

Proposed Lands with Wilderness Characteristics:

Poachie Range



A proposal report to the Bureau of Land Management,
Kingman Field Office, Arizona



ARIZONA WILDERNESS COALITION

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Cover Photo: Arizona Wilderness Coalition Field Inventory team-member Amber Fields enjoys the amazing discovery of a granite arch in the western end of the proposed LWC.

All photos by the authors.

PREFACE: This Proposal was developed according to BLM Manual 6310

General Overview

Instruction Memorandum 2011-154 and Manuals 6310 and 6320 set out the BLM's approach to protecting wilderness characteristics on the public lands. This guidance acknowledges that wilderness is a resource that is part of BLM's multiple use mission, requires the BLM to keep a current inventory of wilderness characteristics, and directs the agency to consider protection of these values in land use planning decisions.¹

In March 2012, the Bureau of Land Management issued updated manuals for inventorying and managing Lands with Wilderness Characteristics on public lands (hereafter often referred to as LWC's). These manuals provide the agency with direction for implementing its legal obligations to inventory and consider management of Lands with Wilderness Characteristics, including the Federal Land Policy and Management Act's provision that BLM "preserve and protect certain public lands in their natural condition" (43 U.S.C. § 1701(a)(8)). **Manual 6310** (Conducting Wilderness Characteristics Inventory on BLM Lands) guides the BLM on how to meet its obligations to inventory for and identify lands with wilderness characteristics. **Manual 6320** (Considering Lands with Wilderness Characteristics in the BLM Land Use Planning Process) guides the BLM on the options available to address lands with wilderness characteristics in land use planning once they have been identified in the required inventory, such as putting management prescriptions in place to protect wilderness characteristics. The purpose of this report is to provide the BLM with recommendations for designation of Lands with Wilderness Characteristics in the Kingman Resource Area of northwestern Arizona, based on new, accurate, and up-to-date information according to **Manual 6310**.²

What does Manual 6310 require for the identification of LWC's?

Minimum standards for LWC proposals are described in Manual 6310 in section .06.B.1. There are three things required in a citizens' wilderness proposal in order to meet the minimum standard for BLM to consider it in an inventory and to consider it as new information:

- Detailed map with specific boundaries;
- Detailed narrative of the wilderness characteristics; and
- Photographic documentation.

Once there is new information that meets these standards, then "as soon as practicable, the BLM shall evaluate the information," including field checking as needed and comparing with existing data to see if previous conclusions remain valid. Further, BLM will document its rationale and make it available to the public. (.06.B.2). This proposal report provides the three necessary criteria listed above.

¹Memorandum 2011-154 is available online at:
http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/info/regulations/Instruction_Memos_and_Bulletins/national_instruction/2011/IM_2011-154.html

² Manual 6310 is available online at :
http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/wo/Information_Resources_Management/policy/blm_manual.Par.38337.File.dat/6310.pdf

What does Manual 6310 require for an area to be identified as an LWC?

Requirements for determining lands have wilderness characteristics are found in section .06.C.2 of Manual 6310. Lands with Wilderness Characteristics must possess the following traits:

• **Size**

Sufficient roadless area to satisfy size requirements (5,000 acres, of sufficient size to make management practicable or “any roadless island of the public lands”; or contiguous with Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, USFWS areas Proposed for Wilderness, Forest Service WSAs or areas of Recommended Wilderness, National Park Service areas Recommended or Proposed for Designation).

• **Naturalness**

Affected primarily by the forces of nature – The criteria is “apparent naturalness” which depends on whether an area looks natural to “the average visitor who is not familiar with the biological composition of natural ecosystems versus human affected ecosystems.” This is an important distinction between ecological integrity and apparent naturalness.

Human impacts – Human impacts must be documented and some are acceptable so long as they are “substantially unnoticeable”; Examples include trails, bridges, fire rings, minor radio repeater sites, air quality monitoring devices, fencing, spring developments, and stock ponds.

Outside human impacts – impacts outside the area are generally not considered, but major outside impacts should be noted and evaluated for direct effects on the entire area (the manual explicitly cautions BLM to “avoid an overly strict approach”).

• **Outstanding opportunities for either solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation**

The area does not have to possess both opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation, nor does the area need to have outstanding opportunities on every acre; BLM cannot compare lands in question with other parcels; BLM cannot use any type of rating system or scale.

• **Supplemental values**

Ecological, geological, scientific, scenic, educational or historical features should be documented where they exist, although they are not required traits.

What does Manual 6310 require for the identification of the boundaries of an LWC?

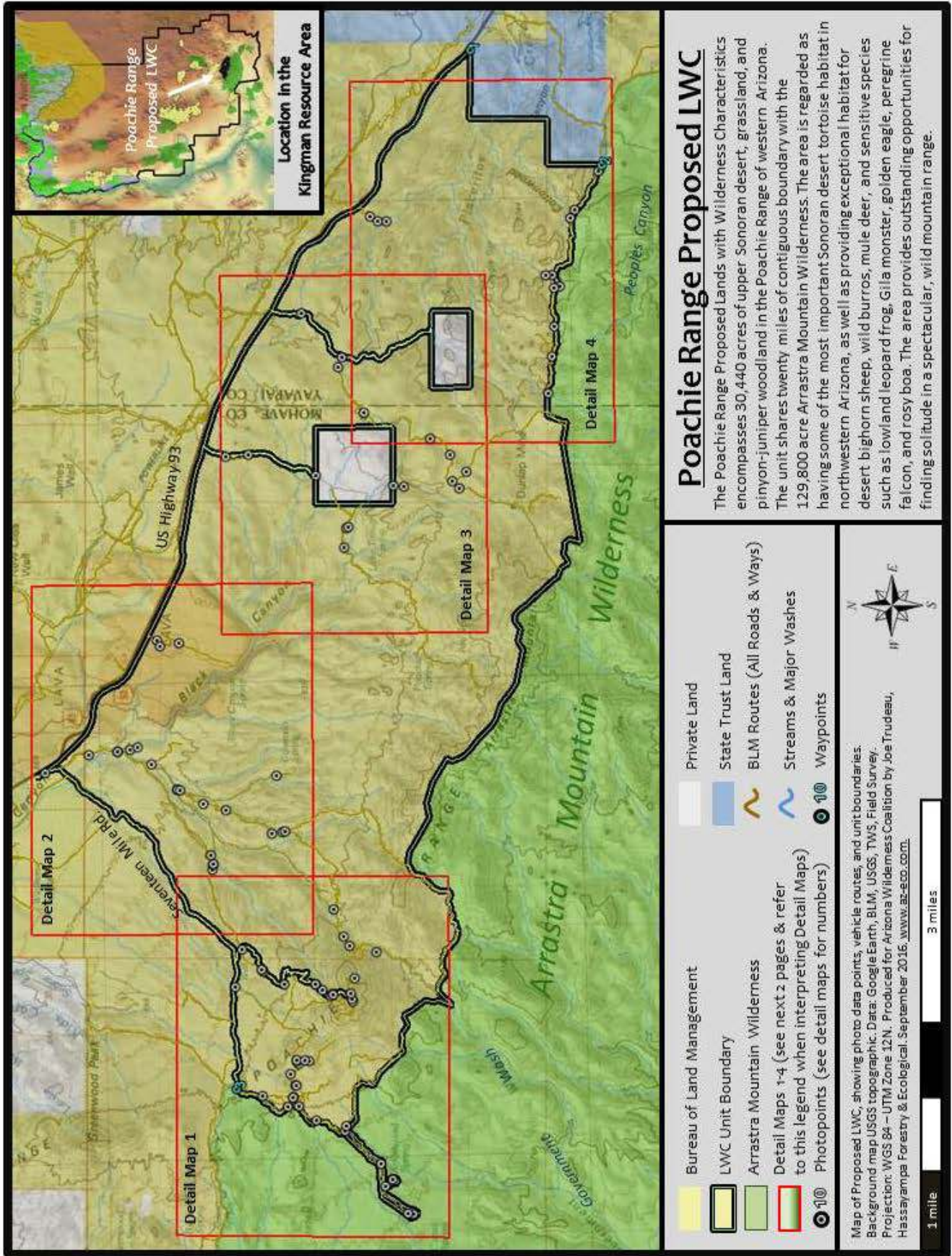
Boundaries should be based on wilderness inventory roads and naturalness rather than opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation. For inventorying wilderness characteristics, BLM will use the “road” definition from FLPMA’s legislative history; the term “road” and “wilderness inventory road” are interchangeable in this guidance. The AWC survey team took a very literal, maintenance-driven approach to road/way determination.

• “Wilderness inventory roads” are routes which have been: (1) *improved and maintained* (when needed), (2) *by mechanical means* (but not solely by the passage of vehicles), (3) *to insure relatively regular and continuous use*.

• “Primitive routes” or “ways” are transportation linear features located within areas that have been identified as having wilderness characteristics and not meeting the wilderness inventory road definition.

Lands between individual human impacts should not be automatically excluded from the area; no setbacks or buffers allowed; boundaries should be drawn to exclude developed rights-of-way; “undeveloped rights-of-way and similar possessory interests (e.g., as mineral leases) are not treated as impacts to wilderness characteristics because these rights may never be developed”; areas can have wilderness characteristics even though every acre within the area may not meet all the criteria.

