

Jack Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,300	360	3,660 (95%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
200	0	200 (5%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,500	360	3,860
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Jack Canyon WSA (UT-060-068C)		7,500

About 3,660 acres of the two Jack Canyon inventory units have wilderness characteristics when considered in conjunction with the contiguous Jack Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). Most of the area is natural. Vegetation and topography provide substantial screening of the minor intrusions related to past oil and gas exploration and the cherry-stemmed road to the south. The human developments that are present are substantially unnoticeable in the units as a whole. However, about 200 acres in the northwest portion of Unit 1 are unnatural because of the presence of a producing oil and gas well, road, and pipeline.

The steep, rugged terrain and dense piñon and juniper vegetation provide screening to enhance opportunities for solitude and a highly scenic backdrop for primitive and unconfined recreation. The units also contain supplemental scenic and wildlife values and support a wild horse herd.

Unit Description

The Jack Canyon inventory units are located in Carbon County about 35 miles

northeast of Price. Unit 1 is adjacent to the north side of the Jack Canyon WSA, while Unit 2 is adjacent to the southwest corner of the WSA. Unit 1 includes the steep upper portions of a prominent side canyon to the north of Jack Creek Canyon (Jack Creek being a tributary of the Green River) and small portions of the upper benches of Sage Brush Flats. Elevations range from 5,400 feet in the bottom of Jack Creek Canyon to over 7,200 feet on Sage Brush Flat to the west. Unit 2 is a small parcel of state land on Cedar Ridge.

Vegetation is predominantly dense piñon and juniper woodlands, along with areas of sagebrush and associated species. Some Douglas firs are mixed in with the piñons and junipers, mostly on the steep northern slopes. Current uses include cattle grazing, oil and gas exploration, and recreation pursuits.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Unit 1 has evidence of past oil and gas exploration in the form of old seismic lines, vehicle ways, and two reclaimed drill holes. Vegetation and topography provide ample screening of these minor intrusions, so they are substantially unnoticeable within the area as a whole. The ridge-top cherry-stemmed road in the south is also well screened by topography and vegetation, as are the boundary roads. All intrusions were found to be minor, are widely scattered, and have been reclaimed or are being rehabilitated naturally. However, a small area in the northwest corner of Unit 1 was found to be unnatural because of a producing oil and gas well, a road, and an above-ground pipeline. Unit 2 is natural and has no intrusions.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units have outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered with the contiguous Jack Canyon WSA. The steep, rugged terrain of the canyons and dense piñon and juniper vegetation provide abundant screening from others, creating numerous areas to find isolation. The scenic views of the vast canyons and surrounding landscapes, both within the units and into the Desolation Canyon WSA, enhance the feeling of remoteness, vastness, and being truly alone. Distances, terrain, and vegetation all combine to provide opportunities to be isolated and remote from others.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for a variety of primitive and unconfined recreation activities in conjunction with the Jack Canyon WSA. Opportunities to engage in activities such as hiking, climbing, hunting, camping, and especially the viewing of wildlife and scenic landscapes are considered outstanding because of the scenic, geologic, and wildlife features available. The expansive views into the rugged Desolation Canyon WSA enhance the experiences related to primitive and unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

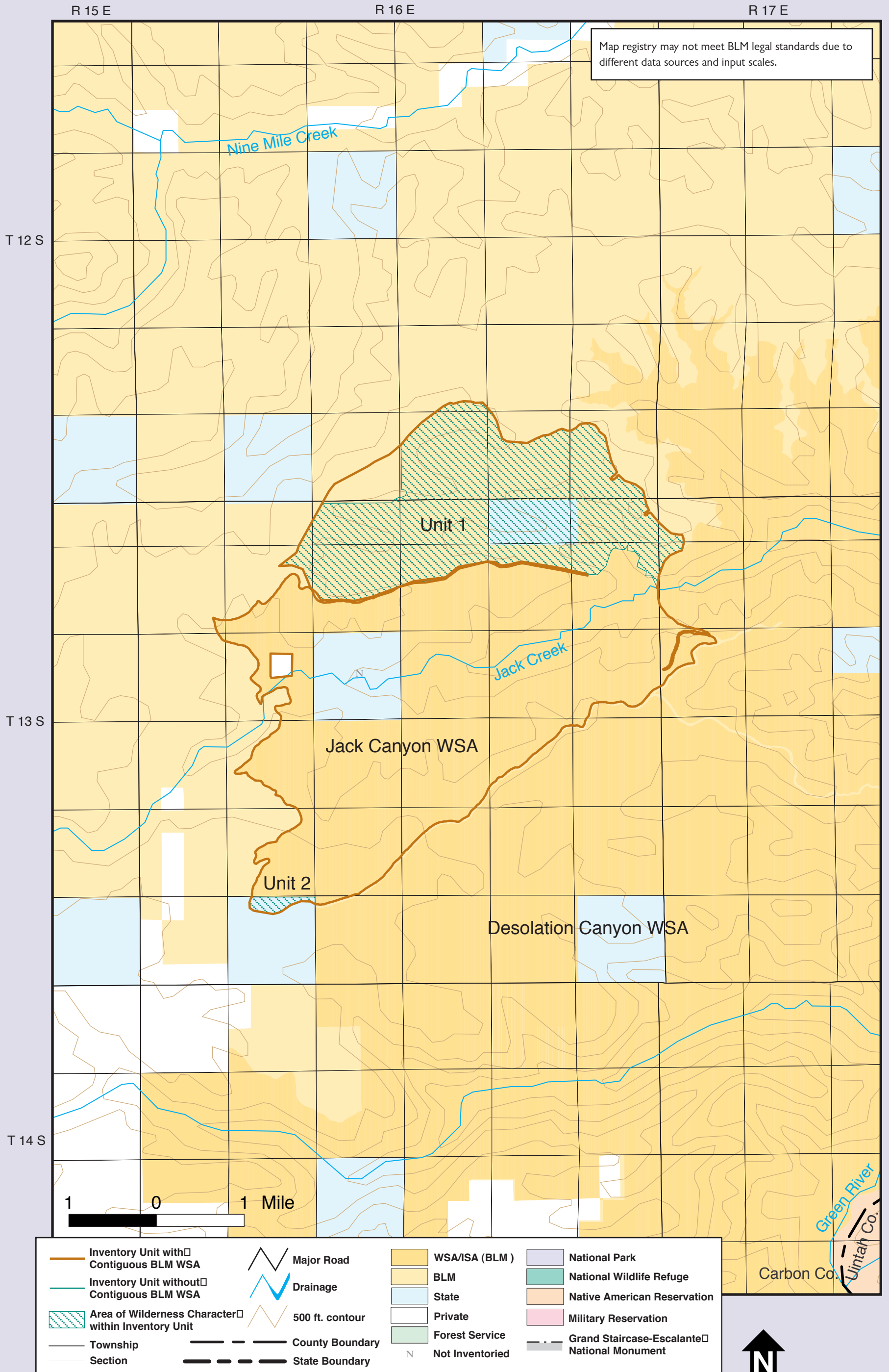
The inventory units are quite scenic, have interesting geological features, and offer high-value wildlife habitat. A portion of the area is used by the Range Creek Wild Horse Herd.

JACK CANYON—Steep, rugged terrain and dense piñon and juniper woodlands provide abundant screening and numerous places to experience solitude, remoteness, and a sense of being truly alone.



BLM photo

Jack Canyon



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

NORTHEAST REGION—Jack Canyon