This location is situated in a district marked by the west- facing slope of a prominent ridge situated due east of the Pecos Valley. Attendant geomorphological features include a series of draws which alternate with truncated bench-like features. Collectively, these features are oriented toward the west to west-northwest. Local soils, while pedologically complex, belong principally to the Typic Gypsiorthid, Calcic Gypsiorthid, Typic Paleorethid, and Typic Torriorthent subgroups. Uniformly, areal soils are fine- grained silty loams and silty clay loams containing gypsum and limestone inclusions. Chert and quartzite nodules were not noted in areal soil individuals.

Floristics

In general, local soils support a sparse overstory of Larrea tridentata, Opuntia leptocaulis, and Yucca sp. Typically, these plants are confined to Calcic Gypsiorthid soils. The attendant understory is largely dominated by Hilaria mutica which is associated with Circium sp., Lepidium sp., Plantago sp., and Gutierrezia sp. Cacti occurring in these soils are limited to occasional Echinocereus pectinaties, Opuntia macrocentra, and Opuntia leptocaulis. Typic Gypsiorthids uniformly support a fair stand of Coldenia canescens, Bouteloua breviseta, Nerisyrenia linearifolia, Gilia sp., and Psilostrophe sp.

Cultural Resources

No cultural resources were recorded during this reconnaissance. Although not encountered during this project, areal cultural remains typically consist of a scatter of lithic detritus associated with stone cairns and less frequently with burned-