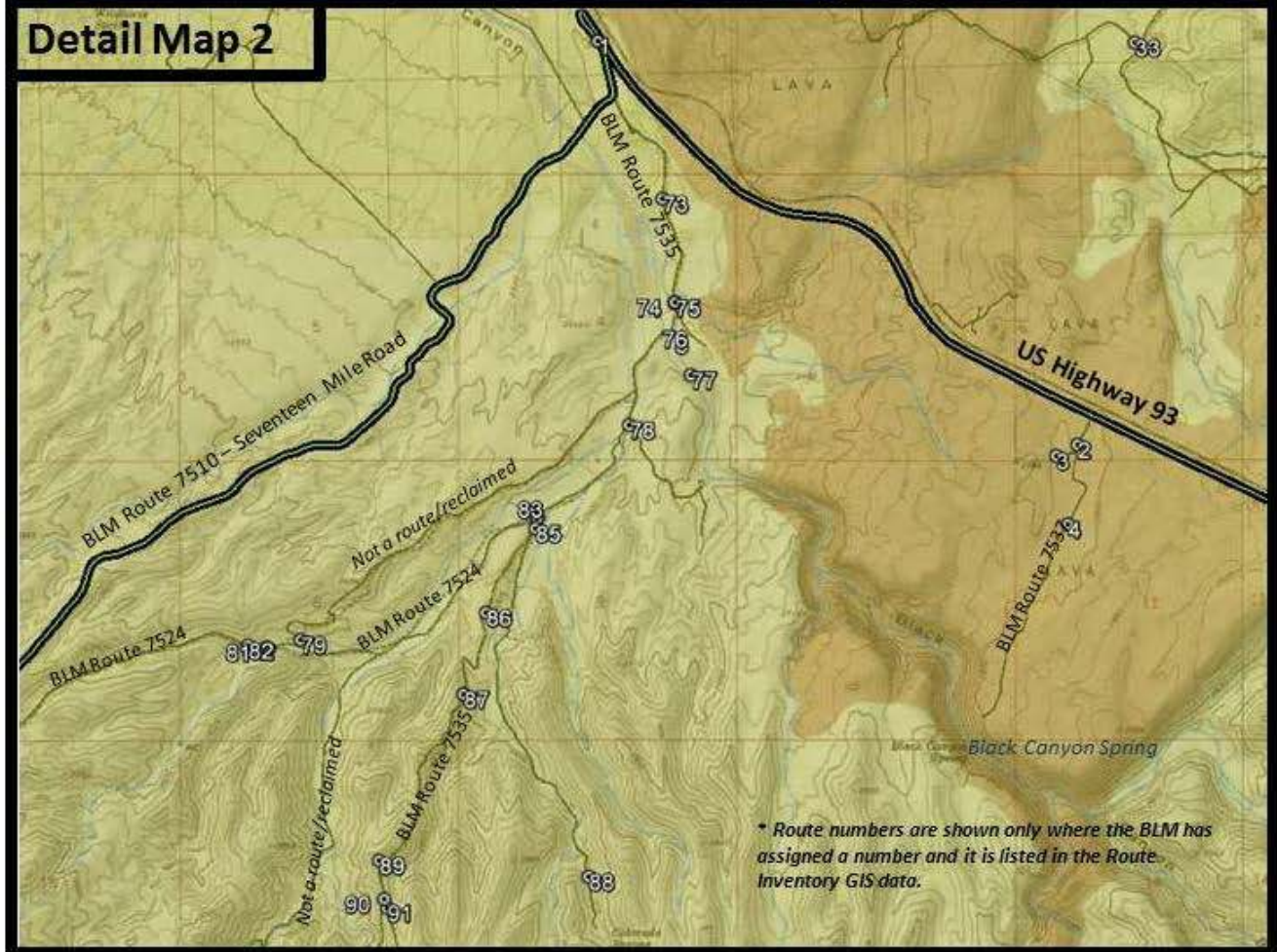
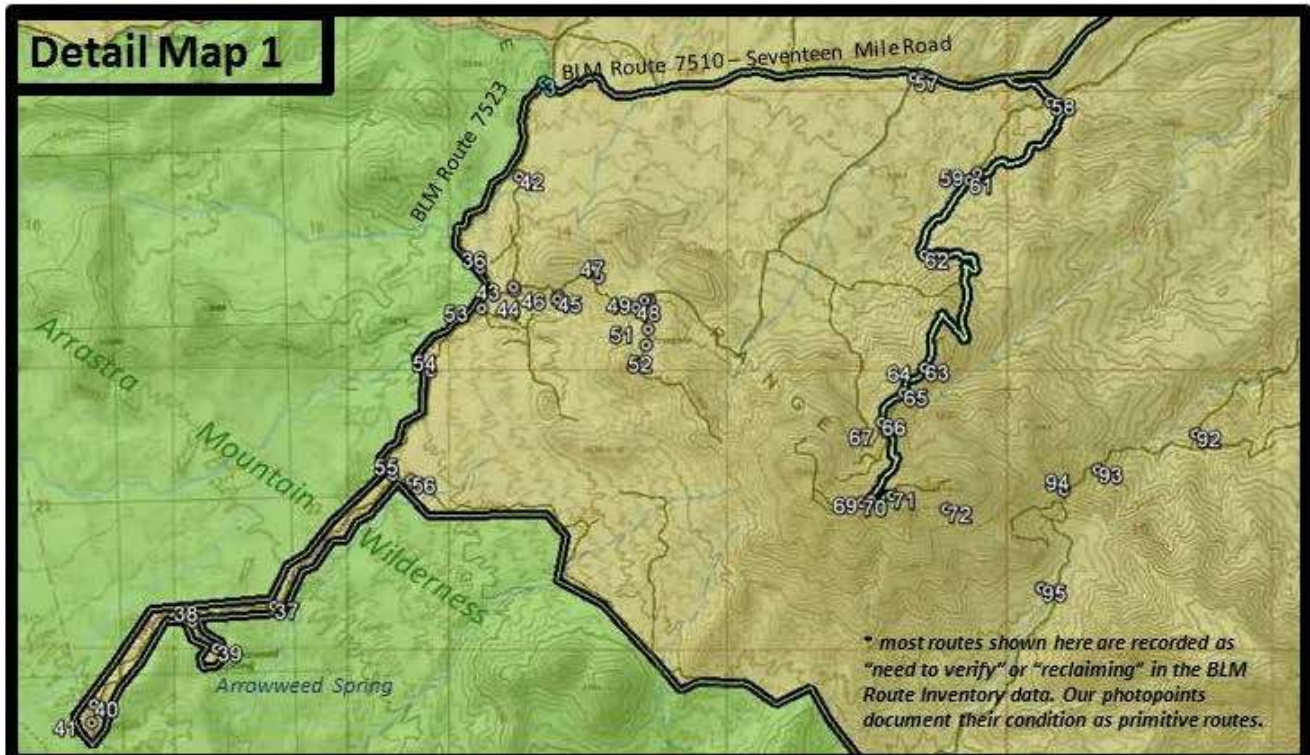
MAP: Poachie Range Proposed Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC)



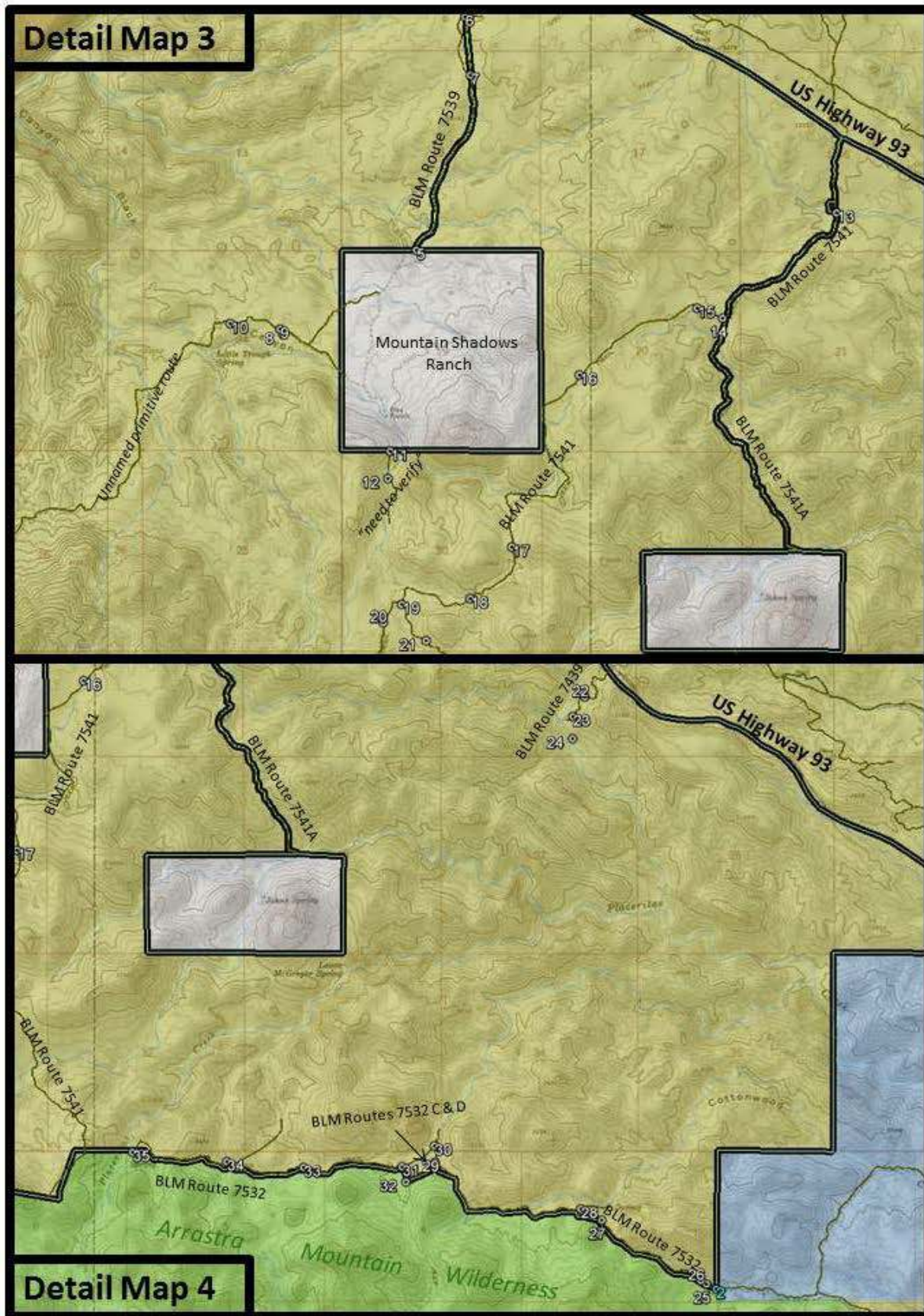
Poachie Range Proposed LWC

The Poachie Range Proposed Lands with Wilderness Characteristics encompasses 30,440 acres of upper Sonoran desert, grassland, and pinyon-juniper woodland in the Poachie Range of western Arizona. The unit shares twenty miles of contiguous boundary with the 129,800 acre Arrastra Mountain Wilderness. The area is regarded as having some of the most important Sonoran desert tortoise habitat in northwestern Arizona, as well as providing exceptional habitat for desert bighorn sheep, wild burros, mule deer, and sensitive species such as lowland leopard frog, Gila monster, golden eagle, peregrine falcon, and rosy boa. The area provides outstanding opportunities for finding solitude in a spectacular, wild mountain range.

MAP: Detail Maps 1 & 2



MAP: Detail Maps 3 & 4



SECTION 1: Proposed LWC Overview

Unit Location

The Poachie Range Proposed LWC encompasses approximately 30,440 acres in the in the south-central region of the Kingman Resource Area, and is split with the eastern third of the unit in Yavapai County and the remaining western portion in Mohave County. The proposed LWC is bounded by almost twelve miles of Highway 93, which forms the entire northeastern unit boundary. The proposed unit is almost 18 miles southeast of the town of Wikieup and just over three miles to the south of the Burro Creek Campground. The Poachie Range runs from the northeast outside of the proposed unit, and then through the LWC along its western and southern boundaries, and includes half of Arrastra Mountain. The Poachie Range Proposed LWC shares its western and southern borders with the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness, and the upper reaches of Peoples Canyon begin less that one mile from the southern LWC boundary. The Santa Maria River is approximately five miles to the southeast. Highway 97 is to the east and the Upper Burro Creek Wilderness is about eight miles to the northeast.

