

FORM 1

Documentation of BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings from Previous Inventory on Record

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

No (Go to Form 2)

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

a) Inventory Source:

The area (Harts Point) was evaluated as part of a larger area in the 1979 initial wilderness inventory, and then once again in the 1999, BLM inventory of the Harts Point unit, which consisted of ~63,200 acres of BLM-administered surface. The BLM identified approximately 18,000 acres of BLM-administered surface in the unit as containing wilderness characteristics. Approximately 45,200 acres were documented as lacking wilderness characteristics and described as containing “numerous roads, seismic lines, drill pads, evidence of past uranium exploration/mining, substantially noticeable vehicle ways, and livestock facilities” (BLM 1999).

BLM received comments on the 1999 Utah Wilderness Inventory for the Harts Point Unit. Relevant to the Harts Point Addition, public comments stated “BLM should cherry-stem only significant routes and include the rest of Harts Point in the WSA (sic). Deep canyons would separate the cherry-stems so no cumulative impacts would be present”. BLM’s response states, “Much of this area lacks wilderness character because the cumulative impacts of vehicle ways, seismic exploration lines, fences, a borrow pit, stock ponds and other developments. However, upon further review an area approximately 8,313 acres in size in the southwest portion has been determined to possess wilderness character”(Monticello Field Office Revisions to the 1999 Inventory; BLM 2003). Thus, the BLM reclassified ~8,330 acres on the west side of the original Harts Point Inventory Unit (Donnelly Canyon, Hog Canyon) as a standalone unit named Harts Point Unit B and documented that this portion does contain wilderness characteristics. Harts Point Unit B is separated from the Harts Point Addition by Harts Point Road/#121 and will not be discussed further in this analysis.

The lands with wilderness characteristics contain portions of three prominent geographic features: Harts Point Plateau, Harts Draw, and Rone Bailey Mesa. The 1999 Inventory states, “The use of topographic features was determined to be the best method for distinguishing the boundary around those lands having wilderness characteristics”.

The Harts Point unit was most recently inventoried in 1999 by Monticello Field Office (MFO) recreation staff, and BLM determined that a portion of unit did not meet the naturalness criteria.

The Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) has submitted new information to the BLM as part of the Moab MLP (2014). SUWA’s proposal was found to meet the minimum standard for further review by the BLM, (Manual 6310, B. (1)).

SUWA has proposed that an additional 22,543 acres be added to the existing Harts Point lands with wilderness characteristics unit (Attachment A; SUWA, 2014). This proposal was submitted after SUWA conducted an independent wilderness characteristics survey which resulted in the finding of wilderness characteristics in the Harts Point Addition unit. SUWA believes this to be an undocumented BLM wilderness resource and contests BLM’s original boundary lines for this area, stating that the unit does not conform to direction in BLM Manual 6310, implemented in 2012.

The boundaries for this area consist of: 22543 acres (see map.) We will refer to this unit as the Harts Point Addition for the remainder of the document.

The BLM performed field visits to the Harts Point Addition unit on August 4, 2015, August 15, 2015 and October 28, 2015 in order to verify the new data as submitted by SUWA. The findings from this field visit and data analysis are recorded in the Form 2 and the photo log. The BLM will make these findings available to the public, and retain a record of the evaluation and the findings as evidence of the BLM’s consideration.

b) Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s): UT-060-162 Harts Point. For purposes of this review, BLM has divided the proposal into 3 subunits each of which has its own separate report.

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): Harts Point wilderness characteristics review-field map. Harts point photo points, Harts point findings.

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Canyon Country District / Monticello Field Office

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Inventory Source:

Area Unique Identifier	Sufficient Size? Yes/No	Naturalness? Yes/No	Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No	Supplemental Values? Yes/No
UT-060-162 1979	Yes (53912 acres)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
UT-060-162 1999	Yes (45,200 acres)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
UT-060-162 1999	Yes (18,000 acres)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes - Scenic

Inventory Notes:

The previous inventory (BLM 1999) determined that the areas within the Harts Point Inventory Unit at lower elevations (i.e. in drainages and canyons) had apparent naturalness and sufficient topographic screening to offer outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. Lands within the unit at higher elevations contained routes, range improvements, evidence of historic oil and gas development and seismic lines. In an effort to exclude impacts, the BLM selected a contour line as the boundary between lands containing wilderness characteristics and those lands that contained evidence of human modification of the landscape.

