

Lampstand

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,500	0	3,500 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,500	0	3,500
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Capitol Reef National Park		

All 3,500 acres of the Lampstand inventory unit are natural and have wilderness characteristics. The unit is contiguous to Capitol Reef National Park and the Dixie National Forest. Neighboring lands in Capitol Reef National Park have been administratively endorsed for wilderness by the National Park Service (NPS). The finding of wilderness characteristics in this unit is based upon consideration of the contiguous federal lands that also have wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Lampstand inventory unit is located in eastern Garfield County about 40 miles northeast of Escalante. It is composed of public lands located between the Dixie National Forest and Capitol Reef National Park.

The unit is within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The most prominent natural feature of the area is the Circle Cliffs, which skirt the unit's western and northern boundary. Piñon and juniper forest is the predominant vegetation on the two distinct benchlands, with the valley floor consisting primarily of sagebrush and desert shrubs. Marginal evidence of past mineral exploration can be found on the benchlands below the Circle Cliff escarpment. Some recreational use occurs mainly on the benchlands, with hunting and four-wheel driving appearing to be the main pursuits.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Lampstand inventory unit retains its natural character. Human impacts are

substantially unnoticeable and rapidly being reclaimed by natural means. Little surface-disturbing activity has occurred. Bulldozer scars from past uranium drilling exploration cross parts of the unit, but these cuts are naturally rehabilitating. The access routes that were originally bladed are eroding. Given the area's rugged terrain, these ways and blade cuts do not affect the unit's natural character as a whole. One road has been cherry-stemmed from the unit (not visible on map due to its short length).

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit provides opportunities for solitude. Screening created by the canyons, drainages, rugged escarpments, remote benchlands, and dense piñon and juniper forest contributes to these opportunities. Because of the unit's size and configuration, opportunities for solitude are outstanding only when considered in conjunction with the contiguous NPS lands.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit's rugged terrain, remote location, and minimal visitation provides the setting for a primitive and unconfined recreation

experience, although this area has not been a focal point for primitive recreation. From all evidence, hunting has been the primary recreational use. However, there are opportunities for general sightseeing and photography of the surrounding Circle Cliffs region.

Day hiking and backpacking opportunities exist, including treks up pristine drainages, rock scrambling into canyons created by the cliffs, and hikes to dramatic overlooks with views of the Circle Cliffs. Visitors may explore the deep drainages, mesas, and ridges, all without the aid of a trail network. However, these opportunities are outstanding only when considered in the context of the contiguous NPS lands.

Supplemental Values

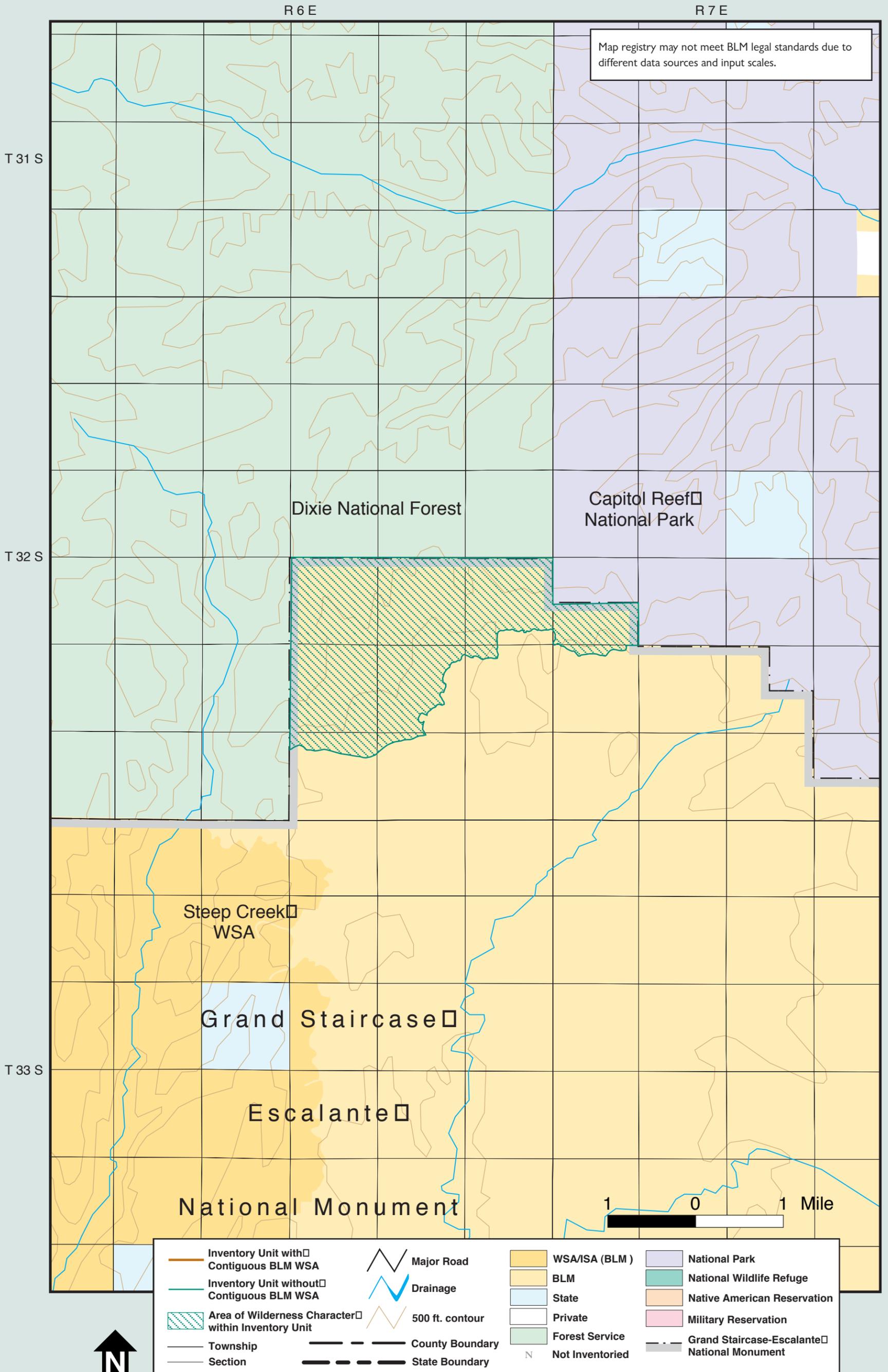
The most striking geological feature is the Circle Cliffs, which wind around the north side of the unit. Prominent red rock cliffs, spires, mesas, canyons, and mountains are all unique features of the Circle Cliffs. Points along the top of the Circle Cliffs provide unsurpassed views of the surrounding landscape, including other portions of the Circle Cliffs, Boulder Mountain, Capitol Reef National Park, Navajo Mountain, the Henry Mountains, and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. In addition, the unit supports a small resident population of elk. Evidence also exists of prehistoric human occupation.

LAMPSTAND—The Circle Cliffs, which wind around the north side of the unit, are a striking geological feature.



BLM photo

Lampstand



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Lampstand