Brief Boundary Description

The Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit is bounded by wilderness inventory roads, the BLM property line, and contiguity with existing wilderness. Highway 93 forms the entire northeastern proposed LWC boundary. The State Land/BLM property line forms the whole eastern/southeastern unit boundary. The Arrastra Mountain Wilderness boundary forms the entire southern/southwestern boundary. Seventeen Mile Road (BLM Route 7510) and the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness form the western and northwestern proposed LWC boundary.

Landforms & Biological Communities

The proposed LWC contains the crest of the Poachie Range, its northern slopes, and associated mesas, bluffs, canyons, and washes that are split between two major watersheds; the Big Sandy River to the north and the Santa Maria River to the south. Complex geology defines the structural underpinnings of the rugged, mountainous unit, and the varying rock types are expressed in a unique mosaic of topography and vegetative communities. The crest of the range and most of the upper northern slopes are composed of Precambrian granites that are 1.6 to 1.8 billion years old, forming steep mountainsides resistant to erosion. Slighter younger granites (1.4 to 1.6 billion years old) are exposed in the northernmost foothills and the northeastern central foothills, and form weathered rounded hills cloaked with boulders and crags. Erosion of the highlands has deposited five square miles of 2 to 16 million year old sandstones and conglomerates that form low, rounded hills and broad washes in the northeastern portion of the unit. One of these drainages flows to the northeast through the 200 to 300 foot deep Black Canyon, which incises through 8-16 million year old black basaltic lavas as it makes a steep descent towards Burro Creek and ultimately the Big Sandy River. The eastern portions of the unit are composed of Early Proterozoic Metavolcanic Rocks (1.65 to 1.8 billion years old) mixed with intrusive and extrusive Middle Miocene to Oligocene Volcanic Rocks (11-38 million years old) that form mesas, bluffs, and rolling hills that feed a number of drainages, most of which converge to form Placeritas Creek, which flows into the Santa Maria River (Arizona Geological Society, 2000).

The proposed LWC is completely within the Arizona Upland Desertscrub biotic community in the Sonoran Desert Ecoregion, and contains a mixed sampling of plant communities representative of upper Sonoran elevational positions, including conifer woodlands, desert grasslands, and chaparral (TNC, 2004). The majority of the unit is characterized by the Sonoran Palo Verde-Mixed Cacti Desert Scrub ecological type. Moving higher on the north facing slopes of the Poachie Range, there are distinct bands of Apacherian Mesquite Upland Scrub, Madrean Pinyon-Juniper Woodland, Sonoran Mid-Elevation Desert Scrub, and Mogollon Chaparral (USGS, 2015). A history of wildfire has shaped community composition and structure and created a patchy mosaic of ecological systems in varying degrees of successional development. The diversity of habitats in conjunction with contiguity to a vast protected wilderness area creates exceptional habitat for a range of common and uncommon wildlife.

Previous Wilderness Inventories

Approximately 15,000 acres of the proposed LWC has been identified as having wilderness character by the BLM, encompassing the central portion of the unit, from the Yavapai County line at the east to roughly BLM Route 7535 at the west (BLM, 1980a; BLM, 1980b; BLM, 1980c). The area was included in the proposed AZ-020-059 - Arrastra Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA), which was analyzed by BLM throughout the 1980's. The Proposed Action in the 1982 Sonoran Desert Wilderness EIS was for full wilderness protection of *"the exceptionally large, rugged, remote, and diverse Arrastra Mountain WSA"* (BLM, 1982: p. 41), which the agency described as *"one of the largest and least disturbed expanses of Sonoran Desert landscape in western Arizona"* (BLM, 1982: p. 83). The preferred action excluded a cherrystemmed route that left from private land and accessed Asa Spring and mine prospects, which we have documented as a primitive route (see photopoints 9 & 10). A Limited Wilderness alternative excluded the current proposed area because of *"low wilderness values"* (BLM, 1982: p. 17), which is a statement we strongly disagree with. In the 1987 Final EIS, the BLM's Proposed Action was to exclude the area because of lower wilderness values (BLM, 1987).

An area of roughly 6,500 acres that is contained in the western quarter of the proposed LWC was determined to not have wilderness character during the 1979/1980 wilderness inventories. We believe that this area was eliminated from consideration because of then-recent mine prospecting that resulted in the creation of a number of significant access roads and excavations. In April, 1978, claim holder Iner S. Ritchie of Riverside, California had performed *"D-8 Cat. tractor work, fills, roads, cuts, diamond drilling, Geological, Geophysical surveys, Magnetometer grids, water & mineral witching, exploration, tunneling, excavation, stopping, shafts"* at what he was calling the Alta Vista Mine³ in Sections 14, 23 & 24 of T13N, R12W. The prospecting must not have proven economical, because no mining has since occurred. The work completed then has since naturalized and the area should be considered for its regained wilderness values.⁴ The eastern quarter of the unit was not inventoried because at that time it was under State ownership. The current Poachie Range Proposed LWC includes the previously recognized wilderness-quality lands, plus the lands now owned by BLM, plus previously ineligible lands which have recovered and now possess substantial wilderness characteristics.

³ Record of said work was obtained from "Affidavit of Labor Performed and Improvements Made" stamped by Ellen M. Oberholtzer, California Notary Public. The document was discovered in a sealed canister in Section 24 of T 13N, R 12W.

⁴ See photopoints 42-56; 64- 72; and 87-95 for examples of these naturalized prospects which see little to no vehicle use.

SECTION 2: Wilderness Characteristics

The proposed LWC meets the minimum size criteria for roadless lands

The Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit is comprised of approximately 30,440 roadless acres. There are three cherrystems and two private inholdings that are excluded from the proposed LWC unit:

1) BLM Route 7524 is a gated wilderness inventory road and right of way that leads to a utility installation at the top of the mountain (see photopoints 62 & 63). The road was maintained within the last five years. Because it is gated near the bottom, and therefore vehicle use is restricted to only administrative use, there is little effect on naturalness in the surrounding area.

2) BLM Route 7539 is a cherrystem that leads to a private inholding of the full section square T13N, R10W, Section 19 (see photopoint 5). The road leads to Mountain Shadows Ranch from U.S. Highway 93, and is regularly maintained to provide access to this residential inholding.

3) BLM Route 7541, which becomes 7541A, is a cherrystem road that leads to a 320 acre uninhabited private inholding that encompasses the SW quarter of T13N, R10W, Section 28, and the SE quarter of T13N, R10W, Section 29 (see photopoint 13). During our inventory we encountered the self-identified landowner performing substantial road maintenance, including backhoe grading and culvert installation. The route accesses a stock corral and other private equipment, but no residence.

These wilderness inventory roads and private inholdings do not substantially affect the apparent naturalness of the proposed LWC. When considering the impacts of these cherrystem roads and private lands, it is important to remember that...*“Human impacts outside the area will not normally be considered when assessing naturalness of an area”* (BLM Manual 6310, p. 7). Because these routes and parcels are not included within the proposed unit, and they do not contain any extreme human impacts, they do not detract from the naturalness of the Poachie Range Proposed LWC.

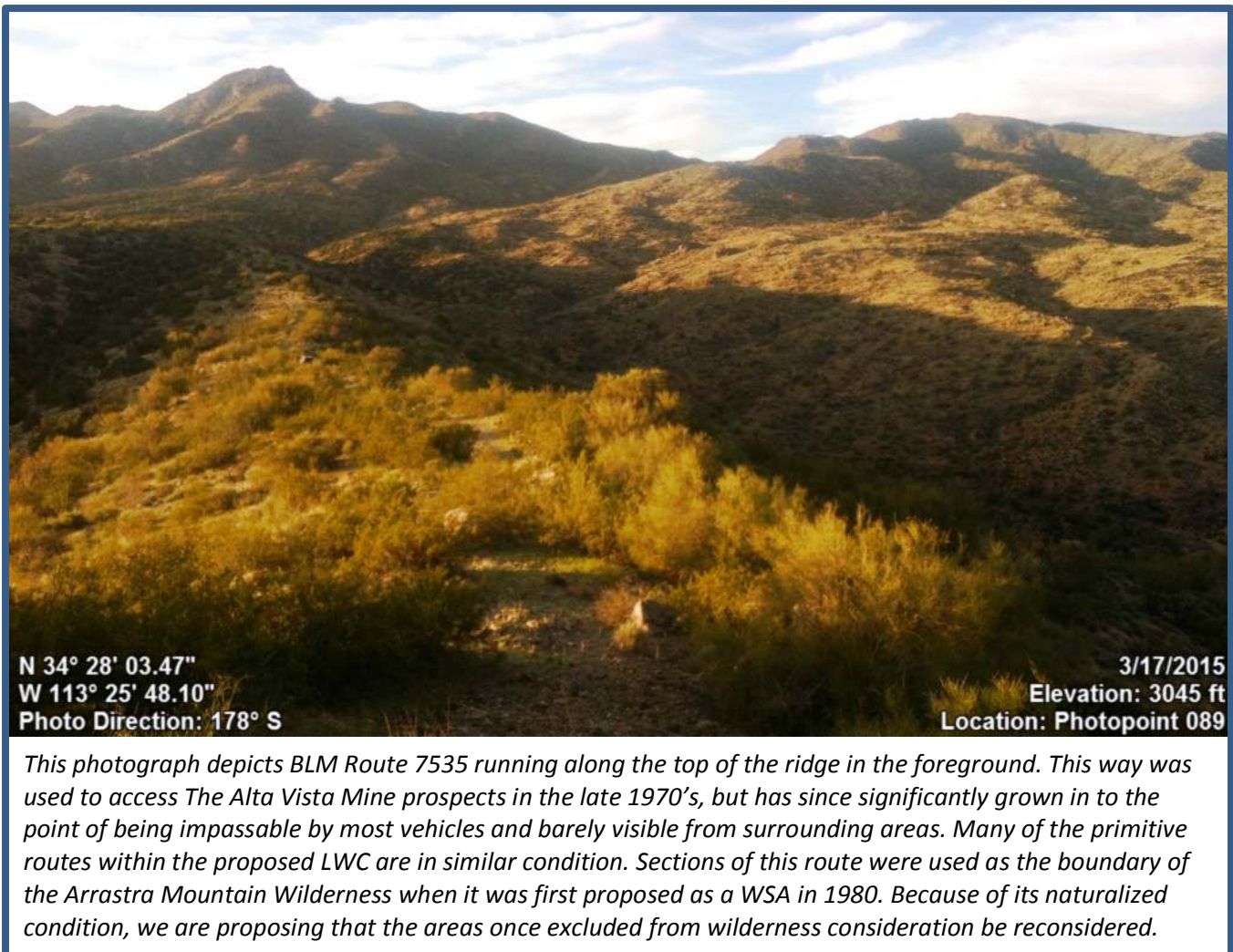
The proposed LWC is affected primarily by the forces of nature

The proposed LWC is a natural extension of the existing Arrastra Mountain Wilderness, which contains exemplary wilderness values, especially naturalness. The BLM has previously established that at least ½ of the unit has wilderness characteristics, including naturalness (see previous discussion of wilderness inventories). There are several categories of human impacts that do exist within the unit: primitive routes, inactive prospecting, ranching infrastructure, and a communications site that is excluded.

