

NMCRIIS INVESTIGATION ABSTRACT FORM (NIAF)

1. NMCRIIS Activity No.: 128612	2a. Lead (Sponsoring) Agency: FAA/NMDOT	2b. Other Permitting Agency(ies):	3. Lead Agency Report No.:
4. Title of Report: Archaeological Survey at Green Mountain, Colfax County, New Mexico. Author(s) Elizabeth A. Oster, Ph.D.			5. Type of Report ☒ Negative ☐ Positive
6. Investigation Type ☐ Research Design ☒ Survey/Inventory ☐ Test Excavation ☐ Excavation ☐ Collections/Non-Field Study ☒ Overview/Lit Review ☐ Monitoring ☐ Ethnographic study ☐ Site specific visit ☐ Other			
7. Description of Undertaking (what does the project entail?): The Town of Taos is proposing to lease a site at Green Mountain in Colfax County, New Mexico, to install aircraft monitoring equipment related to improvement of the Taos Regional Airport. The Green Mountain project site comprises approximately 2 ½ acres located within a 7-acre area already in use as a telecommunications array; several large towers and associated equipment are already installed and functioning and electricity is already supplied to the site. The project site, located within the Colin Neblett Wildlife Management Area (managed by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish), is reachable by means of the preexisting Green Mountain Summit Road, a bladed and maintained road that travels directly up the side of the mountain approximately 5.2 miles to reach the tower site. ANPC will install and maintain a Local Area Multilateration System (LAMS), consisting of four different types of sensor units mounted on short posts or towers. Power to operate the system will be provided by Kit Carson Electrical Coop. The sensor units will be connected to utilities by means of trenches, approximately 1 foot wide and 18 inches deep; the trenches will run directly from the 4 assembly points to each other, and to the utility pole. The equipment runs autonomously and can be monitored remotely. Periodic maintenance will occur once a year in the summer months.		8. Dates of Investigation: (from: 9/1/2013 to: 9/1/2013) 9. Report Date: 9/9/2013	
10. Performing Agency/Consultant: Jemez Mountains Research Center, LLC (JMRC) Principal Investigator: Elizabeth A. Oster Field Supervisor: Michael L. Elliott Field Personnel Names: Elizabeth Oster, Michael Elliott Historian/Other: Michael Elliott		11. Performing Agency/Consultant Report No.: 12. Applicable Cultural Resource Permit No(s): NM-13-194-SMT	
13. Client/Customer (project proponent): Advanced Navigation and Positioning Corporation (ANPC) Contact: Address: 11 3rd Street, Hood River, OR 97031 Phone: (541) 490-0061		14. Client/Customer Project No.: JMRC-2013-3	

15. Land Ownership Status (*Must be indicated on project map*):

Land Owner	Acres Surveyed	Acres in APE
NM Dept. of Game and Fish	2.48	2.48
TOTALS	2.48	2.48

16 Records Search(es):

Date(s) of ARMS File Review 8/28/2013	Name of Reviewer(s) Elliott	
Date(s) of NR/SR File Review 8/29/2013	Name of Reviewer(s) Oster	
Date(s) of Other Agency File Review	Name of Reviewer(s)	Agency

17. Survey Data:**a. Source Graphics**

- ☐ NAD 27 ☒ NAD 83
☒ USGS 7.5' (1:24,000) topo map ☐ Other topo map, Scale:
☒ GPS Unit Accuracy ☐ <1.0m ☒ 1-10m ☐ 10-100m ☐ >100m
☒ Aerial Photos

b. USGS 7.5' Topographic Map Name**USGS Quad Code**

Touch-Me-Not Mountain	36105-E2

c. County(ies): Colfax**17. Survey Data (continued):****d. Nearest City or Town:** Eagle Nest**e. Legal Description:**

Township (N/S)	Range (E/W)	Section	1/4	1/4	1/4
			,	,	*
			,	,	*
			,	,	*
			,	,	*
			,	,	*
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			,	,	*
			,	,	*

Projected legal description? Yes ☐ , No ☐ Unplatted ☒

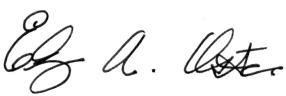
f. Other Description (e.g. well pad footages, mile markers, plats, land grant name, etc.): Project site is located within the Beaubien and Miranda (Maxwell) Land Grant, on the Colin Neblett Wildlife Management Area.

