

principally on camping. Occupancy was brief and occurred once. No diagnostic artifacts were noted; consequently, authorship and temporality remain unknown. Additionally, retrieval of radiometric dating material is doubtful owing to the highly eroded state of the fire hearths. A fence cuts across the site from north-northwest to south-southeast. The possibility of sub-surface remains is slim at NMAS 5818 because of the severity of sheetwash. NMAS 5818 is previously unrecorded; no collection was made.

This site is of limited scientific value on account of the highly eroded state of the fire hearths and the very limited and narrow range of artifacts associated with it. Regardless, the site is important in terms of its relationship to pre-historic land usage and hence settlement pattern in the Loco Hills District.

Recommendations

NMAS suggests clearance for MERIDIAN OIL COMPANY's proposed Benson "3" Federal Well No. 1 provided NMAS 5818 is avoided (Fig. 1). Its presence should not pose a problem as the site lies to the east of the location (Fig. 2). Men and materiel are to avoid the archaeologically sensitive area altogether during all phases of work. If additional cultural properties are encountered during construction, the BLM and NMAS should be notified immediately. Duned settings are notorious for covering and uncovering cultural properties. Clearance, of course, is granted by the Bureau of Land Management.

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