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics (Form 2)

Area Unique Identifier: Harts Point Addition NE **Acreage:** 3182 acres

(1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes No

Description of the Area:

On June 11, 2014, SUWA submitted information to the Monticello Field Office in the form of The Hart's Point Wilderness Character submission. This addition consists of ~22,500 acres and is generally bounded by Harts Point Road B0121 to the west, private or state lands to the south, Rone Bailey Mesa Road B0137 to the west and is separated from the Harts Point lands with wilderness characteristics unit to the north by a contour line. Approximately thirteen routes are cherry-stemmed into the interior of the Harts Point Addition unit.

The inventory unit boundary (1999) was delineated based on roads, land ownership, developed Rights of Way and the use of topographic features. This analysis primarily adopts the boundaries identified in the 1999 inventory, except in cases where the BLM has closed a route through travel management planning.

The Harts Point Addition consists mainly of a high desert Colorado Plateau ecosystem. Higher elevations exist in the west and south of the unit and transition down to steeply incised canyons and intermittent washes in the north and east. Vegetation consists mainly of juniper, pinyon pine, and sagebrush, intermixed with native grasses, shrubs and cacti. Geographical transitions provide interesting rock formations as well as cliff features throughout the unit. Soils are predominantly silty sandy loam with slickrock present.

Based on multiple field trips undertaken by the BLM, additional acreage was excluded from the original Harts Point addition asserted by SUWA to possess wilderness characteristics. These exclusions are justified by impacts that render them either unnatural in appearance to the average observer or of insufficient size. These exclusions are:

A) An area in the NE corner of the SUWA proposal (3182 acres.) This section is removed from the addition where it is bisected from the rest of the unit with a combination of state land and route D0526. This renders this area too small to stand alone as a wilderness characteristics unit.

B) An area in the southern end of the SUWA proposal (10,767 acres.) This section is south of road D0517 (off of B0121) and which with the combination of state land bisects the proposed addition. Although this section meets the size criteria multiple issues presented in the 1999 inventory still present themselves. Multiple bladed seismic lines are present within the unit. These lines are generally more visible from high vantage points, including ridgelines and rock domes. They show very little recovery in some places and nearly bisect the unit in multiple places. Additionally a number of closed roads that have not substantially reclaimed and a number of older, highly visible two tracks break up the landscape. There are also two parcels of private land inside this boundary and a house, out buildings and solar panels can be seen from numerous vantage points in the area. For the purpose of this inventory routes D0525 and D0526 have been cherry stemmed beyond what was submitted in the SUWA proposal.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural? Yes No N/A (After exclusions described in part 1 above.)

(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

(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

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Yes No N/A

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics (Form 2)

Area Unique Identifier: Harts Point Addition NW **Acreage:** 8,595 acres

(1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes No

Description of the Area:

On June 11, 2014, SUWA submitted information to the Monticello Field Office in the form of The Hart's Point Wilderness Character submission. This addition consists of ~22,500 acres and is generally bounded by Harts Point Road B0121 to the west, private or state lands to the south, Rone Bailey Mesa Road B0137 to the west and is separated from the Harts Point lands with wilderness characteristics unit to the north by a contour line. Approximately thirteen routes are cherry-stemmed into the interior of the Harts Point Addition unit.

The inventory unit boundary (1999) was delineated based on roads, land ownership, developed Rights of Way and the use of topographic features. This analysis primarily adopts the boundaries identified in the 1999 inventory, except in cases where the BLM has closed a route through travel management planning.

