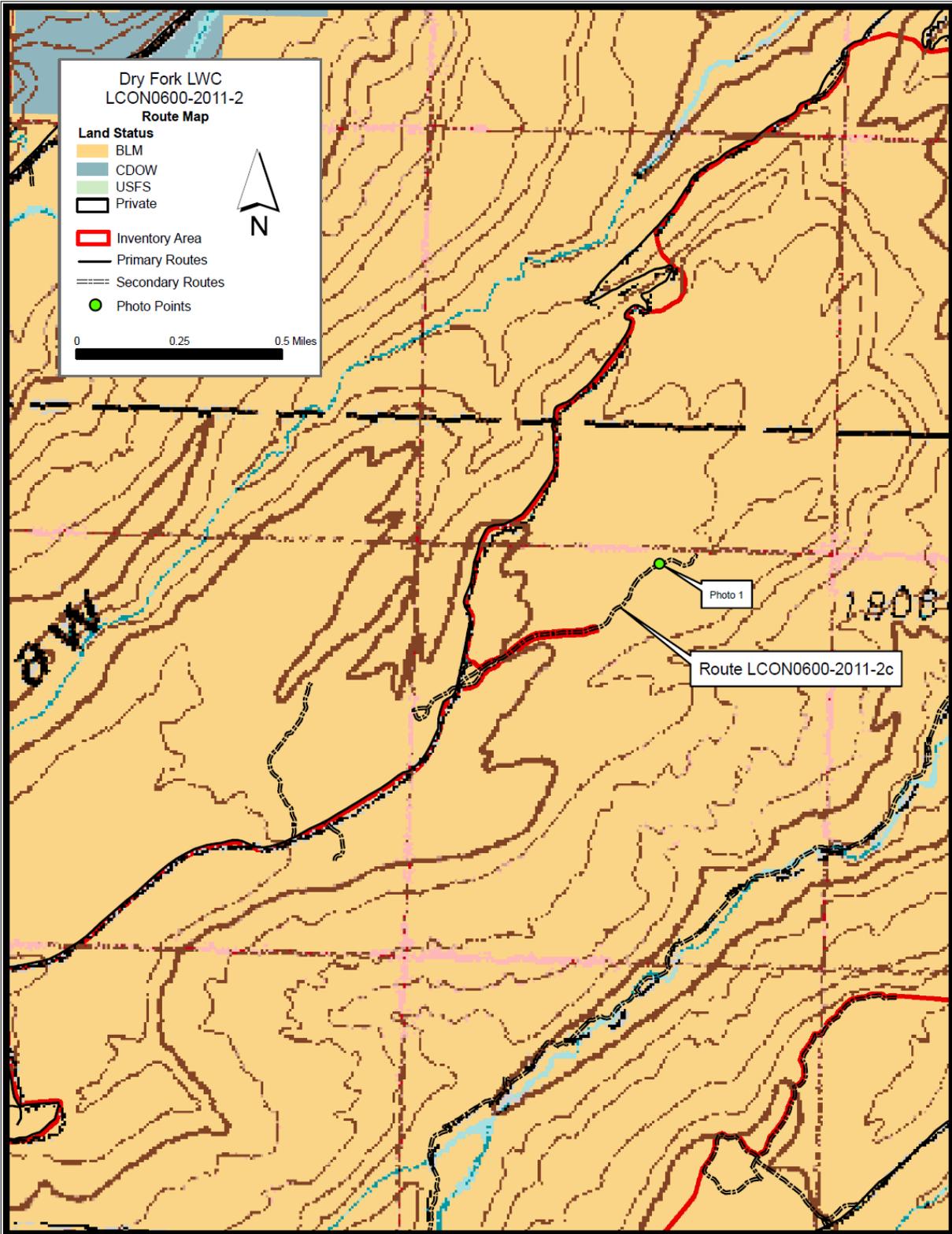
Yes ____ = Wilderness Inventory Road No **X** = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation⁸: **The route was not constructed or improved; there was no evidence of maintenance other than occasional OHV traffic. There are no permitted uses associated with the route.**

Evaluator(s): **Andy Windsor**

Date: **8/25/2011**

Photo Points Map:



Photos:

Date: 6/30/2011 10:27 AM
Lat: 38.663428 Lon: -108.286817



Photo Point 1: Nature of the route

Route LCON06000-2011-2d:

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-2**

Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-2d**

I. LOCATION: See map below

Describe: The route intersects with the Dry Mesa road and goes a short distance to the north rim of the Dry Fork of Escalante Creek Canyon.