Primitive Routes

Although there are a number of primitive routes (ways) that enter the proposed LWC unit, most of these are unused, revegetating and naturalizing (for example, see photopoints 25, 32, 35, 43-45, 47, 49, 54, 59, 79, 90, 93 & 95 in Section 4 of this report). These routes, described in detail in Section 3, are lightly used, single lane two-tracks. Roads built for mining in the late 1970's have not been maintained at all; many are totally revegetated (see photopoints 67, 69 & 95). Photopoints 17, 30, 60, 76, 86 & 92 are examples of how light the use is for many of the primitive routes that are getting vehicular traffic. Abundant tall vegetation throughout the proposed LWC (including Palo Verde, pinyon pine, and

juniper) conceals many of the ways so that they are hardly detectable unless you are actually on the route (see photo below). It is our determination that the existence of these primitive routes does not substantially affect the wilderness user experience because of the large size of the proposed LWC, the low use they receive, and the reclaimed condition of many of the ways. In fact, many of these routes are so naturalized that they have become enjoyable walking trails that connect with the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness. The condition of many of these routes is not incompatible with wilderness character. For example, the two routes that continue past Photopoint 20 (BLM Routes 7543 and 7543a) linger for several miles into the existing wilderness, one connecting to the defunct Antler Mine. Similarly, a closed route at Photopoint 32 proceeds into the wilderness for several miles, connecting with Sycamore Spring in Peoples Canyon; and several closed routes exist beyond the closure at Photopoint 41. Despite the existence of these routes, the BLM still considered them to have minimal effect on naturalness when it proposed the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness. The agencies own determination, based on the boundaries they drew when establishing the wilderness, was that the routes that crossed over the proposed wilderness boundary did not affect naturalness or opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation. We agree with that conclusion, and think it should be applied to the current analysis in regards to this LWC when considering the effects of the numerous reclaimed and revegetated routes we have documented.

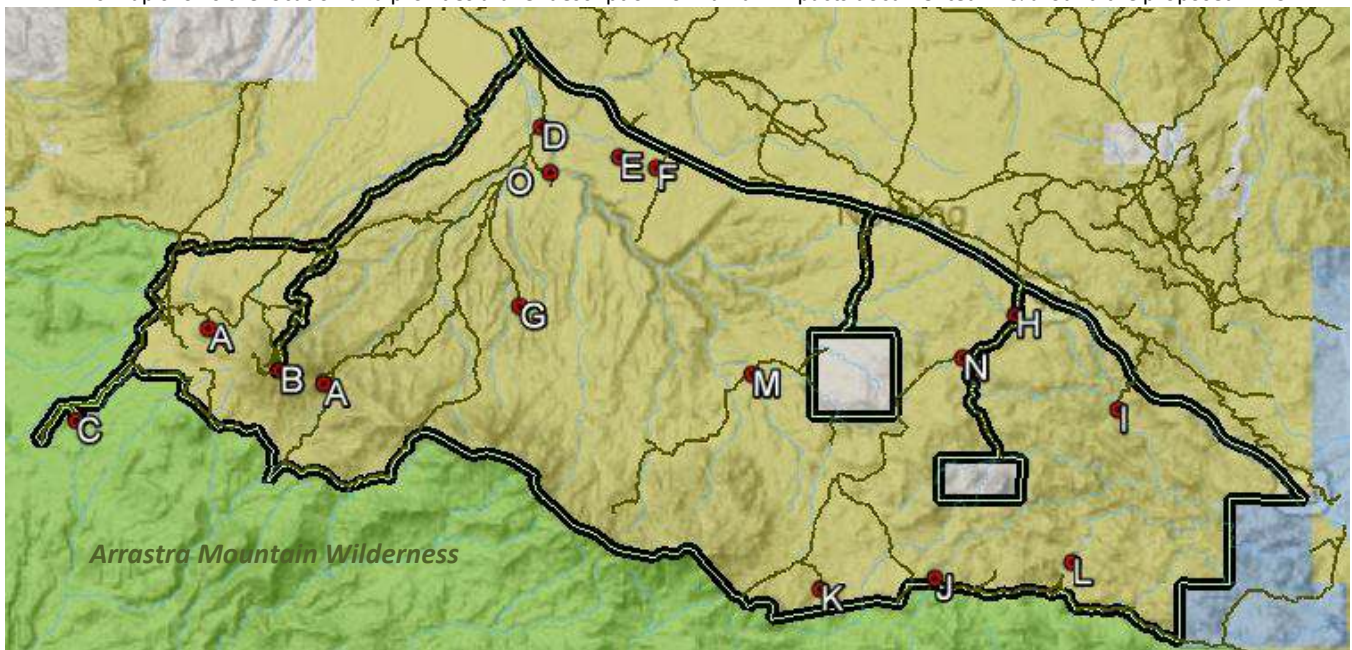


Ranch Infrastructure

There are few examples of ranching infrastructure within the unit comparative to its size. Furthermore, much of this ranching infrastructure appears to be abandoned, or at least is in disrepair, leading to the infrastructure appearing to be more affected by the forces of nature than by man (see photopoint 24 of a non-functioning windmill & photopoint 39 of a corral in disrepair and a solar water pumping system that is disconnected and sun-rotted to the point of decay). Almost all ranching infrastructure is located close to the edges of the proposed LWC. Other corrals and water troughs exist near photopoints 76, 3, 30, 35. The most intrusive into the units' core is a corral and well near photopoint 88, and a steel tank and well that was constructed in 2012 or 2013 that is reached by a direct route from the larger private inholding called Mountain Shadows Ranch; interestingly, this route is not open to public use, and the legitimacy of the activity is under question, so because of this we argue that wilderness values are not degraded (See "K" below). We would consider most evidence of ranching substantially unnoticeable because BLM Manual 6310 states that fencing and water troughs are included on the list of human-made features that are considered as such, having no documentable impact on naturalness as it appears to the average visitor. Very old barbless fencing, wired to ancient, desiccated juniper posts, are in utter disrepair, strung like fallen ropes, corroding into the soil, and telling the hopeful tale of how nature reclaims our best attempts at taming the land.

Human impacts to naturalness in & excluded from the Poachie Range Proposed LWC

This map shows the location and provides a brief description for human-impacts documented in & around the proposed LWC



A = mine prospects, circa 1978, now fully revegetated
 B = communications tower, **excluded from unit**
 C = unused corral and well, all systems in disrepair, solar electric system not functioning (*photopoint 39*)
 D = corral and water/feed trough
 E = earthen bermed tank
 F = simple, small corral
 G = corral, well, steel water tank (*near photopoint 88*)

H = maintained corral, **excluded from unit**
 I = non-functioning windmill, water tank full of trash, well-pipe pulled out (*photopoint 24*)
 J = unmaintained corral in disrepair, decaying into the ground
 K = new well and steel tank
 L = small corral, historic cowboy camp
 M = feed/water trough
 N = primitive campsites O = Historic, abandoned homestead

Inactive Mine Prospects

No active mineral exploration is currently underway within the proposed LWC unit. There is evidence from past mining in the western part of the proposed LWC (discussed earlier, and shown at Points “A” on preceding map), and the old Dunlap Mine is located along the southern boundary, although there is little evidence of this historic operation. These sites have been abandoned for decades, and all of the associated primitive routes are gradually revegetating and naturalizing (see example photopoints 67, 69 & 95). Old mine sites are revegetating with native plants and do not create a substantial visual impact to the casual visitor (see photopoint 66). An historic mine-related homestead exists 0.35 miles southeast of photopoint 78, but the route to access it is blocked by boulders. Designation as an LWC would help preserve this historic site for future generations. Claim stakes occur in places within the unit at claim corners, but the presence of mineral claims does not affect naturalness, as “undeveloped possessory interests (e.g., mineral leases) are not treated as impacts to wilderness characteristics because these rights may never be developed” (BLM Manual 6310, page 10).

Utility Installation

A communications site and associated access road has been excluded from the proposed LWC. This installation is located at the top of the mountain (Point “B” on preceding map and seen in photo below) in the far western end of the unit (Section 24 in T13N, R12W). This installation does not substantially detract from the naturalness of the unit for the average visitor because impacts outside of the LWC do not affect the naturalness within the LWC. Again, the BLM states that ...“Human impacts outside the area will not normally be considered when assessing naturalness of an area” (BLM Manual 6310, p. 7). We agree with this reasoning, and provide further evidence seen in the photograph below, that this installation and the access road are substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor, and especially considering how small the installation is, consisting of a single 30 foot tower, single solar panel, and small generator enclosed in a roughly 12 x 16 foot fenced area.



Summary of Human Impacts

Together, the impacts documented above do not substantially detract from the naturalness of the proposed LWC *as a whole*. When compared to the vast expanse of the proposed LWC in combination with the huge contiguous wilderness area, human impacts are few and far between. Visitors to this LWC will agree that the Poachie Range Proposed LWC is dominated by the forces of nature, with man's imprint restricted to a few sites. It appears that the peak of the mining era has passed for the Poachie Range; the impacts remaining from prospecting have already naturalized to a great degree, and would further recover under LWC recognition and management. With the exception of a few installations, ranching infrastructure is located mostly along the edges of the proposed unit, and most systems are in disrepair, showing that the power of nature to reclaim those impacts is resolute. Very few cattle were observed, and the impacts of grazing are not tremendous. Floods, fire, wind, and time are the chief agents of change in this range, and the BLM should manage it to sustain those processes.



The Arizona Wilderness Coalition LWC inventory team discovered a 30 foot tall granite arch at the western end of the Poachie Range Proposed LWC. This incredible formation, which is an extremely rare phenomenon, speaks volumes for the naturalness of this area on its own. If the Poachie Range were ruled by anything other than the forces of nature, this spectacular granite arch would not exist in such an untouched, pristine condition, in such a remote, unknown location. Not visible from any road or way, it is features like this that reward those who venture into the incredible backcountry in this region.

The proposed LWC provides outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive & unconfined recreation

A person would have to struggle to not to find solitude within an area that is as large as the Poachie Range Proposed LWC, which combined with Arrastra Mountain Wilderness is more than 160,250 contiguous acres. The opportunities for solitude within the proposed LWC are absolutely outstanding. Whether a visitor chooses to take refuge among the massive granite boulders, along the isolated course of Black Canyon, on one of the numerous remote mountain summits, or within one of the abundant basins; there are far more outstanding opportunities for solitude within this one area than one person typically encounters in a lifetime. The visual impacts from outside of the unit to the east (Bagdad, Burro Creek Bridge on Highway 93, and powerlines) are blocked in many places by granite crags and rolling foothills. The solitude that one can experience in a place such as the Poachie Range Proposed LWC should be obvious given its magnitude, its topographical diversity, and its vegetative screening prevalent throughout the unit.

