

THE GREAT RIFT

IDAHO

NATIONAL REGISTRY OF NATURAL LANDMARKS

Geological phenomena resulting from the works of volcanism.

The site consists of 1,000 acres located in Power County, 25 miles northwest of American Falls, Idaho. It is administered by the Bureau of Land Management. Mr. James L. Papadakis operates a commercial venture, "Crystal Ice Caves, Inc." on the site by special-use permit.

The Great Rift bisects the property. The rift was originally a weak section of the earth's crust that cracked under pressure allowing molten lava to escape. The resulting lava flow culminated in the great lava plains of this section of Idaho. The forty-mile rift is one of the longest in the conterminous United States. It is reputed to be the deepest known volcanic rift in the world.

One of the outstanding examples of ice caves in the United States occurs along the walls of the rift. The ice formations are beautiful and unique. No one definitely knows exactly how the caves were formed. Most geologists agree that they resulted from explosions caused by steam under pressure.

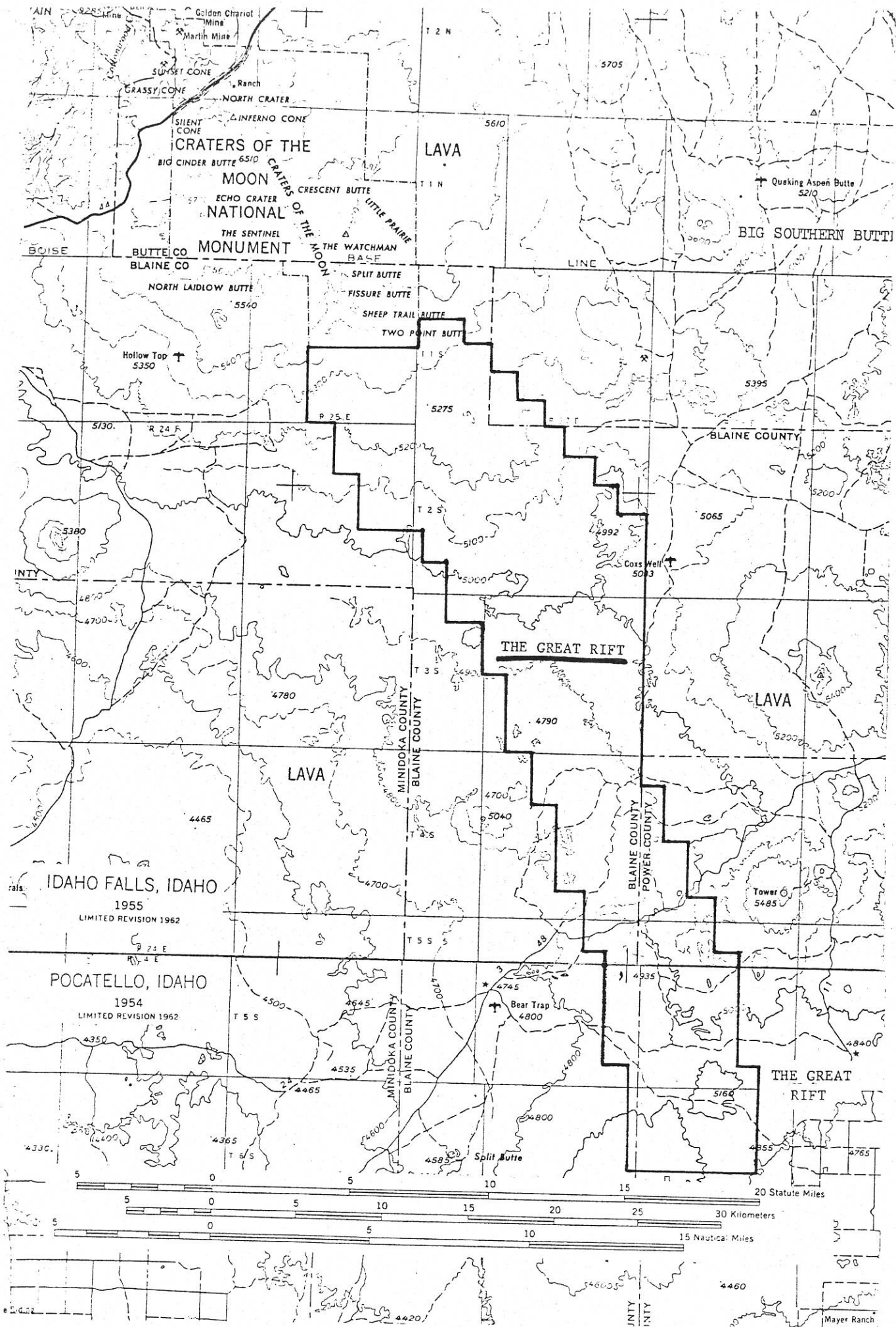
Centered around ice caves - never really defined

*registered
eligible*

MARCH 1978

	Info.	Act.	Init.
Asst. D.M.			
Resource Mgmt.			
Operations			
Administration			
RECEIVED - Idaho Falls D.O.			
USDI	MAR 15 1978		BLM
Planning			
Public Affairs			
Big Butte RA			
Med Lodge RA			
Soda Springs RA			