The Harts Point Addition consists mainly of a high desert Colorado Plateau ecosystem. Higher elevations exist in the west and south of the unit and transition down to steeply incised canyons and intermittent washes in the north and east. Vegetation consists mainly of juniper, pinyon pine, and sagebrush, intermixed with native grasses, shrubs and cacti. Geographical transitions provide interesting rock formations as well as cliff features throughout the unit. Soils are predominantly silty sandy loam with slickrock present.

Based on multiple field trips undertaken by the BLM, additional acreage was excluded from the original Harts Point addition asserted by SUWA to possess wilderness characteristics. These exclusions are justified by impacts that render them either unnatural in appearance to the average observer or of insufficient size. These exclusions are:

A) An area in the NE corner of the SUWA proposal (3182 acres.) This section is removed from the addition where it is bisected from the rest of the unit with a combination of state land and route D0526. This renders this area too small to stand alone as a wilderness characteristics unit.

B) An area in the southern end of the SUWA proposal (10,767 acres.) This section is south of road D0517 (off of B0121) and which with the combination of state land bisects the proposed addition. Although this section meets the size criteria multiple issues presented in the 1999 inventory still present themselves. Multiple bladed seismic lines are present within the unit. These lines are generally more visible from high vantage points, including ridgelines and rock domes. They show very little recovery in some places and nearly bisect the unit in multiple places. Additionally a number of closed roads that have not substantially reclaimed and a number of older, highly visible two tracks break up the landscape. There are also two parcels of private land inside this boundary and a house, out buildings and solar panels can be seen from numerous vantage points in the area. For the purpose of this inventory routes D0525 and D0526 have been cherry stemmed beyond what was submitted in the SUWA proposal.

The northern half of the area however shows naturalness and is discussed in this form. |

(2) Does the area appear to be natural? Yes No N/A (After exclusions described in part 1 above.)

In the unit to the north of Road D0517, east of Road B0121 and SW of the contour boundary adopted in the 1999 wilderness characteristics review (8,595 acres), evidence of human disturbances still exist.

Through dedicated field visits on August 4, 2015, August 15, 2015 and October 28, 2015 it was found that these disturbances included things such as routes now closed in the travel management plan that are showing recovery and many class D (cherry stemmed) roads extending into the unit. Topography generally screens these features and they are substantially unnoticeable on the ground, thus they meet the definition of naturalness as described in Manual 6310 which indicates that linear features may be considered part of the natural landscape if they are not substantially noticeable to the average user.

(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

Due to the topography, relative remoteness, and vegetative screening through the unit there exists outstanding opportunities for solitude. As an example, no other human contact or sounds were encountered during the field trips. Some evidence of human impacts such as roads are evident but would not be likely to significantly detract from the average visitors sense of solitude within the unit.

(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

Due to sufficient size, adjacent border with other lands with wilderness characteristics, and varied topography found within this unit it could provide these opportunities which could include remote camping, hunting, hiking and sightseeing.

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Yes No N/A

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics (Form 2)

Area Unique Identifier: Harts Point Addition S **Acreage:** 10,767 acres

(1) Is the area of sufficient size? Yes No

Description of the Area:

On June 11, 2014, SUWA submitted information to the Monticello Field Office in the form of The Hart's Point Wilderness Character submission. This addition consists of ~22,500 acres and is generally bounded by Harts Point Road B0121 to the west, private or state lands to the south, Rone Bailey Mesa Road B0137 to the west and is separated from the Harts Point lands with wilderness characteristics unit to the north by a contour line. Approximately thirteen routes are cherry-stemmed into the interior of the Harts Point Addition unit.

The inventory unit boundary (1999) was delineated based on roads, land ownership, developed Rights of Way and the use of topographic features. This analysis primarily adopts the boundaries identified in the 1999 inventory, except in cases where the BLM has closed a route through travel management planning.

