

loams and calcareous in nature. Indurated caliche underlies surficial deposits.

Floristics

A sparse, open overstory of Prosopis juliflora characterizes the immediate area. Associated plants include: Berecic sp., Astragalus sp., Groton sp., Ericogonum annuum, Helianthus sp., Mentzelia sp., Dithyrea sp., Salsola kali, and Euphorbia sp. Grasses include: Bouteloua spp., Aristida sp., Sporobolus sp., and Cenchrus incertus.

Cultural Resources

No archaeological sites or isolated manifestations were recorded during this reconnaissance. Although not encountered, the Eunice Plain, particularly to the south, occasionally yields evidence of early man and Pleistocene-aged megafauna albeit not necessarily in the same context. Resources of this type tend to occur principally in the vicinity of former lake basins near strand lines.

Recommendations

NMAS recommends clearance for the proposed 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.

Quarry, Section 16, T20S, R37E,
Lea County, New Mexico

Location

The existing quarry is situated in the:

NE1/4, Section 16, T20S, R37E, NMPM, Lea County, NM
SE1/4, Section 16, T20S, R37E, NMPM, Lea County, NM