

Archaeological survey of the proposed Mallon 16 State Well number 8 and access road in Section 16, T24S, R26E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM.

USGS 7.5' Series: Black River Village, NM (1979)

Land Status: State of New Mexico Lands

Mallon Oil Company
Carlsbad, NM

Attention:
Mr. Duane Winkler

1. Abstract:

An intensive archaeological survey of Mallon Oil Company's proposed Mallon 16 State Well number 8 (400' x 400'; 3.67 acres) was conducted on 9-26-1997 by David Wilcox (Principal Investigator/Project Director). The access road was not surveyed at this date because it was not staked. The access road (100' x 1320'; 3.03 acres) for this proposed well location was surveyed by David Wilcox and Peter Condon (Staff Archaeologist) on 10-1-1997. Total area surveyed on both dates was 6.70 acres. No cultural resources were encountered on both surveys. Archaeological clearance for the Mallon 16 State Well number 8 and access road is recommended.

2. Legal Description:

USGS 7.5' Series: Black River Village, NM (1979)

Section 16, T24S, R26E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM.

Land Status: State of New Mexico Lands

Well Pad: 660' FNL; 1680' FWL - ne/4, nw/4

Access Road: sw/4, ne/4, nw/4; nw/4, se/4, nw/4; sw/4, se/4, nw/4

3. Project Description:

Well Pad (400' x 400') and access road (100' x 1320'). Total area surveyed was 6.70 acres. East of U.S. Route 62/180, north of State Route 396, and south of Threemile Draw.

Topography: The project lies in an ancient Pecos River gravel bar deposit which has an easterly aspect for the most part. The proposed road parallels and existing two-track which is the service corridor to a high tension wire electric powerline. This powerline crosses the proposed road and the southeastern area of the staked well pad's location. A highly active ephemeral drainage crosses the proposed road's R-O-W. Many small ephemeral drainages bisect the well pad's area. The area had limestone and caliche exposed throughout the project's locale and loamy soils are also seen on the surface's matrix. A subsidence basin lies on the southern side of the proposed pad.

Soils: Reagan-Upton association: Loamy, deep soils and soils that are shallow to caliche; from old alluvium.

Aspect: easterly overall

Elevation: 3422' @ center stake

Vegetation: Littleleaf Horsebrush, acacia, assorted grasses, creosote, chinaberry, prickly pear