The Harts Point Addition consists mainly of a high desert Colorado Plateau ecosystem. Higher elevations exist in the west and south of the unit and transition down to steeply incised canyons and intermittent washes in the north and east. Vegetation consists mainly of juniper, pinyon pine, and sagebrush, intermixed with native grasses, shrubs and cacti. Geographical transitions provide interesting rock formations as well as cliff features throughout the unit. Soils are predominantly silty sandy loam with slickrock present.

Based on multiple field trips undertaken by the BLM, additional acreage was excluded from the original Harts Point addition asserted by SUWA to possess wilderness characteristics. These exclusions are justified by impacts that render them either unnatural in appearance to the average observer or of insufficient size. These exclusions are:

A) An area in the NE corner of the SUWA proposal (3182 acres.) This section is removed from the addition where it is bisected from the rest of the unit with a combination of state land and route D0526. This renders this area too small to stand alone as a wilderness characteristics unit.

B) An area in the southern end of the SUWA proposal (10,767 acres.) This section is south of road D0517 (off of B0121) and which with the combination of state land bisects the proposed addition. Although this section meets the size criteria multiple issues presented in the 1999 inventory still present themselves. Multiple bladed seismic lines are present within the unit. These lines are generally more visible from high vantage points, including ridgelines and rock domes. They show very little recovery in some places and nearly bisect the unit in multiple places. Additionally a number of closed roads that have not substantially reclaimed and a number of older, highly visible two tracks break up the landscape. There are also two parcels of private land inside this boundary and a house, out buildings and solar panels can be seen from numerous vantage points in the area. For the purpose of this inventory routes D0525 and D0526 have been cherry stemmed beyond what was submitted in the SUWA proposal.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural? Yes No N/A

The southern half of this area contains numerous impacts from past mineral exploration including access routes, and seismic exploration lines. The overall impact to naturalness is substantial.

(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

(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

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)? Yes No N/A

Summary of Analysis

Area Unique Identifier: Harts Point North West

Summary

Results of analysis:

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? Yes X No _____
2. Does the area appear to be natural? Yes X No _____
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation Yes X No _____
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes _____ No X

Check one:

X The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as lands with wilderness characteristics.

_____ The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by:

Casey Worth Outdoor Recreation Planner

Misti Haines Recreation Permit Assistant

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: Don Hoffheins Title: Field Manager, Monticello Field Office

Don Hoffheins

Date: 1/15/2016

This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3. BLM MANUAL Rel. No. 6-129 Supersedes Rel. 6-126
Date: 03/15/2012

Summary of Analysis

Area Unique Identifier: Harts Point South

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
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 lands with wilderness characteristics.

The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by:

Casey Worth Outdoor Recreation Planner

Misti Haines Recreation Permit Assistant

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: DK Hoffheins Title: Field Manager, Monticello Field Office
Don Hoffheins

Date: 1/15/2016

This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3. BLM MANUAL Rel. No. 6-129 Supersedes Rel. 6-126
Date: 03/15/2012

Summary of Analysis

Area Unique Identifier: Harts Point North East

Summary

Results of analysis:

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? Yes ___ No X
2. Does the area appear to be natural? Yes ___ No ___ N/A X
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation Yes ___ No ___ N/A X
4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes ___ No ___ N/A X

Check one:

The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as lands with wilderness characteristics.

The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by:

Casey Worth Outdoor Recreation Planner

Misti Haines Recreation Permit Assistant

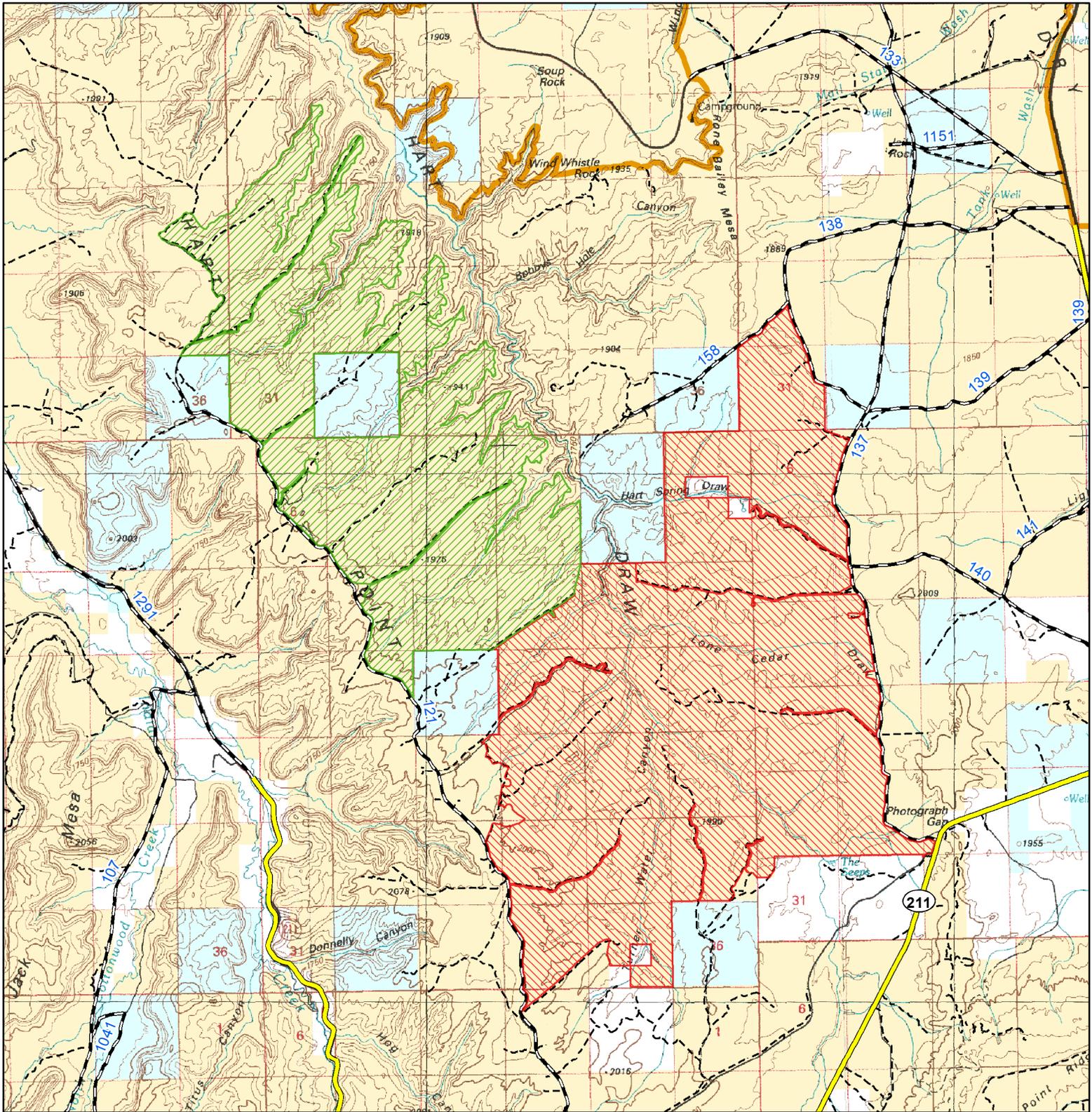
Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: DK Hoffheins Title: Field Manager, Monticello Field Office

Don Hoffheins

Date: 1/15/2016

This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3. BLM MANUAL Rel. No. 6-129 Supersedes Rel. 6-126
Date: 03/15/2012



Findings

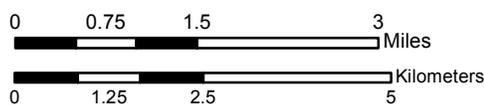
-  Wilderness Characteristics Present in this Unit
-  Wilderness Characteristics Not Present

Transportation Plan

-  D Roads (Unmaintained)
-  B Roads (Maintained)
-  State and Federal Highways

Ownership

-  Bureau of Land Management
-  State
-  Private



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