The Poachie Range Proposed LWC is unmatched in its scenic qualities. The opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation within the Poachie Range rank high among the numerous, exemplary places to recreate in the State of Arizona. There are a wildly high number of granite outcrops across the proposed LWC, which offer outstanding opportunities for challenging and risk-taking forms of exploration. The granite boulders are of a high quality for rock climbers, but the average visitor can appreciate the uniqueness and beauty of these boulders as well. Of most exceptional importance is a large granitic arch that the AWC team located in the western part of the proposed LWC. This granite arch is approximately 30 feet wide by 30 feet tall. A naturally occurring granite arch such as this is extremely rare, if not unheard of. This arch alone provides outstanding opportunities for recreationists to reflect on the magnificent forces of nature that created and sustain it; *it is such a special geologic and scenic feature*. It is surprising that this area was not included in the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness.



The basin that this rare granite arch rises from is contiguous with the 129,800 acre Arrastra Mountain Wilderness, where the BLM has said that “the diversity of topographic features provides hikers, backpackers, and other visitors with a variety of experiences and challenges [and] the best opportunity for extensive backcountry travel in the area, allowing trips of several days without backtracking” (BLM, 1982: p. 41).

There are many other outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation within the Poachie Range in addition to the exceptional opportunities to explore the abundant granite formations, outcrops and alcoves. Black Canyon, located in the northeastern part of the Poachie Range Proposed LWC, shelters small patches of riparian woodland fed by springs which support rare lowland leopard frogs; restorative sites which recreationists seek in arid regions such as this. Additionally, Black Canyon harbors canyon-specific plants and wildlife for naturalists and others to observe and enjoy. The BLM stated that the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness provides “*excellent opportunities for both sightseeing and scientific study of plant and animal ecosystems*” (BLM, 1982: p. 84), and this applies to contiguous areas such as Black Canyon. Although Black Canyon is located relatively close to Highway 93, sights and sounds from the highway are imperceptible in this wild gorge. Whether bird watching, rock climbing, hunting, backpacking or looking for solitude; the average visitor will satisfy their backcountry needs in this canyon.

If a person is looking for remote places to camp with wilderness characteristics, the Poachie Range LWC is a great place to visit. There are an astounding number of completely remote basins and washes surrounded by mountains that not only block the sights and sounds of the outside world, but also provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation with their rough terrain and amazing granite outcrops that supply challenging climbs. There are eight springs found within the proposed LWC that provide water for backpackers or horsepackers. Excellent recreational opportunities are numerous (a qualifying attribute for Lands with Wilderness Characteristics as defined in BLM Manual 6310) including, but not limited to: hiking, backpacking, hunting, horseback riding, climbing, creek exploring, photography, bird watching, and sightseeing for botanical, zoological, or geological features. In fact, because of the network of revegetated prospecting routes that connect to areas within the existing wilderness, the opportunities for enjoyable horsepacking are outstanding. The Poachie Range Proposed LWC is a wild, amazingly beautiful area that provides outstanding opportunities for dispersed and undeveloped forms of recreation, and these values are multiplied when considering the contiguity with existing wilderness.



Abandoned roads built for mine prospecting in the 1970's (yellow lines) have mostly revegetated with native plants and now serve as excellent trails for hiking and horseback riding. The routes connect with the secluded headwaters of Government Wash and the Big Sandy River in the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness (green line), enhancing already outstanding opportunities for long back- or horse-packing trips.

Google Earth Image

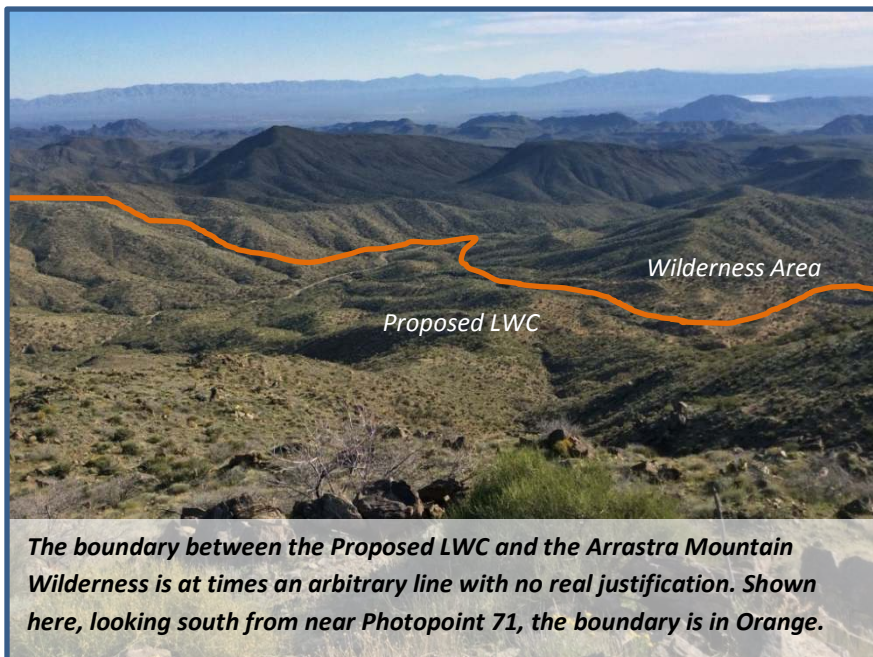
The proposed LWC has supplemental values that enhance the wilderness experience & deserve protection

The proposed LWC is contiguous with existing wilderness

The Poachie Range Proposed LWC shares more than twenty miles of contiguous boundary with the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness Area. This assessment is based on our determination that the following vehicle routes do not classify as wilderness inventory roads:

- 1) BLM Route 7523, a cherrystem into the wilderness that accesses Arrowweed Spring, is no longer necessary and should be closed. The cherrystem ends at a BLM gate (see Photopoint 41), and a spur ends at the developed spring (at Photopoint 39), where the developments have fallen into disrepair and should be removed, allowing the spring to return to a natural state for the benefit of wildlife and recreationists;
- 2) Several routes constructed to facilitate mineral prospecting in the late 1970's are no longer necessary and should be closed. Many of these, as we have discussed elsewhere, are naturally revegetating and have evolved into enjoyable trails for primitive recreation. This includes the western unit boundary (BLM Route 7523), the numerous primitive routes that spur to the east from it, and the loop route that extends from BLM Route 7535 over the crest of the Poachie Range and into Government Wash;
- 3) BLM Route 7532, which forms approximately four miles of the wilderness boundary between Waypoint 2 and Photopoint 35, is currently not maintained, and has fallen into disrepair with numerous steep, heavily eroded sections (see Photopoints 26 & 27). The ways that depart from this route are either closed by BLM, or are similarly unmaintained primitive routes (see Photopoints 28 through 34). The route dead ends at an impassable crossing of upper Placeritas Creek (see Photopoint 35). A rustic cowboy camp is situated at the end of BLM Route 7532C, which could be accessed by horseback or administrative use permissions.

In sum, our determination of these routes as 'ways' yields our calculation of twenty-plus miles of contiguous boundary with Arrastra Mountain Wilderness. Even if these routes were determined by BLM to be wilderness inventory roads, there would still be more than eight miles of contiguous, uninterrupted boundary with wilderness.



The proposed LWC would protect crucial desert tortoise habitat

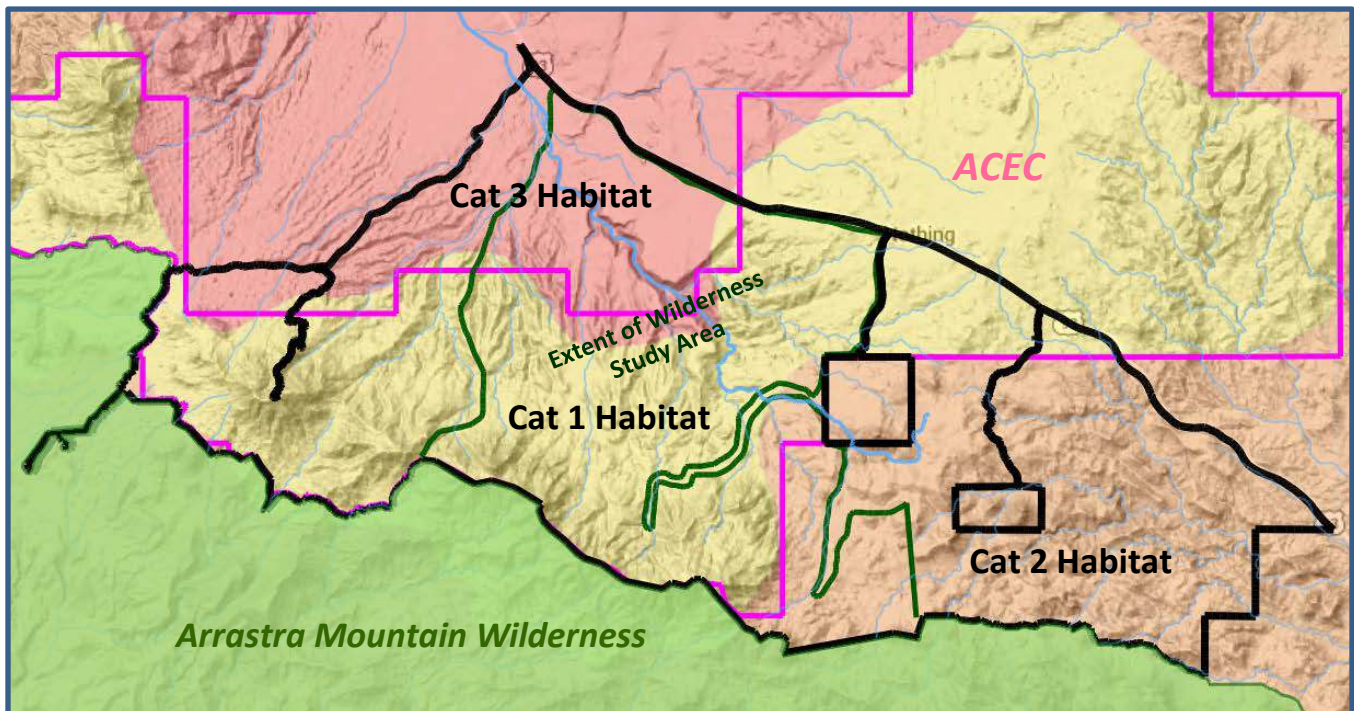
The Poachie Desert Tortoise Habitat Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) protects Category 1 habitat for desert tortoise, as well as scenic values, and important backcountry recreation opportunities (BLM, 1993). The 32,752 acre area protects crucial habitat on both sides of U.S. Highway 93 for the Sonoran desert tortoise (*Gopherus morafkai*) which was a candidate for federal endangered species listing. Approximately 15,000 acres of this ACEC overlap with the proposed LWC, and the animals preferred habitat of steep rocky terrain, and boulder-strewn hills covered with ocotillo, saguaro and paloverde vegetation is widespread. This is probably the most abundant suitable habitat in the Kingman Resource Area (BLM, 1982), and the animal has been documented throughout the proposed LWC (AZGFD, 2012; <http://www.habimap.org/habimap/>).