18. Survey Field Methods:

Intensity: ☒ 100% coverage ☐ <100% coverage

Configuration: ☒ block survey units ☐ linear survey units (l x w): ☐ other survey units (specify):

Scope: ☒ non-selective (all sites recorded) ☐ selective/thematic (selected sites recorded)

Coverage Method: ☒ systematic pedestrian coverage ☐ other method (describe) Survey Interval (m): 5 meters Crew Size: 2 Fieldwork Dates: 9/1/2013 Survey Person Hours: 3 Recording Person Hours: Total Hours: 3 Additional Narrative: The entire project area plus a 50-foot buffer was surveyed by a 2-person crew walking 5-meter transects.	
19. Environmental Setting (NRCS soil designation; vegetative community; elevation; etc.): Environmental data provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service characterize the mountaintop and mountain slope ground surfaces in the project setting as comprised of the Angostura-Tolby Association, consisting of colluvium derived from sandstone, and/or colluvium derived from granite and gneiss, and/or residuum weathered from sandstone, and/or residuum weathered from granite and gneiss. Soil development in the project area is poor to non-existent; soils are stony sandy and/or stony clay loam. The project site lies at approximately 11,140 feet above mean sea level (amsl), with annual precipitation of 25-30 inches. Mean annual temperatures range from 40-46 degrees Fahrenheit, and the frost-free period averages from 70-100 days. Overstory vegetation consists of pine (likely Whitebark pine, or <i>Pinus albicaulus</i>), and spruce (likely Englemann spruce, or <i>Picea engelmannii</i>); seasonal grasses and a few late summer wildflowers are present in unbladed areas along the perimeter of the surveyed space, and on the mountain slopes.	
20. a. Percent Ground Visibility: 75-100% b. Condition of Survey Area (grazed, bladed, undisturbed, etc.): The project area is on a mountaintop that appears to have been logged ca. 30 years ago. More recently, it has been bladed and graded to facilitate installation of telecommunications equipment and utilities.	
21. CULTURAL RESOURCE FINDINGS ☐ Yes, See Page 3 ☒ No, Discuss Why: The project site is at a very high altitude, and it has been heavily disturbed by the previous installation of electric utilities and telecommunications equipment.	
22. Required Attachments (check all appropriate boxes): ☒ USGS 7.5 Topographic Map with sites, isolates, and survey area clearly drawn ☒ Copy of NMCRIS Mapserver Map Check ☐ LA Site Forms - new sites (<i>with sketch map & topographic map</i>) ☐ LA Site Forms (update) - previously recorded & un-relocated sites (<i>first 2 pages minimum</i>) ☐ Historic Cultural Property Inventory Forms ☐ List and Description of isolates, if applicable ☐ List and Description of Collections, if applicable	23. Other Attachments: ☐ Photographs and Log ☒ Other Attachments (Describe): Aerial photographs; photographs of surveyed area on Green Mountain.
24. I certify the information provided above is correct and accurate and meets all applicable agency standards. Principal Investigator/Responsible Archaeologist: Elizabeth Oster, Ph.D. 	
Signature _____ Date September 9, 2013 Title (if not PI):	
25. Reviewing Agency: Reviewer's Name/Date Accepted () Rejected () Tribal Consultation (if applicable): ☐ Yes ☐ No	26. SHPO Reviewer's Name/Date: HPD Log #: SHPO File Location: Date sent to ARMS:

CULTURAL RESOURCE FINDINGS

[fill in appropriate section(s)]

1. NMCRIS Activity No.: 128612	2. Lead (Sponsoring) Agency: FAA/NMDOT	3. Lead Agency Report No.:
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SURVEY RESULTS:

Sites discovered and registered: 0

Sites discovered and NOT registered: 0

Previously recorded sites revisited (site update form required): 0

Previously recorded sites not relocated (site update form required): 0

TOTAL SITES VISITED: 0

Total isolates recorded: 0 Non-selective isolate recording? ☒

Total structures recorded (new and previously recorded, including acequias): 0

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY: The Town of Taos is proposing to lease a site at Green Mountain in Colfax County, New Mexico, to install aircraft monitoring equipment related to improvement of the Taos Regional Airport. The aircraft monitoring equipment will enable the Town and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to fulfill a commitment with Taos Pueblo to monitor the number and altitude of aircraft that fly over the Blue Lake Wilderness Area and the Taos Pueblo village. The equipment may also enable rescue crews to locate and respond more quickly to aircraft accidents in the area as there is no radar coverage due to the mountainous terrain. The FAA will be assisting the Town with the acquisition, installation and operation of the equipment with a federal grant under the Airport Improvement Program. The commitment to install an aircraft monitoring system was made per the following agreement document: "Memorandum of Agreement [MOA] Among the Federal Aviation Administration, Taos Pueblo, the Town of Taos, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer[NMSHPO], the New Mexico Department of Transportation, Aviation Division [NMDOT], and the National Park Service Regarding Airport Layout Plan Revision Approval and Federal Funding Considerations at Taos Regional Airport, Taos, New Mexico." The MOA was promulgated during the development of the environmental impact statement for a new crosswind runway at Taos Regional Airport. Stipulation IV of the MOA details the requirements for installation and operation of the passive monitoring equipment; per previous tribal consultation, the Pueblo of Taos has stipulated that there are no traditional cultural properties within or near the project location (additional details regarding tribal consultation, including other tribes contacted during the many years of planning for the Taos Regional Airport expansion, may be obtained from the FAA and/or the NMSHPO). The survey was requested by the FAA and the NMDOT.

The Green Mountain project site comprises approximately 2 ½ acres located within a 7-acre area already in use as a telecommunications array; several large towers and associated equipment are already installed and functioning. The project site is located within the Colin Neblett Wildlife Management Area (managed by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish), and is reachable by means of the preexisting Green Mountain Summit Road (bladed and maintained).

JMRC archaeologists conducted prefield records searches, and located and intensively surveyed the entire project area, plus a 50-foot buffer, on foot. The mountaintop has been previously logged, bladed, and graded to permit installation of a variety of telecommunications towers and poles and associated equipment trailers and boxes. Electricity was already supplied to the project site, and an access road had already been created for previous installations. A slight scattering of modern trash (broken glass, bits of plastic, and aluminum cans, etc.) was observed, but no historic or prehistoric artifacts or features (including isolated occurrences) were observed in or near the surveyed space.

This report is submitted in order to provide the requested cultural resources information for the project location. The data obtained during the survey and from the background files checks attest that the proposed installation will have no effect to historic properties eligible to or listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. With reference to the New Mexico "Cultural Properties Protection Act" (Sections 18-6A-1 through 18-6A-6, NMSA 1978, the proposed project will not have a "use" or adverse effect on any cultural properties listed on (or eligible to) the NRHP or listed on the State Register of Cultural Properties. In addition, in compliance with the New Mexico "Prehistoric and Historic Sites Act" (18-1-1 to 18-8-18 NMSA 1978; also see the implementing regulations codified in 4.10.12 NMAC), no public funds will be expended in a manner that involves use of any lands or any portion of a significant prehistoric or historic site.

IF REPORT IS NEGATIVE YOU ARE DONE AT THIS POINT.
SURVEY LA NUMBER LOG

Sites Discovered:

LA No.	Field/Agency No.	Eligible? (Y/N, applicable criteria)

Previously recorded revisited sites:

LA No.	Field/Agency No.	Eligible? (Y/N, applicable criteria)

MONITORING LA NUMBER LOG *(site form required)*

Sites Discovered *(site form required)* :

Previously recorded sites *(Site update form required):*

LA No.	Field/Agency No.	LA No.	Field/Agency No.

Areas outside known nearby site boundaries monitored? Yes ☐, No ☐ If no explain why:

TESTING & EXCAVATION LA NUMBER LOG *(site form required)*

Tested LA number(s)	Excavated LA number(s)