FILE COPY



AREA INVENTORY AND EVALUATION FORMAT

SECTION A - Identification and Ownership Data

1. Name The Great Rift
2. Area type (check appropriate box)
- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ a. Primitive | ☐ e. Recreation Lands |
| ☐ b. Research Natural | ☐ f. Wild and Scenic River |
| ☐ c. Outstanding Natural | ☐ g. Other (specify) |
| ☒ d. Natural Landmark | |

3. Location

a. State(s) IDAHO

b. County(ies) Power

c. District(s) IDAHO FALLS

d. Resource Area(s) BLK BUTTE

e. Latitude 42° 51'

f. Longitude 113° 13'

4. Ownership	Acres
a. Bureau	1000
b. Other Federal	
c. State	
d. Private	
e. Other (Specify)	
TOTAL	1000

SECTION B - Formal Actions

Type	Authority	FR Citation	Date	Acres/ Miles	L.O. Serial	Remarks
1. Classification Withdrawal	CM Uact	32FR13672	9/29/67	1000	I 1542	
2. P.L. Order #						
3. Designation (43 CFR 2070)	See Remarks	Vol 40 #87 19505	5/8/68	1000		NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK (REGISTERED)
4. Approved MFP			4/25/74			
5. Other (specify) Mineral Segregation	CM Uact	33FR9515	9/29/67	1000	11542	segr. from appropriation under general mining laws

SECTION C - Other Actions Taken

Type	Date Completed	Date Approved	Remarks
1. Activity Plan			
2. Cooperative Agreement(s)			
3. Acquisition			
4. Easement			
5. ORV Designation			
6.			
7. SLUP	8/27/70	8/27/70	20 year duration - for concession purposes at The Ice Caves.
8.			

SECTION D - Segregation

Type	Yes	No	Partial (Acres Segregated)	Type	Yes	No	Partial (Acres Segregated)
1. Mineral Entry	✓			5. State Exch.		✓	
2. Mineral Lease		✓		6. Private Exch.		✓	
3. Agric. Entry	✓			7. State Select.		✓	
4. Public Sale	✓			8. Other (specify)			

SECTION E - Principle Features

The Great Rift was originally a weak section of the earth's crust that cracked under pressure allowing molten lava to escape. The resulting lava flow culminated in the great lava plains of this section of Idaho. (The rift is reputed to be the deepest known volcanic rift in the world.)

One of the outstanding examples of ice caves in the United States occurs along the walls of the rift.

SECTION F - Resources Management Objectives

Develop the ice caves and surrounding 40 acre tract to provide visitors with an opportunity to safely enjoy this unusual natural occurrence. (Development will be accomplished by concession operator via approved site plans)

Manage the remaining 1000 acres adjoining the ice caves for their natural values - Portion of the Landmark is within "Roadless" area and is being managed in accordance with ^{interim} procedures for roadless areas.

SECTION G - Evaluation (Check appropriate box)

1. Condition: ☐ excellent; ☒ good; or ☐ poor.
2. Trend: ☐ improving; ☒ stable; or ☐ declining
3. Narrative:

Objectives generally being met - Need completion of ^{updated} activity plan (including site plans) to help provide overall ^{management} direction for the area. Area should be segregated from all forms of appropriation.

a copy of CFR designating "Great Rift" as National Landmark could not be found - NPS personnel stated that a definite boundary for the 1000 acres was never established but did verify the area has been designated as a registered National Landmark.
 Use additional sheet if necessary Encl. 2-2
 a definite boundary for the landmark should be established.

Natural Landmark Brief

Enlargement of a previously designated Natural Landmark

DIS. MANAGER	WELCH	WELCH	WELCH
PUBLIC AFFAIRS			
ADMINISTRATION			
RESOURCES			
P. & E. COUNCIL			
AM. MON.			
JUL 1 1983			
RECEIVED			
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT			
SILVERHOLE, IDAHO 83352			
AM. BH.			
MAIL PACKET			
FILE			