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current Purpose: **The purpose of the route is access to a scenic overlook.**

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?

Yes ___ No Unknown ___

2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW? NA

3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?

Yes ___ No ___ Unknown or N/A X

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:

Yes ___ (if either A.1 *or* A.2 is checked "yes" below) No X (if both A.1 *and* A.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes ___ No X

Describe: **The route appears to have been created by the passage of vehicles. No evidence of construction was noted during field work.**

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes ___ No X If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Describe: **No evidence of improvements was noted during field work**

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?):

Yes ___ (if either B.1 *or* B.2 is checked "yes" below) No X (if both B.1 *and* B.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery? Yes ___ No X If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

2. If the route or route segment is in good⁹ 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 X

Explain: **The route is not in good condition and there are no livestock improvements at the end of the route. The only sign of maintenance was the passage of vehicles.**

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?)

Yes ___ No X

Field work only noted evidence of frequent OHV traffic along the route.

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A *and* III.B *and* III.C all checked yes)?

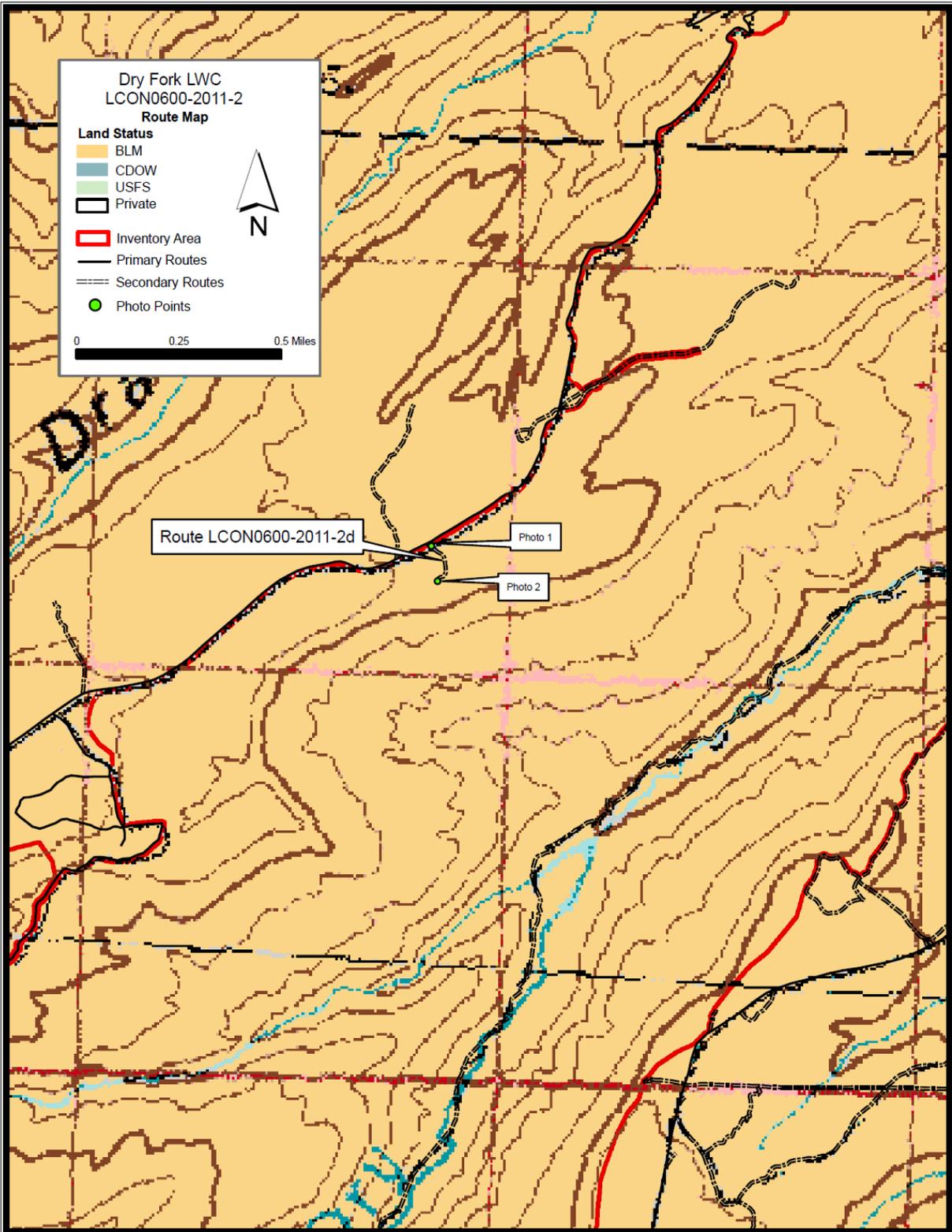
Yes ____ = Wilderness Inventory Road No **X** = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation¹⁰: **The route was not constructed or improved; there was no evidence of maintenance other than OHV traffic. There are no permitted uses associated with the route.**