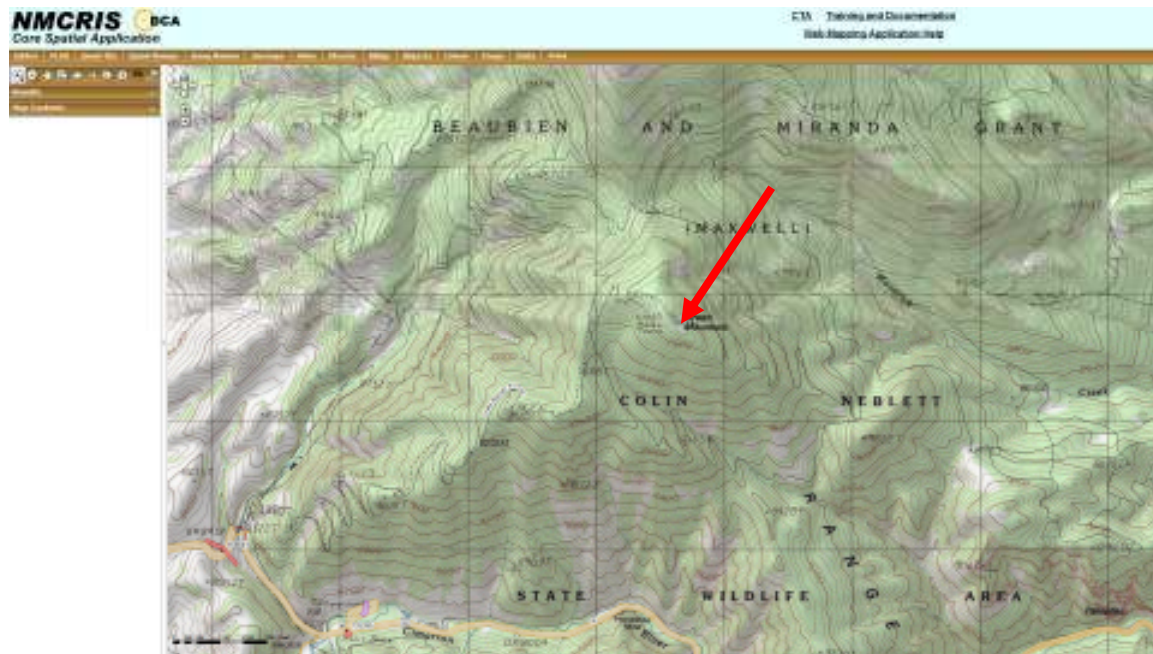


Figure 2. NMCRIS mapserver map check. Red arrow points to project area.



Figure 3. Aerial photograph, depicting the survey polygon and locations of monitoring system sensor poles, and the utility pole.



Photo No. 1. Looking south over surveyed area on Green Mountain, towards the tower array. The access road (Green Mountain Summit Road) is visible in the lower right of the photograph.

Photo No. 2. Looking north over the surveyed area on Green Mountain. Existing utility poles and equipment associated with standing telecommunications towers are visible in the photo.

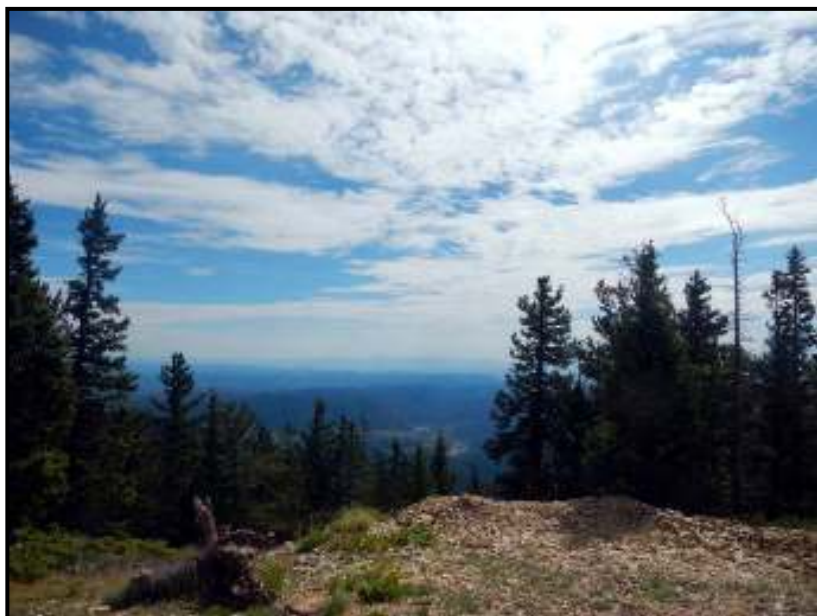


Photo No. 3. Looking east, towards Ute Park and Cimarron, from the east side of the surveyed area (and Green Mountain).



Photo No. 4. Looking upslope, southwest to northeast, from the western edge of the surveyed area on Green Mountain, towards the tower array.

Photo No. 5. Looking down the west slope of the surveyed area on Green Mountain, towards Eagle Nest. Stumps left behind after the area was logged some decades ago are visible in the lower right and center of the photograph.



Photo No. 6. Detail of disturbed (bladed) grounds surfaces of the surveyed area on Green Mountain.