

Map Reference: USGS FORTS SW QUADRANGLE, 7.5 Minute Series, 1969.

Terrain

The investigated quarry is situated within an undulating plain which locally is cut by a draw crossing toward the south-east. Areal soils are composed of sandy loams which overlie indurated caliche. Peds are calcareous in character.

Floristics

Areally, the floral community is marked by a sparse over-story of Prosopis juliflora. Attendant members of the under-story include: Zinnia acerosa, Croton sp., Salsola kali, Cirsium sp., Sartwellia sp., and Euphorbia sp. Important grasses include: Aristida sp., Boutelous spp., Eriocholus sp., and Muhlenbergia sp.

Cultural Resources

No archaeological resources were recorded during this reconnaissance. Their absence is due to a lack of cover, a shortage of surface water since Pleistocene times, and an overall dearth of lithic material needed for tool production.

Recommendations

NMAS recommends clearance for the proceed expansion of the caliche pit and suggests that CONOCO proceed with its existing plans. Clearance, of course, is granted by the Bureau of Land Management.