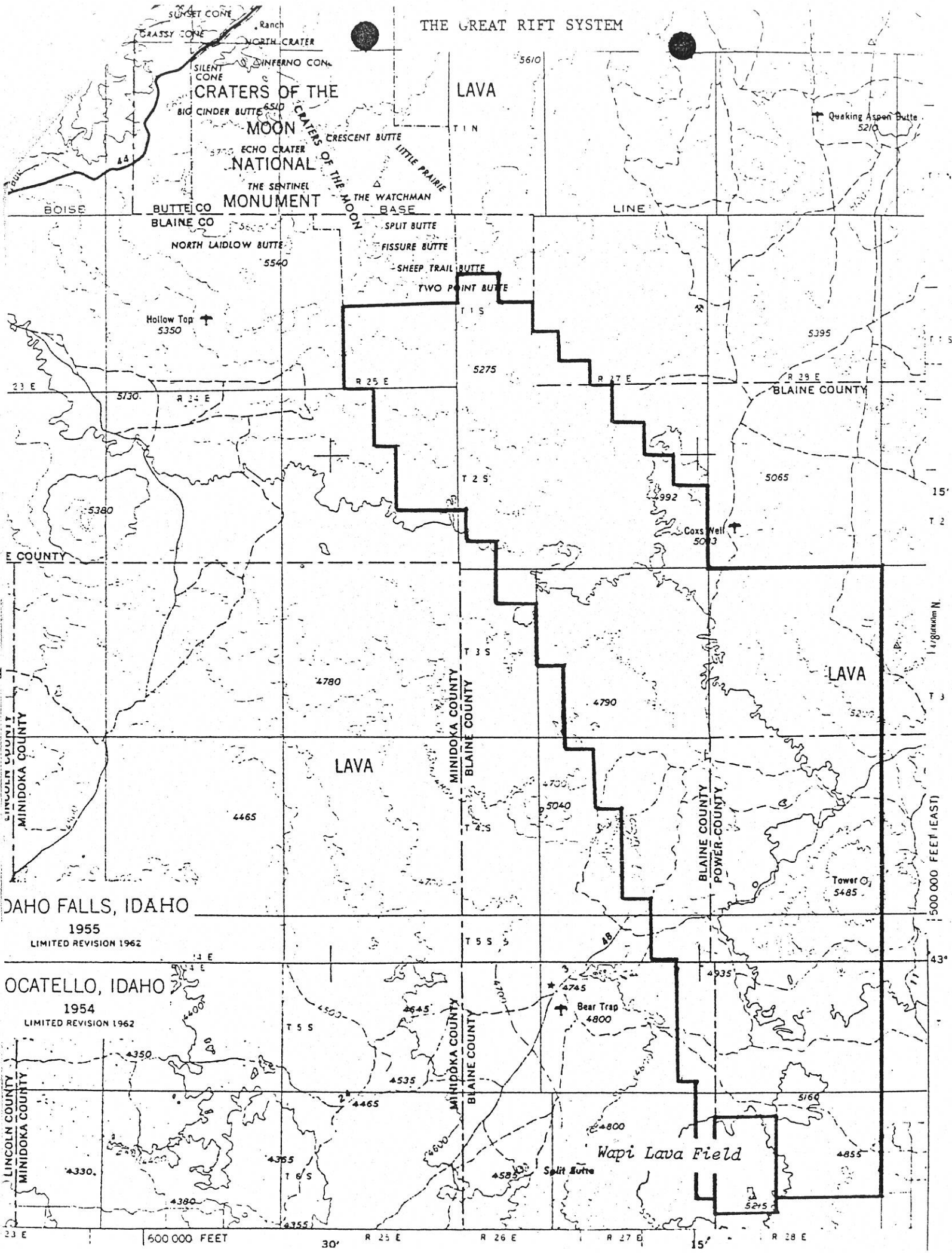
1. Site: Great Rift System, Power, Blaine, and Minidoka Counties, Idaho.

(Redefinition and extension of present Great Rift NNL from 1,000 acres in the vicinity of Crystal Ice Caves to about 272 square miles so as to include all of the central Great Rift System).
2. Description: This 68,750 ha (169,880 acre) site is located 68 km (43 miles) northwest of Pocatello in southern Idaho. The Great Rift system of the eastern Snake River Plain is a dramatic and outstanding example of tensional tectonic forces in the Earth's crust. The Great Rift system involves four areas which more or less merge into one another. From north to south these are: (1) Craters of the Moon National Monument, (2) Open-Crack Set, about 21 km (13 miles), (3) the Kings's Bowl Set, 11 km (6.8 miles) in the vicinity of Crystal Ice Caves, and (4) Wapi Lava Field. The combination of these areas provides a geologically historic record of crustal rifting and basaltic volcanism unmatched anywhere in North America and perhaps in the world.
3. Owners: The U.S. Government; administered by the Bureau of Land Management.
4. Proposed by: Robert H. Rose, in the Works of Volcanism Theme Study, 1970, and by W. Frank Scott, Columbia Plateaus, Geologic Theme Study, 1978.
5. Significance: The Great Rift System is unique in North America and has few counterparts anywhere in the world. It is a tensional fracture in the Earth's crust that may extend all the way to the crust-mantle interface. Basaltic magma has risen along the fracture and erupted at cinder cones, spatter cones, and pit craters, and by quiet effusion at a number of places along the rift to produce the remarkable young basaltic terrain at Craters of the Moon, Crystal Ice Caves, and the Wapi Lava Field. Perhaps more remarkable, however, though having less visual impact, is the open rift that extends from Craters of the Moon to Crystal Ice Caves. This part of the rift system has remained open and tectonically stable since it formed about 2,000 years ago. Nowhere else is the result of a tensional stress system in the Earth's crust so dramatically illustrated. The landmark also has biological interest as an example of primary vegetation succession on very young lava flows.

6. Land use: Parts of the area are used for grazing as well as for limited scientific and recreational visitation.
7. Dangers to integrity: There is a possibility of damage to the fragile features on the lava surfaces at Wapi Lava Field, due to an increase in tourist traffic.
8. Special conditions: None.
9. Onsite evaluation by: Donald E. Trimble, U.S. Geological Survey.

Further evaluated by: William Copeland, Oregon Natural Heritage Program; Rexford Daubenmire; W. Frank Scott, Washington State University; Edwin Tisdale; Donald E. Trimble, U.S. Geological Survey.

