

typically is characterized by dunes which rest at approximately 2 m. Soil individuals, as a whole, are dominated by the sand separate and are underlain by duripan. Pedons, belonging to the Typic Torripsamment subgroup, are composed of loamy sands and sandy loams generally containing caliche cobbles and gravels.

Floristics

Areal soils support a sparse overstory of *Prosopis julifolia*, *Quercus havardii*, and *Yucca glauca*. *Opuntia* sp., (*Platyopuntia*) tends to be infrequent. Principal members of the understory include: *Zinnia acerosa*, *Gutierrezia sarothrae*, *Croton* sp., *Eriogonum annuum*, *Sartwellia* sp., and several unidentified Compositae. Principal grasses are: *Bouteloua* sp., *Aristida* sp., *Munroa squarrosa*, and *Andropogon* sp.,

Cultural Resources

No archaeological sites or isolated manifestations were recorded during this reconnaissance. Their absence locally is due to the fact that areal soil individuals lack lithic inclusions suitable for flaked-tool manufacture. Prehistorically, the native peoples preferred the environs of San Simon Swale owing to the presence of usually bountiful supplies of quarryable material, springs and seeps, shelter from the prevailing wind, kindling for camp fires, and soils more supportive of a floral assemblage lending itself to gleaning-related activities.

Recommendations

NMAS recommends clearance for the proposed expansion of the caliche pit and suggests that AMOCO PRODUCTION COMPANY's proceed with its existing plans. Clearance, of course, is granted by the Bureau of Land Management.