

## **ENVIRONMENT**

The proposed Phillips No 234 well location is situated on a mesa top just south of the upper reaches of a west-flowing tributary to the Los Pinos River portion of Navajo Reservoir. The proposed location is covered with a dense forest of pinyon and juniper, with sparse ground cover. Near the drainage just north of the location, the ground slopes gently to the north and northwest. Soils in the area are a reddish-brown loess, with alluvial sediments in the bottom of the main drainage. The mesa top in this area is a narrow finger of Burnt Mesa. Currently, the area is used for livestock grazing and for oil and gas production.

## **PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION**

**Project Name:** Phillips Petroleum's San Juan 32-7 Unit No. 234 well pad and access road

**Legal Description:** T32N, R7W, Section 29, NE1/4, SE1/4, NE1/4. The actual footage of the location is 2162 FNL, 271 FEL; San Juan County, New Mexico, (see Fig. 2, well plat)

**Elevation:** 6683 ft

**Map Reference:** U.S.G.S. Burnt Mesa, New Mexico, 7.5' (1954, photorevised 1971)

**Land Jurisdiction:** New Mexico State Trust

**Project Area:** The well pad will measure about 290 by 210 ft. A 50-ft access will be needed

**Surveyed Area:** A 590- by 510-ft block (6.9 acres) for the well pad, access road, and buffer zone. Total area surveyed: 6.9 acres

**Results:** One archaeological site (LA88633) and one isolated occurrence were recorded (Appendix A, BLM report copy only)

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

One archaeological site and one isolated occurrence was encountered during this survey. The isolate was fully recorded in the field and requires no protection. The site (LA88633) is 57 ft from the proposed location and is recommended as significant and eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Monitoring of construction activities should provide adequate protection for the site, and archaeological clearance is recommended for the Phillips San Juan 32-7 No. 235 well pad.