SE1SW1, Section 23, T23S, R31E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM NE1SW1, Section 23, T23S, R31E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM

Map References: USGS BOOTLEG RIDGE QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1984, USGS LOS MEDANOS QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1985, Prov. Ed.

Level of Previous Impact

The sites of the proposed location and access road have not been impacted by mechanical means.

Environmental Setting

DEVON ENERGY CORPORATION'S proposed location will be situated on a very gently sloping landform which is coextensive with the northern rim area of an extensive doline. Overlain by an aeolian deposit, the surface is marked by a network of low, coppice-type dunes and an interconnected system of interdunal areas. Drainage is by sheetwash. Elevation is 3426 ft. Slope is 0.50°. Aspect is multiple (360°). Soils fall within the Typic Torripsamment subgroup. Drainage is internal.

The scrub formation is composed of mesquite, creosote bush, plains yucca, woolly paper plant, broom snakeweed, leather-leaf croton, bladder pod, plains prickly pear, mesa dropseed, plains brittle grass, bush muhly and poverty threeawn.

Cultural Resources

Prefield: 19 June 1992, section 23 (no archaeological sites), T23S, R31E, Arita K. Slate.

No cultural properties were recorded during this survey. Their absence is due to a dearth of locally available siliceous lithic soruces, the openness of the landform itself and an extreme dearth of local water sources. Land usage, centered on hunting and gathering activities throughout prehistoric- and protohistoric-