

Terrain

The local topography is characterized by a gently undulating plain composed of low sand hills.

Floristics

Vegetation in the project area is dominated by Prosopis juliflora. Gutierrezia sarothrae and Chrysothamnus nauseosus are common in occurrence, while Yucca glauca is infrequent. Solanum spp. is also rare in occurrence. The most commonly grasses in the project area are Muhlenbergia richardsonis and Atistida divaricata.

Cultural Resources

The archaeological reconnaissance of the area revealed one isolated manifestation and one isolated artifact. The isolated manifestation is located 2 ft west of the SE corner of the proposed drill pad location. This isolated manifestation consists of a small lithic scatter containing several primary waste flakes. No finished artifacts were noted in association with these flakes. The isolated artifact is a primary waste flake of mottled gray chert which evidences signs of use along one edge. This artifact is located 100 ft south of the NE corner of the drill pad location.

Recommendations

The Agency of Conservation Archaeology recommends clearance for the proposed access road and drill pad location and suggests that construction proceed without modification of existing plans.