July 1980



THE GREAT RIFT SYSTEM

CRATERS OF THE
MOON
NATIONAL MONUMENT

LAVA

LAVA

LAVA

Wapi Lava Field

IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO

OCATELLO, IDAHO

1954
LIMITED REVISION 1962

1955
LIMITED REVISION 1962

LINCOLN COUNTY
MINIDOKA COUNTY

MINIDOKA COUNTY
BLAINE COUNTY

BLAINE COUNTY
POWER COUNTY

600 000 FEET
30° R 25 E R 26 E R 27 E R 28 E
15°



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Craters of the Moon National Monument

P. O. Box 29

Arco, Idaho 83213



IN REPLY REFER TO:

N44(PNR-RP)

June 23, 1989

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region
From: Superintendent, Craters of the Moon National Monument
Subject: Completion of site visits for selected National Natural Landmarks

Enclosed are the completed National Natural Landmarks Status Reports for the following sites:

Big Southern Butte
Great Rift System
Menan Buttes

Please call Shelley Sparhawk at (208) 527-3257 if you have questions.

Robert E. Scott

Enclosures

National Natural Landmark Status Report
Part I. Administrative Information

Site: Menan Buttes
Part II attached? no No. of Part II sheets:

State(s): ID NLIS Record #: 0336
Date of Report: 6/22/89

1. Reporting Official:

Name: Shelley Sparhawk
Title: Resource Management Ranger
Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS: X
Address: Craters of the Moon, PO Box 29
State/Zip: Arco, ID Phone: (208) 527 - 3257
83213

Information on this report was obtained through:

X field inspection by person # 1 and 2
 telephone contact with person #
 written communication from person #
 article or report by person #
 other:

2. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: Deb Smith
Title: Outdoor Recreation Planner
Owner: Manager: X Patron: NPS:
Address: BLM, 940 E. Lincoln
State/Zip: Idaho Phone: (208) 529 - 1020
Falls, ID 83401

The person listed to the left:

X accompanied me during the field inspection
 performed the field inspection
 provided information by telephone/letter
 authored the attached article/report
 other:

3. Other knowledgeable person:

Name:
Title:
Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS:
Address:
State/Zip: Phone: () -

The person listed to the left:

 accompanied me during the field inspection
 performed the field inspection
 provided information by telephone/letter
 authored the attached article/report
 other:

X Field inspection performed on 6/21/89, by foot X, auto X, or air .
(date)

Extent of site inspected was approximately 90 %, or acres.

Additional comments: Draft Snake River Activity Operations Plan is scheduled for completion in September 1989. Management of North Menan Butte will be addressed in this plan.

As noted in the 1987 status report, some problems with ORV use continue. The area is closed to off road use, although enforcement is difficult.

Primary use of the area at this time is day use by school groups.

Site condition:	Recommendation (Reporting Official)	Recommendation (NPS Regional Off)
<u>X</u> satisfactory	<u>X</u> no action needed	<u> </u> no action needed
<u> </u> threat (probability unknown)	<u> </u> follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	<u> </u> follow-up action needed (complete reverse)
<u> </u> threat (likely to occur in 1 yr)	<u> </u> remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> threat (will occur in 1 yr)	<u> </u> list in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> list in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> damaged (condition improving)	<u> </u> prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> damaged (condition stabilized)		
<u> </u> damaged (condition worsening)		

National Natural Landmark Status Report
Part I. Administrative Information

Site: Big Southern Butte
Part II attached? no No. of Part II sheets:

State(s): ID, NLIS Record #: 0342
Date of Report: 6/22/89

1. Reporting Official:

Name: Shelley Sparhawk
Title: Resource Management Ranger
Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS: X
Address: Craters of the Moon, PO Box 29
State/Zip: Arco, ID Phone: (208) 527 - 3257
83213

Information on this report was obtained through:

X field inspection by person # 1 and 2
 telephone contact with person #
 written communication from person #
 article or report by person #
 other:

2. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: Leroy Cook
Title: Big Butte Area Manager
Owner: Manager: X Patron: NPS:
Address: BLM, 940 E. Lincoln
State/Zip: Idaho Phone: (208) 529 - 1020
Falls, ID 83401

The person listed to the left:

X accompanied me during the field inspection
 performed the field inspection
 provided information by telephone/letter
 authored the attached article/report
 other:

3. Other knowledgeable person:

Name:
Title:
Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS:
Address:
State/Zip: Phone: () -

The person listed to the left:

 accompanied me during the field inspection
 performed the field inspection
 provided information by telephone/letter
 authored the attached article/report
 other:

X Field inspection performed on 6/22/89,
(date)

by foot , auto X, or air .

Extent of site inspected was approximately 80 %, or acres.

Additional comments:

Extension of pipeline at Webb Spring (proposed in 1987) has been completed.

Site condition:	Recommendation (Reporting Official)	Recommendation (NPS Regional Off)
<u>X</u> satisfactory	<u>X</u> no action needed	<u> </u> no action needed
<u> </u> threat (probability unknown)	<u> </u> follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	<u> </u> follow-up action needed (complete reverse)
<u> </u> threat (likely to occur in 1 yr)	<u> </u> remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> threat (will occur in 1 yr)	<u> </u> list in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> list in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> damaged (condition improving)	<u> </u> prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> damaged (condition stabilized)		
<u> </u> damaged (condition worsening)		

National Natural Landmark Status Report
Part I. Administrative Information

Site: Great Rift System
Part II attached? no No. of Part II sheets:

State(s): ID/ NLIS Record #: 0340
Date of Report: June 20, 1989

1. Reporting Official:

Name: Shelley Sparhawk
Title: Resource Management Ranger
Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS: X
Address: Craters of the Moon, PO Box 29
State/Zip: Arco, ID 83213 Phone: (208) 527-3257

Information on this report was obtained through:
X field inspection by person # 2 and 3
 telephone contact with person #
 written communication from person #
 article or report by person #
 other:

2. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: Douglas Cornell, Jr.
Title: Architect/planner
Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS: X
Address: Denver Service Center
State/Zip: Phone: () -

The person listed to the left:
 accompanied me during the field inspection
X performed the field inspection
 provided information by telephone/letter
 authored the attached article/report
 other:

3. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: Robert Scott
Title: Superintendent
Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS: X
Address: Craters of the Moon NM
State/Zip: Phone: () -

The person listed to the left:
 accompanied me during the field inspection
X performed the field inspection
 provided information by telephone/letter
 authored the attached article/report
 other:

X Field inspection performed on August, 1988
(date)

by foot X, auto X, or air X.