Evaluator(s): **Andy Windsor**

Date: **8/25/2011**

Photo Points Map:



Photos:

Date: 6/30/2011 10:51 AM
Lat: 38.653844 Lon: -108.301742



Photo Point 1: Route at the intersection with Dry Mesa Road

Date: 6/30/2011 10:48 AM
Lat: 38.652542 Lon: -108.301008



Photo Point 2: View at the end of the route

Dominguez Addition:

Route LCON06000-2011-4a:

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-4**

Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-4a**

I. LOCATION: See map below

Describe: **The route runs along Bad Point from the main access road to the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness boundary**

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current Purpose: **The primary purpose of the route is hunting access. During the big game hunting season, hunters use the route with ATVs to access hunting areas and retrieve downed game. The route is also used by the livestock grazing permittee to conduct grazing operations in the area.**

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?
Yes ___ No **X** Unknown ___
2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW?
NA
3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?
Yes ___ No ___ Unknown or N/A **X**

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:
Yes ___ (if either A.1 or A.2 is checked "yes" below) No **X** (if both A.1 and A.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes ___ No **X**

Describe: **The route meanders along the top of Bad Point. (see photos below**

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes ___ No **X** If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Describe: **No evidence of maintenance of any kind was noted during field work**

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?):

Yes ___ (if either B.1 or B.2 is checked "yes" below) No **X** (if both B.1 and B.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?
Yes ___ No **X** If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

2. If the route or route segment is in good¹¹ 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 **X**

Explain: The route is passible with an ATV. The condition of the route appears to be maintained solely by the passage of ATVs.

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?)
Yes ___ No **X**

The route is regularly used during hunting season in the fall and shed hunting season in the spring.

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A and III.B and III.C all checked yes)?

