

### Terrain

The proposed drill location lies on the Querecho Plains and is located several miles east of the Nimenim Ridge. Locally, the Querecho Plains is undulating and decreases in elevation toward the southwest. Soils consist of sandy loams of the Paleorthid-Haplargid Association and contain caliche gravel and cobble inclusions. Sheet wash is evidenced in this area by the formation of low (.25 to .5 m) coppice hummocks around the more deeply rooted vegetation. Channel runoff occurs along and near cow paths which intersect this location.

### Floristics

The vegetational assemblage includes Yucca glauca, Prosopis juliflora, Artemisia filifolia, Gutierrezia sarothrae, Bouteloua eriopoda, Scleropogon brevifolius, and Aristida longiseta. Grasses are difficult to identify because of grazing activities and are generally confined to swales, whereas shrubs occur primarily on small hummocks. Vegetation is not dense and covers less than 30% of the total area.

### Cultural Resources

No archaeological sites, or isolated manifestations, were recorded during this reconnaissance. Contemporary trash resulting from drilling operations is strewn about the location. This material includes tin cans, jars and bottles, torn sheet metal, steel pipes, a broken ceramic coffee mug, and a spent 20 gauge shotgun cartridge.

### Recommendations

ACA recommends clearance for the proposed location and associated access road and suggests that work-related activities proceed without modification of existing plans.