The map below shows the proposed LWC in black, the ACEC in pink, the extent of the Arrastra Mountain WSA in a green line (prior to the 1987 Final EIS), the existing wilderness in shaded green, and the three tiers of tortoise habitat:

Yellow: *Category 1 Tortoise Habitat* – area is essential to the maintenance of large, viable populations; goals are to maintain and increase stable, viable populations and protect existing habitat values

Peach: *Category 2 Tortoise Habitat* – area may be essential to maintain viable populations; goals are to maintain stable, viable populations and further any declines in tortoise habitat values

Pink: *Category 3 Tortoise Habitat* – area is not essential to maintenance of tortoise populations; goals are to limit habitat and population declines by mitigating impacts



The proposed LWC would protect substantial portions of critical and supplemental habitat for the Sonoran desert tortoise, as well as areas previously identified as having wilderness character.

The proposed LWC contains a scenic and geologic feature of exceptional significance

The granite arch discussed earlier in this report is an extremely rare phenomenon that deserves the special protections afforded by LWC management.

The proposed LWC would protect habitat for sensitive wildlife

The proposed LWC encompasses a diverse geologic, topographic, and vegetative landscape. The varied terrain, coupled with a number of springs, seeps, and seasonal waterways creates exceptional wildlife habitat. The Poachie Range supports unusual transitional plant communities that blend Mohave and Sonoran desert species, which is found only in this part of Arizona (BLM, 1993).

In addition to the desert tortoise, a number of other sensitive species occur here, such as the Lowland leopard frog (*Rana yavapaiensis*) a BLM sensitive species and federal Species of Concern which occurs at seeps and springs within Black Canyon. And the Arrastra Mountain NE quadrangle, of which the proposed LWC encompasses the middle third, has known occurrences of a number of sensitive wildlife species that have a high likelihood of occurring within the unit based on habitat requirements. These species are golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*; a BLM Sensitive Species), zone-tailed hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*), American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*, a BLM Sensitive Species and a federal Species of Concern), banded Gila monster (*Heloderma suspectum cinctum*, a federal Species of Concern), northern three-lined boa (*Lichanura orcutti*), and western red-tailed skink (*Plestiodon gilberti rubricaudatus*) (AZGFD, 2012; <http://www.habimap.org/habimap/>).

Additionally, Species of Economic and Recreational Importance also utilize the varied habitats here, including desert bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelson*), javelina (*Tayassu tajacu*), Gambel's quail (*Callipepla gambelii*), mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), white-winged dove (*Zenaida asiatica*), and mountain lion (*Puma concolor*) (AZGFD, 2012; <http://www.habimap.org/habimap/>).



Looking northwest from the hills above Mountain Shadows Ranch toward the crest of the Poachie Range; expansive desert grasslands and pinyon-juniper woodlands provide an extension of the excellent wildlife habitat protected by the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness. The remote summits of Arrastra Mountain provide a challenging ascent to hikers.

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SECTION 3: Detailed Boundary & Routes Description

Narrative Description of the Proposed LWC Boundary

This section of the report provides a detailed boundary description for the Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit, including all wilderness inventory roads that comprise the unit boundary, all of the primitive routes/ways that permeate the unit boundary, and all other boundaries, such as land ownership, utility corridors, and other excluded areas. Many portions of the unit boundary have been determined according to wilderness inventory road identification protocols described in BLM Manual 6310, which states that a “way” maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a “road” for purposes of inventorying lands with wilderness characteristics. Furthermore, the fact that a “way” is used on a regular and continuous basis does not make it a road. A vehicle route that was constructed by mechanical means, but is no longer being maintained by mechanical methods is not a road. A wilderness inventory road, by comparison, is a vehicle route that has “been improved and maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use” (Manual 6310, p. 11). Based on these criteria, the Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit contains approximately 30,440 contiguous roadless acres. The Photopoints described here of the Poachie Range Proposed LWC are listed in detailed tables with photographs following this description. Beginning at Photopoint 1, the proposed LWC unit description will move clockwise around the unit.

Northern/Northeastern Boundary

Highway 93 forms the entire northeastern Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit boundary. Photopoint 1 displays an image of 17 Mile Road (BLM Route 7510) near Highway 93. BLM Route 7510 is a wilderness inventory road and makes up most of the western/northwestern boundary for the proposed LWC unit. Continuing clockwise from Photopoint 1, Highway 93 is the next wilderness inventory road and the northeastern boundary for the Poachie Range Proposed LWC. Heading southeast along Highway 93, Photopoints 2-4 show a couple of primitive routes (BLM Routes 7537 & 7537A) that enter the unit. All of these ways are used for ranching activities, but none of them were constructed and there is no evidence that these ways are being maintained.

Farther east on Highway 93, a wilderness inventory road (BLM Route 7539) pictured in Photopoint 5, leads to a private parcel. As Photopoint 5 depicts, BLM Route 7539 was constructed and has received a recent blade. BLM Route 7539 is a cherrystem leading to private land within the Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit. Just before Photopoint 6, there is a corral on the east side of the wilderness inventory road. The BLM route data shows a route (BLM 7539A) leaving this corral to the east. There was no evidence of this route on the ground; other than an unused wash. Photopoint 6 shows a primitive route that stems from BLM Route 7539. As Photopoint 6 displays, there is no evidence that this way was constructed, and it is not being maintained. Photopoint 7 shows the other end of this supposed route that the BLM has labeled as a “Need to verify” in their route data. As seen in Photopoint 7, the southern end of this supposed route does not exist and is just a natural wash. There are several primitive routes that leave the private parcel on the western and southern sides.

Photopoints 8-10 depict an unnamed way that leaves the private land on its western border. This primitive route shows some old evidence of maintenance (Photopoint 8), but this maintenance ends about one-third of a mile from the private parcel boundary. Photopoint 9 shows a lack of maintenance beyond Photopoint 8. Similarly, Photopoint 10 displays evidence of erosion, as well as a lack of maintenance. This way is not open to public access because it is only accessible from the private land which is posted against trespassing. Based on the evidence presented here, this primitive route is documented as a way. There is an additional unnamed primitive route that is only accessible via the posted private property. Photopoints 11 and 12 show this way as it heads south out of the private land. This primitive route was constructed, has old evidence of maintenance, but is not currently being maintained; and there was no evidence of use at the time of inventory. These primitive routes

(Photopoints 8-12) serve no apparent purpose and are only accessible through private property that is posted against public trespass. For the above stated reasons, the ways pictured in Photopoints 8-12 are not wilderness inventory roads.

Returning to Highway 93, another wilderness inventory road (BLM Route 7541) forms a cherrystem leading to private land that is excluded from the Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit. Photopoint 13 depicts this constructed and maintained road. A corral near Photopoint 13 was also excluded from the LWC unit due to its unnatural aesthetic impact. At Photopoint 14, BLM Route 7541 turns to the west and becomes a way. The cherrystem continues to the private land and becomes BLM Route 7541A after BLM Route 7541 turns to the west and becomes a way. Photopoints 14-19 document a lack of maintenance on BLM Route 7541 once it turns to the west and becomes a primitive route. The farther out the road goes, the more rough it gets. This way becomes badly eroded (Photopoint 18), unsustainably steep, and only the width of an ATV. Where the route parallels washes, it is significantly off-camber, indicating that it was never constructed, or all evidence has naturalized due to having never been maintained. Near Photopoint 19, a primitive route (BLM Route 7543) forks to the west from BLM Route 7541. Photopoint 20 documents this primitive route and displays evidence (vegetation growing in middle of road) that this way is not maintained. Returning to BLM Route 7541, Photopoint 21 serves as further evidence that this primitive route is not maintained, and is narrower than most vehicles.

Returning to Highway 93 (the LWC eastern unit boundary), Photopoints 22 and 23 document a way that enters the Poachie Range LWC unit and travels to the southwest. This primitive route was constructed, but Photopoints 22 and 23 illustrate that this way is not being maintained. Furthermore, this way leads to an old windmill (Photopoint 24) that is dilapidated; meaning that this primitive route no longer serves a purpose. Highway 93 continues to serve as the Poachie Range Proposed LWC northeast unit boundary until Waypoint 1.

Eastern/Southeastern Boundary

The State Land/BLM property line forms the entire southeastern Poachie Range Proposed LWC boundary. At Waypoint 1, the LWC unit boundary becomes the BLM property line. The BLM/State property line is the Poachie Range LWC southeastern unit boundary from Waypoint 1 to Waypoint 2.

Southern/Southwestern Boundary

The Arrastra Mountain Wilderness boundary forms the entire southwestern Poachie Range Proposed LWC boundary. At Waypoint 2, the LWC unit boundary turns to the west and becomes the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness boundary. Photopoint 25 shows a way that forms a cherrystem into the wilderness, and excluded from the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness. This way is not a wilderness inventory road, and should have never been a cherrystem into the wilderness. Photopoint 25 documents that this way was never constructed; is not being maintained; has been closed by the BLM; is receiving absolutely no use; serves no purpose; has been reclaimed; and is not a road or a way. Photopoint 26 was taken looking northwest down BLM Route 7532. As the picture displays, this way was constructed, but is not being maintained, which is evidenced by the erosion shown in the photo. Photopoint 27 stands as further evidence that BLM Route 7532 is not being maintained, and as the photo shows, is badly eroded in places. Photopoint 28 was taken of an unnamed primitive route that spurs from BLM Route 7532. As Photopoint 28 displays, this way shows no evidence of construction; is not maintained; is only the width of an ATV; and is probably used to access water in Cottonwood Creek.

Continuing west along the LWC/Wilderness boundary, Photopoint 29 depicts BLM 7532 where it turns to the west. Again, Photopoint 29 documents that this way is not being maintained. Photopoints 30 and 31 show another primitive route (BLM Route 7532D) that spurs from BLM Route 7532. These photographs depict that BLM Route 7532D was not constructed; is not being maintained; serves no apparent purpose (since BLM Route 7532 goes to the same places); and is being eroded. Therefore, BLM Route 7532D is a way, not a road. Photopoint 32 was taken from BLM Route 7532 looking south at an old way that was cherrystemmed into the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness. As Photopoint 32 displays, this way is not a wilderness inventory road; it was not constructed; is not being maintained; has been closed to use by the BLM; is reclaimed; and should not be a cherrystem into the wilderness because it does not meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road as defined by BLM Manual 6310.