Extent of site inspected was approximately 70 %, or acres.

Additional comments: Field inspection completed as part of Reconnaissance Survey for Expansion of Craters of the Moon National Monument.

Site condition:	Recommendation (Reporting Official)	Recommendation (NPS Regional Off)
<u>X</u> satisfactory	<u>X</u> no action needed	<u> </u> no action needed
<u> </u> threat (probability unknown)	<u> </u> follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	<u> </u> follow-up action needed (complete reverse)
<u> </u> threat (likely to occur in 1 yr)	<u> </u> remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> threat (will occur in 1 yr)	<u> </u> list in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> list in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> damaged (condition improving)	<u> </u> prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> damaged (condition stabilized)		
<u> </u> damaged (condition worsening)		

National Natural Landmark Brief
Great Rift System

Location: About 68 km (43 miles) northwest of Pocatello; Power, Blaine, and Minidoka Counties, Idaho

Natural Region: Columbia Plateau

Size: 68,750 hectares (169,880 acres)

Ownership: Federal, administered by the Bureau of Land Management (Idaho Falls District)

Description: The Great Rift system of the eastern Snake River Plain is a dramatic and outstanding example of tensional tectonic forces in the earth's crust. The Great Rift system involves four areas that more or less merge into one another. From north to south these are: (1) Craters of the Moon National Monument, (2) Open-Crack Set, about 21 km (13 miles), (3) the King's Bowl Set, 11 km (6.8 miles) in the vicinity of Crystal Ice Caves, and (4) Wapi Lava Field. The combination of these areas provides a geological historic record of crustal rifting and basaltic volcanism unmatched anywhere in North America and perhaps in the world.

Significance: The Great Rift system is unique in North America and has few counterparts anywhere in the world. It is a tensional fracture in the earth's crust that may extend all the way to the crust-mantle interface. Basaltic magma has risen along the fracture and erupted at cinder cones, spatter cones, and pit craters, and, by quiet effusion, at a number of places along the rift to produce the remarkable young basaltic terrain at Craters of the Moon National Monument, Crystal Ice Caves, and the Wapi Lava Field. Perhaps more remarkable, however, though having less visual impact, is the open rift that extends from Craters of the Moon National Monument to Crystal Ice Caves. This part of the rift system has remained open and tectonically stable since it formed about 2,000 years ago. Nowhere else is the result of a tensional stress system in the earth's crust so dramatically illustrated. The landmark also has biological interest as an example of primary vegetation succession on very young lava flows.

Land use: Parts of the area are used for livestock grazing as well as for limited scientific and recreational visitation.

Special conditions: None

Proposed by: Robert H. Rose, "The Works of Volcanism, Sites Recommended as Potential Natural Landmarks," National Park Service, January 1970; and W. Frank Scott, "Potential Natural Landmarks, Geologic Themes, on the Columbia Plateaus," Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, April 1978

Evaluated by: Donald E. Trimble, U.S. Geological Survey, June 1974; and William Copeland, Oregon Natural Heritage Program; Rexford Daubenmire, retired; W. Frank Scott, Washington State University; Edwin Tisdale, retired; Donald E. Trimble, U.S. Geological Survey, May 1979

Designated: March 1968; boundaries subsequently defined and NNL enlarged in August 1980

Owner agreement: October 1981

Brief revised December 1990



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Craters of the Moon National Monument

P. O. Box 29

Arco, Idaho 83213



IN REPLY REFER TO:

PNR-R

N44

April 24, 1991

Memorandum

To: Associate Regional Director, Recreation Resources and Professional Services, Pacific Northwest Region

From: Superintendent, Craters of the Moon National Monument

Subject: National Natural Landmarks Inspections

Enclosed are the completed National Natural Landmarks Status Reports for the following sites:

Big Southern Butte
Great Rift System
Menan Buttes

Unfortunately, the early reply due date this year precluded visits to the sites due to snow conditions. The reports were completed using telephone information from Bureau of Land Management personnel.

If you have any questions, please contact Shelley Sparhawk at (208) 527-3257.