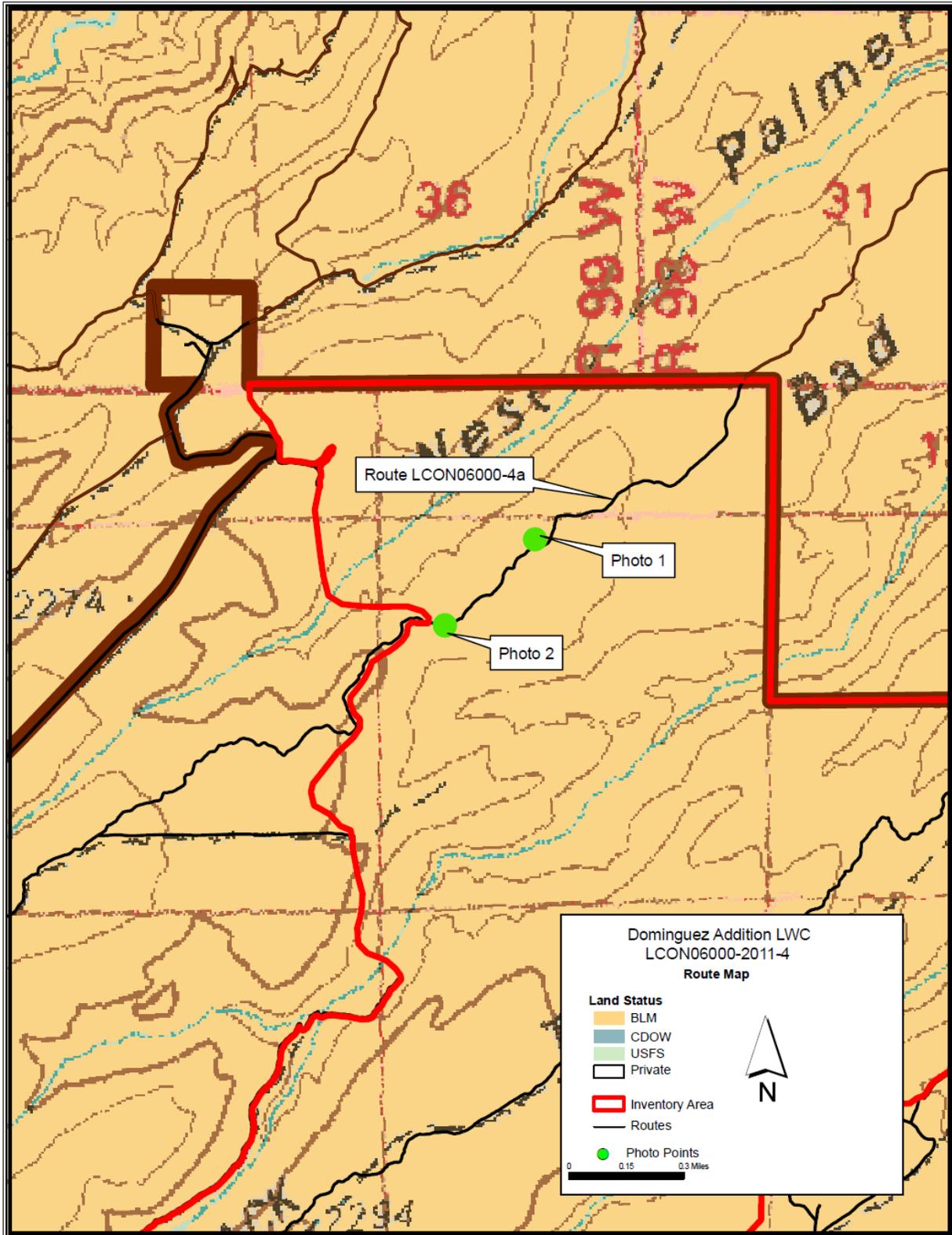
Yes ___ = Wilderness Inventory Road No **X** = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation: The route does not have evidence of construction or improvement. I appears to only be maintained by the passage of ATVs.

Evaluator(s): **Andy Windsor**

Date: **01/25/2012**

Photo Points Map:



Photos:

Date: 12/9/2010 12:52 PM
Lat: 38.688003 Lon: -108.408561



Photo Point 1: Nature of route

Date: 12/9/2010 1:02 PM
Lat: 38.689383 Lon: -108.404931



Photo Point 2: Nature of route

Route LCON06000-2011-4a:

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-4**

Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: **LCON06000-2011-4b**

I. LOCATION: See map below

Describe: **The route is a continuation of the McCarty Trail outside the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness.**

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current purpose: **The route has three primary purposes. During the big game hunting season, hunters use the route with ATVs to access hunting areas and retrieve downed game. Hikers use the route to access the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness. The route is also used by the livestock grazing permittee to conduct grazing operations in the area.**

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?
Yes ___ No **X** Unknown ___
2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW?
NA
3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?
Yes ___ No ___ Unknown or N/A **X**

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:
Yes ___ (if either A.1 or A.2 is checked "yes" below) No **X** (if both A.1 and A.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes ___ No **X**

Describe: **The route meanders along the top of Camp Ridge. (see photos below**

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes ___ No **X** If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___

Describe: **No evidence of maintenance of any kind was noted during field work**

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?):

Yes ___ (if either B.1 or B.2 is checked "yes" below) No **X** (if both B.1 and B.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?
Yes ___ No **X** If "yes": by Hand Tools ___ by Machine ___
2. If the route or route segment is in good¹² 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 **X**

Explain: **The route is passible with an ATV. The condition of the route appears to be maintained solely by the passage of ATVs.**

- C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?)
Yes ___ No **X**

The route is regularly used during hunting season in the fall and shed hunting season in the spring. The route is also used periodically by hikers and the livestock grazing permittee.