Continuing west along the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness/Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit boundary, Photopoint 33 depicts a way that stems off from BLM Route 7532 going to the north. This primitive route shows no evidence of construction; is not being maintained; has no apparent purpose; is revegetating; and is a way, not a road. Farther to the west down BLM Route 7532, Photopoint 34 shows a section of this way that has been severely eroded. At this point along BLM Route 7532, the route has passed the obvious cattle grazing infrastructure, other than a dilapidated corral near Placeritas Creek, and no purpose for the route was identified. Photopoint 35 was taken of a supposed route that goes into the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness. As Photopoint 35 depicts, this route shows no evidence of construction; is obviously not being maintained; and gets no use. Additionally, the primitive route ends at a turnaround at the corral. Beyond that point the way has been reclaimed and the old route, which used to cross the creek and continue, is now impassable because the creek washed it away. The route no longer crosses the creek, and the way on the other side of the creek is barely being used from the other end. From Photopoint 35, the Wilderness boundary continues to act as the proposed LWC unit boundary all the way to Waypoint 3.

Western/Northwestern Boundary

BLM Route 7510 and the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness boundary form the northwestern proposed LWC boundary. From Waypoint 3, we will present an in-depth description of the primitive routes that enter the northwestern half of the Poachie Range LWC unit. At Waypoint 3, a primitive route (BLM Route 7523) travels south into the LWC unit. Photopoint 36 shows that although this primitive route (BLM Route 7523) was constructed, there is no evidence that this way is being maintained. Despite sections of smooth road along the length of this primitive route, the steeper sections are often eroded, especially at wash crossings, requiring 4-WD. Eventually BLM Route 7523 becomes a cherrystem into the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness. However, as Photopoints 37-41 illustrate, BLM Route 7523 is not being maintained and serves no apparent purpose since the cattle grazing infrastructure along way unused and in disrepair. Therefore BLM Route 7523 is not a wilderness inventory road as defined by BLM Manual 6310, and should not be a cherrystem into the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness.

There are numerous primitive routes that branch off of BLM Route 7523. Photopoints 42-56 document that none of these primitive routes (nor ways that they lead to) are being maintained. All of these ways are in relatively bad shape, and do not meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road as defined by BLM Manual 6310.

Returning to Waypoint 3, BLM Route 7510 is the Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit boundary until it intercepts 17 Mile Road. There are no routes entering the LWC unit from 17 Mile Road until Photopoint 57. This photo was taken of an unnamed way in a dry wash that travels southwest into the unit. There is no evidence that this primitive route was constructed and no evidence of maintenance as well. Additionally, as Photopoint 57 shows, there is a fence blocking passage of this way.

No more routes enter the Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit until BLM Route 7524. BLM Route 7524 is a cherrystem wilderness inventory road and right of way that leads to a utility installation at the top of the mountain. At Photopoint 58, BLM Route 7524 turns to the east and becomes a primitive route. The cherrystem wilderness inventory road name changes to BLM Route 7524A. Photopoint 59 was taken of an old way that was constructed, but is not being maintained, is no longer used, and has been reclaimed. Therefore, the way depicted in Photopoint 59 is a way, not a road. Photopoint 60 depicts a way that was constructed, is not being maintained, but is slightly used by off-road vehicles. BLM Route 7524A (wilderness inventory road) becomes an unnamed route as it continues south from Photopoint 60. Photopoint 61 was taken of an unnamed way in a dry wash that presents no evidence of construction or maintenance, but is being used by 4-WD vehicles. Photopoint 62 shows the point at which the wilderness inventory road that leads to the utilities is gated, locked, and closed to public use. Photopoint 63 displays an image of some recent earthwork along the cherrystem wilderness inventory road. Photopoints 64-68 picture places where the old road comes and goes from the wilderness inventory road. As these photographs display, all of these old ways have been revegetated and are now reclaimed. Photopoints 69-72 show more reclaimed ways that branch off from the wilderness inventory road cherrystem near the top of the mountain. All of these ways are revegetated.

Returning to the northwestern boundary of the Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit, 17 Mile Road (BLM Route 7510) is uninterrupted until the point where BLM Route 7535 takes off to the south. Photopoint 73 displays a picture taken along BLM Route 7535, which was constructed, but appears to have no evidence of maintenance, and is therefore not a wilderness inventory road. In fact, this way appears to be maintained solely by the passage of vehicles, which is not considered maintenance according to BLM Manual 6310. Photopoint 74 depicts an eroded stretch of BLM Route 7535; further evidence that this way is not maintained. Photopoints 75-94 document a lack of maintenance on BLM Route 7535, as well as on all ways stemming from BLM Route 7535. Due to a lack of maintenance, none of these roads fit the description of a wilderness inventory road as defined by BLM Manual 6310. Returning to the proposed unit boundary, 17 Mile Road forms the remainder of the northwestern proposed LWC boundary back to Photopoint 1.

SECTION 4: Photopoint Data

Data Tables & Photographs to accompany Maps and the Detailed Boundary & Routes Description

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 001
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	17 Mile Road/BLM Route 7510
Determination	Road
Maintenance	Recent blade
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 001. Wilderness inventory road & most of the northern unit boundary for the Poachie Range Proposed LWC unit.

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 002
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7537
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 002. A way leading west into the unit from Highway 93.

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 003
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7537A
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetating

Photopoint 003. This way is obviously not being maintained.

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 004
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7537
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 004. Primitive route maintained solely by the passage of vehicles.

The left image is an aerial view from Google Earth showing a dirt road in a scrubby landscape, with a red arrow pointing to the road. The right image is a ground-level view of the same dirt road, showing its reddish-brown color and the surrounding green vegetation. The ground-level photo includes a 'POSTED' sign on the right side.

Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 29' 06.35"
W 113° 23' 11.95" 2733 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 005
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7539
Determination	Road
Maintenance	Recent blade
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way *arrow in aerial photo is misaligned.

Photopoint 005. Looking into private property from BLM Route 7539.

The left image is an aerial view from Google Earth showing a dirt road winding through a hilly, scrubby landscape, with a red arrow pointing to the road. The right image is a ground-level view of the dirt road, showing a 'POSTED' sign and a red post on the right side, indicating private property.

Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 27' 33.85"
W 113° 20' 54.61" 2972 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 006
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way *arrow in aerial photo is misaligned.

Photopoint 006. A way branching off from BLM Route 7539.

The left image is an aerial view from Google Earth showing a dirt road branching off from a main road in a scrubby landscape, with a red arrow pointing to the branch. The right image is a ground-level view of the dirt road, showing a dirt path leading through a wooded area.

Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 28' 34.71"
W 113° 20' 39.14" 3133 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes

Title	Photopoint 007
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Natural wash - not a road or way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Natural wash - no use

Photopoint 007. Other end of the way seen in Photopoint 6.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 008
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	Old evidence
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

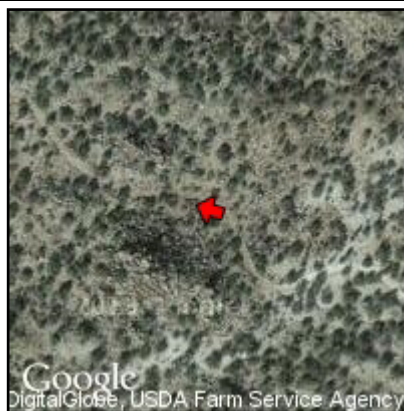
Photopoint 008. Semi-recent maintenance stops here on this way.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 009
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 009. A primitive route that heads west into the LWC unit.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 010
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 010. Erosion indicating a lack of maintenance on the way seen in Photopoints 8 & 9.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 011
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	Old evidence
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 011. A primitive route leaving private property and entering BLM land within the proposed LWC unit.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 012
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	Old evidence
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 012. Taken where route meets wash, signed as private property on BLM, but is not the property boundary. No evidence of vehicular use at all.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 013
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7541
Determination	Road
Maintenance	Recent blade
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 013. A wilderness inventory road that is a cherrystem to private property. Eventually changes names from BLM Route 7541 to BLM Route 7541A.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 014
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM 7541
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 014. BLM Route 7541 turns to the west here and becomes a way.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 015
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM 7541
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 015. Looking west down this primitive route.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 016
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7541
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 016. Evidence of erosion and a lack of maintenance on this section of BLM Route 7541.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 017
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7541
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 017. Where the route crosses slopes and mesas it is an extremely rough surface of cobbles thickly grown in with vegetation that is kept stunted only by the trampling of vehicles.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 018
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7541
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 018. Much of the route is badly eroded, unsustainably steep, and only the width of an ATV. Where the route parallels washes it is significantly off-camber, indicating that it had never been mechanically constructed, or all evidence has naturalized due to having never been maintained.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 019
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7541
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetating

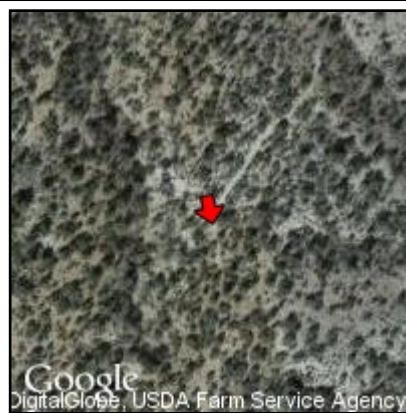
Photopoint 019. Vegetation growing in the middle of this primitive route.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 020
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7543
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 020. Looking south down this way.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 021
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7541
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 021. This primitive route is more narrow than a truck.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 022
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7439
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 022. Erosion along this primitive route.




Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 26' 57.08"
W 113° 17' 22.25" 2874 ft 3/18/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 023
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7439
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 023. This way is becoming very eroded.






Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 26' 51.87"
W 113° 17' 26.05" 2851 ft 3/18/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 024
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7439
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Delapidated windmill

Photopoint 024. A delapidated windmill at the end of BLM Route 7439.

Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 28' 46.03"
W 113° 17' 26.18" 2822 ft 3/18/2015

Attributes

Title	Photopoint 025
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 025. This old way that goes into the wilderness has naturalized. It should not be a cherrystem into the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness because, as this photo documents, it is not a wilderness inventory road.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 026
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7532
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 026. Erosion along this primitive route.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 027
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7532
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 027. More evidence of severe erosion on BLM Route 7532.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 028
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 028. A way branching from BLM Route 7532.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 029
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7532
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 029. There is a lack of maintenance on this way, making it a primitive route.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 030
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7532D
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 030. This way is obviously not being maintained.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 031
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7532D
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 031. Obvious lack of maintenance here as well.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 032
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Not a road or a way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

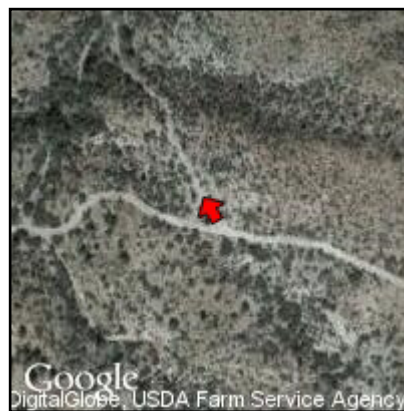
Photopoint 032. This is a picture of an old way that forms another cherrystem into the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness. This is not a wilderness inventory road and should not be a cherrystem into the wilderness.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 033
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetating

Photopoint 033. A way stemming from BLM Route 7532.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 034
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7532
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 034. Further lack of maintenance along BLM Route 7532.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 035
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7532
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 035. This is no longer a primitive route. It is impossible to cross this section of Placeritas Creek, and no evidence of any vehicle attempts was found.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 036
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7523
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 036. Evidence of erosion and a lack of maintenance on BLM Route 7523.