Robert E. Scott

Enclosures (3)

NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK STATUS REPORT

Part I. Administrative Information

Site: Big Southern Butte
 Part II Attached? no No. of Part II sheets:

State(s): ID NLIS Record #: 0342
 Date of Report 4/24/91

1. Reporting Official:

Name: Shelley Sparhawk
 Title: Resource Management Specialist
 Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS: X
 Address: Craters of the Moon NM, PO Box 29, Arco
 State/Zip: ID 83213 Phone: (208) 527-3257

Information on this report was obtained through:

 Field inspection by person #
X Telephone contact with person # 2
 Written communication from person #
 Article or report by person #
 Other:

2. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: Dick Kodesky
 Title: Outdoor Recreation Planner
 Owner: Manager: X Patron: NPS:
 Address: BLM, 940 Lincoln, Idaho Falls,
 State/Zip: ID 83401 Phone: (208) 529-1020

The person listed to the left:

 Accompanied me during the field inspection
 Performed the field inspection
X Provided information by telephone/letter
 Authored the attached article/report
 Other:

3. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: Leroy Cook
 Title: Big Butte Area Manager
 Owner: Manager: X Patron: NPS:
 Address: BLM, 940 E. Lincoln, Idaho Falls,
 State/Zip: ID 83401 Phone: (208) 529-1020

The person listed to the left:

 Accompanied me during the field inspection
 Performed the field inspection
X Provided information by telephone/letter
 Authored the attached article/report
 Other:

 Field inspection performed on
 (Date)

by foot , auto , or air .

Extent of site inspected was approximately %

or acres.

Additional comments: BLM is receiving some pressure for installation of communications equipment by commercial interests, however the agency will not permit these impacts.
Increasing recreational use of the Butte is causing an increase in impacts.

Site Condition	Recommendation (Reporting Official)	Recommendation (NPS Regional Office)
<u>X</u> Satisfactory	<u>X</u> No Action Needed	<u> </u> No action needed
<u> </u> Threat (probability unknown)	<u> </u> Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	<u> </u> Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)
<u> </u> Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	<u> </u> Remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> Remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> Threat (likely to occur in 1 yr)	<u> </u> List in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> List in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> Threat (will occur in 1 yr)	<u> </u> Prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> Prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> Damaged (condition improving)		
<u> </u> Damaged (condition stabilized)		
<u> </u> Damaged (condition worsening)		

NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK STATUS REPORT

Part I. Administrative Information

Site: Menan Buttes
 Part II Attached? NO No. of Part II sheets:

State(s): ID NLIS Record #: 0336
 Date of Report 4/24/91

1. Reporting Official:

Name: Shelley Sparhawk
 Title: Resource Management Specialist
 Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS: X
 Address: Craters of the Moon NM, PO Box 29, Arco
 State/Zip: ID 83213 Phone: (208) 527-3257

Information on this report was obtained through:

 Field inspection by person #
X Telephone contact with person # 2
 Written communication from person #
 Article or report by person #
 Other:

2. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: Wade Brown
 Title: Outdoor Recreation Planner
 Owner: Manager: X Patron: NPS:
 Address: BIM, 940 E. Lincoln, Idaho Falls
 State/Zip: ID 83213 Phone: (208) 529-1020

The person listed to the left:

 Accompanied me during the field inspection
 Performed the field inspection
X Provided information by telephone/letter
 Authored the attached article/report
 Other:

3. Other knowledgeable person:

Name:
 Title:
 Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS:
 Address:
 State/Zip: Phone: ()

The person listed to the left:

 Accompanied me during the field inspection
 Performed the field inspection
 Provided information by telephone/letter
 Authored the attached article/report
 Other:

 Field inspection performed on
 (Date)

by foot , auto , or air .

Extent of site inspected was approximately %

or acres.

Additional comments: Snake River Activity Operations Plan has been completed. Management of the North Menan Butte is included in this plan. Consideration of the National Natural Landmark designation is included in management planning.

Some problems still continue with ORV use. ORV use is not allowed in this area, but enforcement is difficult.

Primary use of the area continues to be day use by school groups.

Site Condition	Recommendation (Reporting Official)	Recommendation (NPS Regional Office)
<u>X</u> Satisfactory	<u>X</u> No Action Needed	<u> </u> No action needed
<u> </u> Threat (probability unknown)	<u> </u> Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	<u> </u> Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)
<u> </u> Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	<u> </u> Remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> Remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
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<u> </u> Threat (will occur in 1 yr)	<u> </u> Prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)	<u> </u> Prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)
<u> </u> Damaged (condition improving)		
<u> </u> Damaged (condition stabilized)		
<u> </u> Damaged (condition worsening)		

NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK STATUS REPORT
Part I. Administrative Information

Site: Great Rift System
Part II Attached? no No. of Part II sheets: _____

State(s): ID NLIS Record #: 0340
Date of Report 4/24/91

1. Reporting Official:

Name: Shelley Sparhawk
Title: Resource Management Specialist
Owner: _____ Manager: _____ Patron: _____ NPS: X
Address: Craters of the Moon NM, PO Box 29, Arco
State/Zip: ID 83213 Phone: (208) 527-3257

Information on this report was obtained through:

_____ Field inspection by person # _____
X Telephone contact with person # 2
_____ Written communication from person # _____
_____ Article or report by person # _____
_____ Other: _____

2. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: Dick Kodesky
Title: Outdoor Recreation Planner
Owner: _____ Manager: X Patron: _____ NPS: _____
Address: BIM, 940 E. Lincoln, Idaho Falls
State/Zip: ID 83401 Phone: (208) 529-1020

The person listed to the left:

_____ Accompanied me during the field inspection
_____ Performed the field inspection
X Provided information by telephone/letter
_____ Authored the attached article/report
_____ Other: _____

3. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: _____
Title: _____
Owner: _____ Manager: _____ Patron: _____ NPS: _____
Address: _____
State/Zip: _____ Phone: () _____

The person listed to the left:

_____ Accompanied me during the field inspection
_____ Performed the field inspection
_____ Provided information by telephone/letter
_____ Authored the attached article/report
_____ Other: _____

_____ Field inspection performed on _____ (Date)

by foot _____, auto _____, or air _____
or _____ acres.

