SWZNEZ, Section 23, T20S, R24E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM NWZNEZ, Section 23, T20S, R24E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM

Map Reference: USGS FOSTE RANCH QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1957. Terrain

CONOCO's proposed location will be situated on a flat, plain-like, feature situated due north of Long Draw. Areal runoff is tributary to this drainage. Local soil individuals are dominated by the silt and clay separate with more argillaceous pedons being subject to puddling and scaling. Limestone inclusions are present on a sporadic bases. Soil individuals are assignable to the Typic Calciorthid subgroup.

Floristics

Chief denizens of local soils are <u>Condalia ericoides</u>, <u>Larrea tridentata</u>, <u>Flourencia cernua</u>. <u>Acacia greggii</u>, and <u>Rhus macrophylla</u>. The Cactaceae is represented by <u>Opuntia imbricata</u>, <u>Opuntia macrocentra</u>, and <u>Echinocereus</u> <u>pectinatus</u>. Associated forbs include, <u>Perezia nana</u>, <u>Zinnia acerosa</u>, <u>Senecio</u> sp., <u>Gutierrezia sarothrae</u>, <u>Gaillardia sp.</u>, <u>Oenothera sp.</u>, <u>Verbena sp.</u>, <u>Circium sp.</u>, <u>Croton sp.</u>, <u>Eriogonum sp.</u>, <u>Salsola kali</u>, and <u>Solanum sp.</u> The Gramineae is represented by <u>Aristida sp.</u>, <u>Hilaria mutica</u>, <u>Muhlenbergia</u> <u>porteri</u>, <u>Scleropogon brevifolius</u>, and <u>Tridens pulchellus</u>.

Cultural Resources

No cultural resources were recorded during the course of this reconnaissance. Lack of potentially knappable lithic material, a usual shortage of potable water, and the general openness of the surrounding country combined to restrict land usage in the past to the ephemeral and transitory. Man's interest in the area centered on hunting pursuits.

Recommendations

NMAS recommends clearance for CONOCO, INCORPORATED's proposed Penny Federal Well No. 2 and its access road and <u>suggests</u> that work-related activities proceed in accordance with company plans. Clearance, of course, is