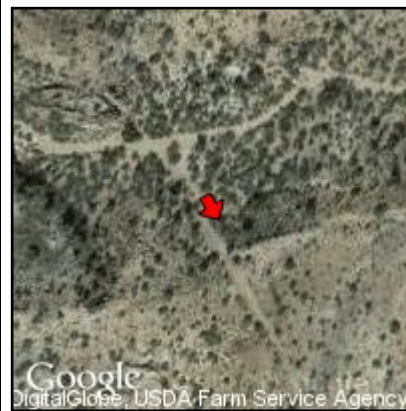
Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 037
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7523
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 037. Much of way follows dry washes. Where it follows low ridges it appears that no maintenance has been performed since construction.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 038
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7523
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 038. Erosion along BLM Route 7523. This way should not be a cherrystem into the Arrastra Mountains Wilderness.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 039
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7523
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Livestock Watering/Feeding station in disrepair

Photopoint 039. The way passes through this old corral. The watering systems are in total disrepair; rubbermaid tub has not been used for years; solar panel wiring severed and sun faded; and spring is growing in and naturalizing



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 040
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7523
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 040. Erosion indicating a lack of maintenance on this way. This is not a wilderness inventory road and should not be a cherrystem into the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 041
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7523
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Closure point

Photopoint 041. BLM has blocked the way and there is no illegal passage.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 042
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 042. Lack of maintenance indicated by erosion, and vegetation growing in the median of this unnamed way.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 043
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 043. This old way has naturalized.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 044
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 044. This old way has been reclaimed by nature.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 045
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 045. This old primitive route has revegetated.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 046
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7526
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 046. Evidence of erosion along this primitive route.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 047
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 047. This old way has been reclaimed and contains no evidence of use.



Attributes



Title	Photopoint 048
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 048. A way branching from BLM Route 7526.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 049
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 049. This way is unused and revegetating.

Google
DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 27' 46.56"
W 113° 28' 55.05" 3537 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 050
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 050. Looking northeast down a primitive route.




Google
DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 27' 46.61"
W 113° 28' 53.87" 3540 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 051
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7526
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 051. This photo documents an obvious lack of maintenance on this primitive route.




Google
DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 27' 41.10"
W 113° 28' 54.19" 3537 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 052
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 052. More erosion along this way. Vehicle passage is impossible. Only foot travel can pass this point.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 053
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 053. This old way has been deeply eroded and is impassable.





Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 054
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 054. Another old way that has revegetated.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 055
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 055. Even the BLM route data says that this way is reclaiming.






Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 27' 13.84"
W 113° 29' 52.03" 3120 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 056
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 056. Maintained solely by the passage of vehicles.

Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 27' 12.97"
W 113° 29' 47.89" 3064 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 057
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Not a road or a way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Fenced off/closed

Photopoint 057. An old primitive route in a dry wash stemming from 17 Mile Road. A fence blocking this old way can be seen in the photo.




Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 28' 28.15"
W 113° 27' 54.12" 2989 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 058
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM 7524
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 058. This way branches from BLM Route 7524A. It follows a wash and shows no signs of construction or maintenance.



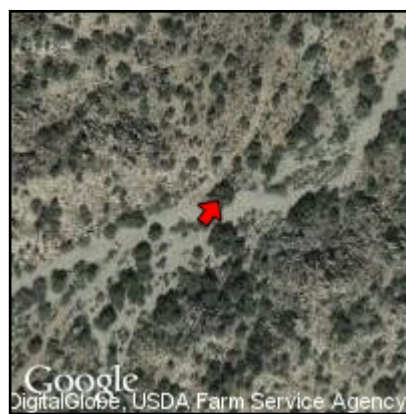
Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 059
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 059. An old way that has been reclaimed.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 060
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetating

Photopoint 060. There is evidence of extremely low use of this primitive route.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 061
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 061. This way is in a dry wash.




Google
DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 28' 08.98"
W 113° 27' 41.59" 2989 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 062
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Road
Maintenance	Recent earthwork
Feature	Closure point

Photopoint 062. The wilderness inventory road is gated and closed to public vehicular access beyond this point.




Google
DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 27' 55.01"
W 113° 27' 51.70" 3248 ft 3/16/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 063
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Road
Maintenance	Recent earthwork
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 063. Some earthwork has been done on this route which accesses a communications tower.




Google
DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 27' 33.97"
W 113° 27' 51.64" 3783 ft 3/16/2015

Attributes

Title	Photopoint 064
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 064. This old section of the road is now revegetated.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 065
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 065. This old road bed is reclaimed.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 066
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 066. Note that the old mine diggings in this picture are substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 067
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 067. Another reclaimed section of the old road.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 068
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 068. Looking at another revegetated old way.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 069
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 069. This old way has been reclaimed.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 070
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 070. Another old way that is reclaimed.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 071
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 071. Looking east at another old way that is revegetated.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 072
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 072. This old primitive route is long gone.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 073
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7535
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 073. Vegetation in median and erosion indicate a lack of maintenance.

The left image is a satellite view from Google Earth showing a dirt road with a red arrow pointing to a median area with dense vegetation. The right image is a ground-level photograph of the same dirt road, showing significant erosion on the right side and a median area with sparse vegetation. The ground-level photo includes coordinates: N 34° 30' 07.28" W 113° 24' 43.88", an elevation of 2224 ft, and a date of 3/17/2015.

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 074
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7535
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 074. This way is not being maintained.

The left image is a satellite view from Google Earth showing a dirt road with a red arrow pointing to a heavily eroded section. The right image is a ground-level photograph of the same dirt road, showing deep erosion channels and a very sandy, uneven surface. The ground-level photo includes coordinates: N 34° 29' 47.90" W 113° 24' 41.05", an elevation of 2244 ft, and a date of 3/17/2015.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 075
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 075. A primitive route in a dry wash.

The left image is a satellite view from Google Earth showing a dirt road with a red arrow pointing to a section in a dry wash. The right image is a ground-level photograph of the same dirt road, showing a wide, sandy path with large rocks scattered across it, typical of a dry wash. The ground-level photo includes coordinates: N 34° 29' 47.77" W 113° 24' 41.11", an elevation of 2224 ft, and a date of 3/17/2015.

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 076
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 076. Well vegetated surface. Boulders rolled into route.

Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 29' 39.34"
W 113° 24' 39.50" 2283 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 077
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Impasse to vehicles at bouldery constriction

Photopoint 077. Way ends in this photo at bouldery constriction.






Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 29' 34.29"
W 113° 24' 37.45" 2241 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 078
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 078. This way is blockaded with boulders after 1/10th mile.

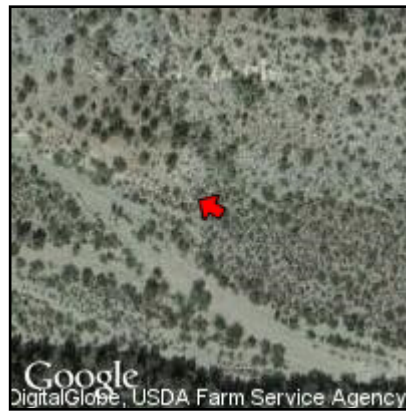
Google DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency

N 34° 29' 24.91"
W 113° 24' 51.44" 2274 ft 3/17/2015

Attributes

Title	Photopoint 079
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 079. This way has obviously been reclaimed and is naturalizing.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 080
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Not a road or way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Just a wash

Photopoint 080. Not a route or way; just a wash.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 081
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Not a road or way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Just a wash

Photopoint 081. This is just a wash with no evidence of use.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 082
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 082. Note that the radio tower and road on mountain in background are substantially unnoticeable to the average visitor and they do no impact the naturalness of the unit.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 083
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7524
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 083. A primitive route in a dry wash.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 084
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM 7535
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	

Photopoint 084. An unmaintained way.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 085
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7535C
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Good section of route

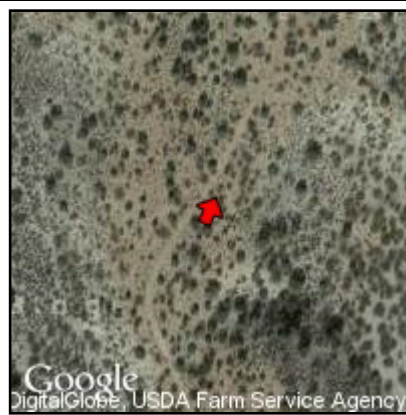
Photopoint 085. This primitive route leads to a spring.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 086
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7535
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetating

Photopoint 086. Vegetation in way indicates a lack of maintenance.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 087
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7535
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 087. Extremely erosion makes this way impassable to most vehicles.



Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 088
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	Old evidence
Feature	Erosion

Photopoint 088. Erosion evident on this primitive route.

The left image is a satellite view from Google Earth showing a dirt path with a red arrow pointing to a specific spot. The right image is a ground-level photograph of a dirt path with significant erosion and exposed soil. The ground-level photo includes coordinates: N 34° 28' 00.44", W 113° 25' 00.65", an elevation of 2592 ft, and a date of 3/17/2015.

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 089
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 089. Primitive route follows ridge and is barely noticeable, as the photograph displays.

The left image is a satellite view from Google Earth showing a dirt path with a red arrow pointing to a specific spot. The right image is a ground-level photograph of a dirt path on a ridge, which is barely noticeable. The ground-level photo includes coordinates: N 34° 28' 03.47", W 113° 25' 48.10", an elevation of 3045 ft, and a date of 3/17/2015.

Attributes	
Title	Photopoint 090
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 090. This way is completely revegetated. By counting the growth rings at the base of a creosote bush growing in the tread of this route, we confirmed that no maintenance has occurred since approximately 1978, when mineral prospecting occurred at the Alta Vista Mine.

The left image is a satellite view from Google Earth showing a dirt path with a red arrow pointing to a specific spot. The right image is a ground-level photograph of a dirt path that is completely revegetated with creosote bushes. The ground-level photo includes coordinates: N 34° 27' 56.26", W 113° 25' 46.92", an elevation of 2900 ft, and a date of 3/17/2015.

Attributes

Title	Photopoint 091
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	BLM Route 7535
Determination	Way
Maintenance	None
Feature	Typical condition of Route/Way

Photopoint 091. This primitive route is clearly not being maintained.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 092
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 092. Another unmaintained primitive route. These old mining roads make excellent trails for hiking and horseback riding.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 093
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 093. The average visitor probably wouldn't even see evidence of this reclaimed way.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 094
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 094. This old primitive route has been reclaimed.



Attributes

Title	Photopoint 095
Unit name	Poachie Range
Route name	Not Named
Determination	Reclaimed
Maintenance	None
Feature	Revegetated

Photopoint 095. This old way was reclaimed long ago, but is still easy to follow and provides a great path through the spiny desert vegetation.