Extent of site inspected was approximately _____ %

Additional comments: This NNL is currently very remote with difficult access. There is local interest in improvement of roads to this area. Improved access would increase impacts, however improvements are not likely in the near future.

Site Condition	Recommendation (Reporting Official)	Recommendation (NPS Regional Office)
<u>X</u> Satisfactory	<u>X</u> No Action Needed	_____ No action needed
_____ Threat (probability unknown)	_____ Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	_____ Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)
_____ Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	_____ Remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	_____ Remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
_____ Threat (likely to occur in 1 yr)	_____ List in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	_____ List in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
_____ Threat (will occur in 1 yr)	_____ Prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)	_____ Prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)
_____ Damaged (condition improving)		
_____ Damaged (condition stabilized)		
_____ Damaged (condition worsening)		

NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK STATUS REPORT

Part I. Administrative Information

Site: Great Rift System
 Part II Attached? No No. of Part II sheets:

State(s): Idaho NLS Record #: 0340
 Date of Report: June 4, 1992

1. Reporting Official:
 Name: Stephen T. Gibbons
 Title: Natural Resource Specialist/NNL Coordinator
 Owner: Manager: Patron: NPS: X
 Address: 83 S. King St., Suite 212, Seattle
 State/Zip: WA 98104 Phone: (206) 553-5065

Information on this report was obtained through:
☒ Field inspection by person # 1
☐ Telephone contact with person #
☐ Written communication from person #
☐ Article or report by person #
☐ Other:

2. Other knowledgeable person:
 Name: Dick Kodeski
 Title: Outdoor Recreation Planner - BLM
 Owner: Manager: X Patron: NPS:
 Address: 910 Lincoln Road, Idaho Falls
 State/Zip: ID 83401 Phone: (208) 584-7527

The person listed to the left:
☒ Accompanied me during the field inspection
☐ Performed the field inspection
☐ Provided information by telephone/letter
☐ Authored the attached article/report
☐ Other:

3. Other knowledgeable person:
 Name: Karen Aslett
 Title: Ecologist - BLM
 Owner: Manager: X Patron: NPS:
 Address: 910 Lincoln Road, Idaho Falls
 State/Zip: ID 83401 Phone: (208) 584-7527

The person listed to the left:
☒ Accompanied me during the field inspection
☐ Performed the field inspection
☐ Provided information by telephone/letter
☐ Authored the attached article/report
☐ Other:

☒ Field inspection performed on June 4, 1992
 (Date)
 Extent of site inspected was approximately 10 %

by foot ☒ , auto ☒ , or air
 or acres.

Additional comments: Because of its remote location, visitation with accompanying impacts to the NNL site are minimal. However, the former dirt road from Burley, Idaho northward to Highway 93 is currently being graveled and in a much-improved condition. If improvement continue to this road, access will be improved resulting in an increase in visitation with undoubtedly associated impacts to the Great Rift System. The status of this road should be closely monitored during the next few years.

Site Condition	Recommendation (Reporting Official)	Recommendation (NPS Regional Office)
☒ Satisfactory	☒ No Action Needed	☐ No action needed
☐ Threat (probability unknown)	☐ Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	☒ Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)
☐ Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	☐ Remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	☐ Remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
☐ Threat (likely to occur in 1 yr)	☐ List in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	☐ List in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
☐ Threat (will occur in 1 yr)	☐ Prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)	☐ Prepare Section 9 Report (complete Part II)
☐ Damaged (condition improving)		
☐ Damaged (condition stabilized)		
☐ Damaged (condition worsening)		

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS NEEDED:

☐ NNL Brief needs correction, as per revisions marked on old brief attached.

Ownership

☐ Complete ownership information not known.

☐ Ownership has changed. New information is listed below (attach map if possible).

☐ New plaque desired by landowner(s) listed below.

☐ New certificate desired by landowner(s) listed below.

☐ Registration should be pursued with the landowner(s) listed below.

☒ Landowner(s) listed below desires technical information or other contact from NPS.

BLM requests general NNL file information to update their own files.

NNL Boundary/Status

☐ Boundary unclear. Legal description and accurate map needed.

☐ Due to damage that has occurred, the NNL boundary should be changed as described.

☐ Due to new information about the location of significant resources, the NNL boundary should be changed as described.

☐ Due to a change in the patterns of ownership/management, the NNL boundary should be changed as described.

☐ The boundary should be changed for other reasons described below.