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A and III.B and III.C all checked yes)?

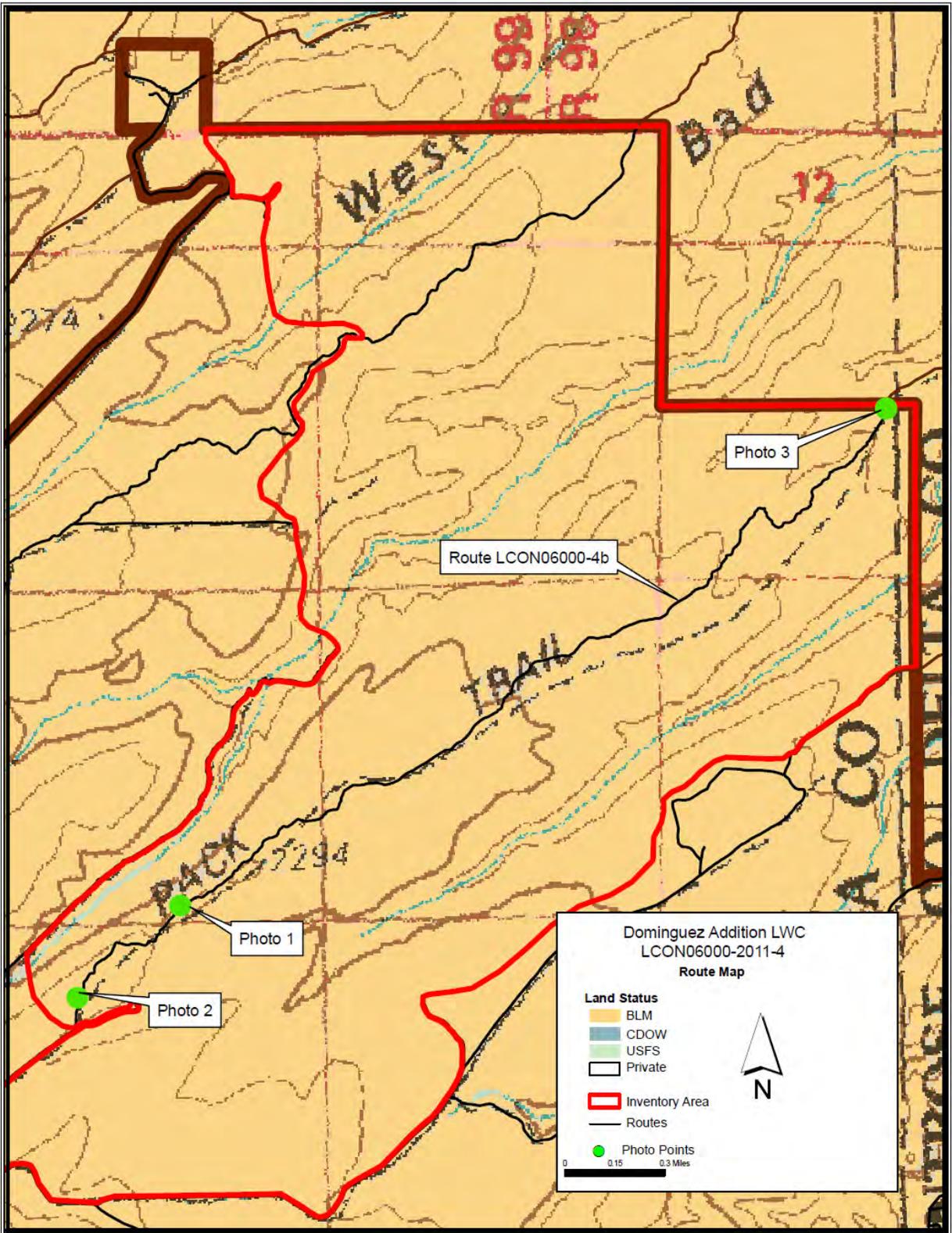
Yes ___ = Wilderness Inventory Road No **X** = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation: **The route does not have evidence of construction or improvement. It appears to only be maintained by the passage of ATVs.**

Evaluator(s): **Andy Windsor**

Date: **01/25/2012**

Photo Points Map:



Photos:



Photo Point 1: Nature of route



Photo Point 2: Nature of route



Photo Point 3: Nature of route