☐ The site should be dedesignated for the reasons described:

Other action needed:

NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARK STATUS REPORT

Part I. Administrative Information

Site: Great Rift System

Part II Attached? NO No. of Part II sheets: _____

State(s): Idaho NLIS Record #: 0340

Date of Report: September 27, 1993

1. Reporting Official:

Name: Stephen T. Gibbons

Title: Natural Resource Specialist/NNL Coordinator

Owner: _____ Manager: _____ Patron: _____ NPS: X

Address: 83 South King Street, Suite 212, Seattle

State/Zip: WA 98104 Phone: (206) 553-5065

Information on this report was obtained through:

- ☐ Field inspection by person # _____
☐ Telephone contact with person # _____
☐ Written communication from person # _____
☐ Article or report by person # _____
☒ Other: Meeting with 2 and 3

2. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: Bill Boggs

Title: Outdoor Recreation Forester - BLM

Owner: _____ Manager: X Patron: _____ NPS: _____

Address: 940 Lincoln Road, Idaho Falls

State/Zip: ID 83401 Phone: (208) 584-7527

The person listed to the left:

- ☐ Accompanied me during the field inspection
☐ Performed the field inspection
☐ Provided information by telephone/letter
☐ Authored the attached article/report
☐ Other: _____

3. Other knowledgeable person:

Name: Deanna Teel

Title: Ecologist - BLM

Owner: _____ Manager: X Patron: _____ NPS: _____

Address: 940 Lincoln Road, Idaho Falls

State/Zip: ID 83401 Phone: (208) 584-7527

The person listed to the left:

- ☐ Accompanied me during the field inspection
☐ Performed the field inspection
☐ Provided information by telephone/letter
☐ Authored the attached article/report
☐ Other: _____

by foot _____, auto _____, or air _____.
or _____ acres.

Field inspection performed on _____ (Date)

Extent of site inspected was approximately _____ %

Additional comments: There has been no change regarding the geological integrity of the Great Rift System National Natural Landmark, since the previous site evaluation of June 4, 1992. The National Natural Landmark Coordinator plans to visit the site every other year unless the site becomes listed on the Section 8 Report.

Site Condition	Recommendation (Reporting Official)	Recommendation (NPS Regional Office)
☒ Satisfactory	☒ No Action Needed	☒ No action needed
☐ Threat (probability unknown)	☐ Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	☐ Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)
☐ Follow-up action needed (complete reverse)	☐ Remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	☐ Remove from Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
☐ Threat (likely to occur in 1 yr)	☐ List in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)	☐ List in Section 8 Report (complete Part II)
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☐ Damaged (condition improving)		
☐ Damaged (condition stabilized)		
☐ Damaged (condition worsening)		

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS NEEDED:

___ NNL Brief needs correction, as per revisions marked on old brief attached.

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- ___ Ownership has changed. New information is listed below (attach map if possible).
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- ___ Registration should be pursued with the landowner(s) listed below.
- ___ Landowner(s) listed below desires technical information or other contact from NPS.

NNL Boundary/Status

- ___ Boundary unclear. Legal description and accurate map needed. _____
- ___ Due to damage that has occurred, the NNL boundary should be changed as described.
- ___ Due to new information about the location of significant resources, the NNL boundary should be changed as described.
- ___ Due to a change in the patterns of ownership/management, the NNL boundary should be changed as described.
- ___ The boundary should be changed for other reasons described below.
- ___ The site should be dedesignated for the reasons described:

Other action needed:

National Natural Landmark Brief
Great Rift System

Location: About 68 km (43 miles) northwest of Pocatello; Power, Blaine, and Minidoka Counties, Idaho

Natural Region: Columbia Plateau

Size: 68,750 hectares (169,880 acres)

Ownership: Federal, administered by the Bureau of Land Management (Idaho Falls District)

Description: The Great Rift system of the eastern Snake River Plain is a dramatic and outstanding example of tensional tectonic forces in the earth's crust. The Great Rift system involves four areas that more or less merge into one another. From north to south these are: (1) Craters of the Moon National Monument, (2) Open-Crack Set, about 21 km (13 miles), (3) the King's Bowl Set, 11 km (6.8 miles) in the vicinity of Crystal Ice Caves, and (4) Wapi Lava Field. The combination of these areas provides a geological historic record of crustal rifting and basaltic volcanism unmatched anywhere in North America and perhaps in the world.

Significance: The Great Rift system is unique in North America and has few counterparts anywhere in the world. It is a tensional fracture in the earth's crust that may extend all the way to the crust-mantle interface. Basaltic magma has risen along the fracture and erupted at cinder cones, spatter cones, and pit craters, and, by quiet effusion, at a number of places along the rift to produce the remarkable young basaltic terrain at Craters of the Moon National Monument, Crystal Ice Caves, and the Wapi Lava Field. Perhaps more remarkable, however, though having less visual impact, is the open rift that extends from Craters of the Moon National Monument to Crystal Ice Caves. This part of the rift system has remained open and tectonically stable since it formed about 2,000 years ago. Nowhere else is the result of a tensional stress system in the earth's crust so dramatically illustrated. The landmark also has biological interest as an example of primary vegetation succession on very young lava flows.

Land use: Parts of the area are used for livestock grazing as well as for limited scientific and recreational visitation.

Special conditions: None

Proposed by: Robert H. Rose, "The Works of Volcanism, Sites Recommended as Potential Natural Landmarks," National Park Service, January 1970; and W. Frank Scott, "Potential Natural Landmarks, Geologic Themes, on the Columbia Plateaus," Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, April 1978

Evaluated by: Donald E. Trimble, U.S. Geological Survey, June 1974; and William Copeland, Oregon Natural Heritage Program; Rexford Daubenmire, retired; W. Frank Scott, Washington State University; Edwin Tisdale, retired; Donald E. Trimble, U.S. Geological Survey, May 1979

Designated: March 1968; boundaries subsequently defined and NNL enlarged in August 1980

Owner agreement: October 1981

Brief revised December 1992