
GONZALES MESA WILDLIFE AREA

Site Description:

There are a total of 7,499 acres within the boundary of Gonzales Mesa Wildlife Area, of which 6,076 acres are public land acres (BLM) and 6,103 acres are federal mineral acres.

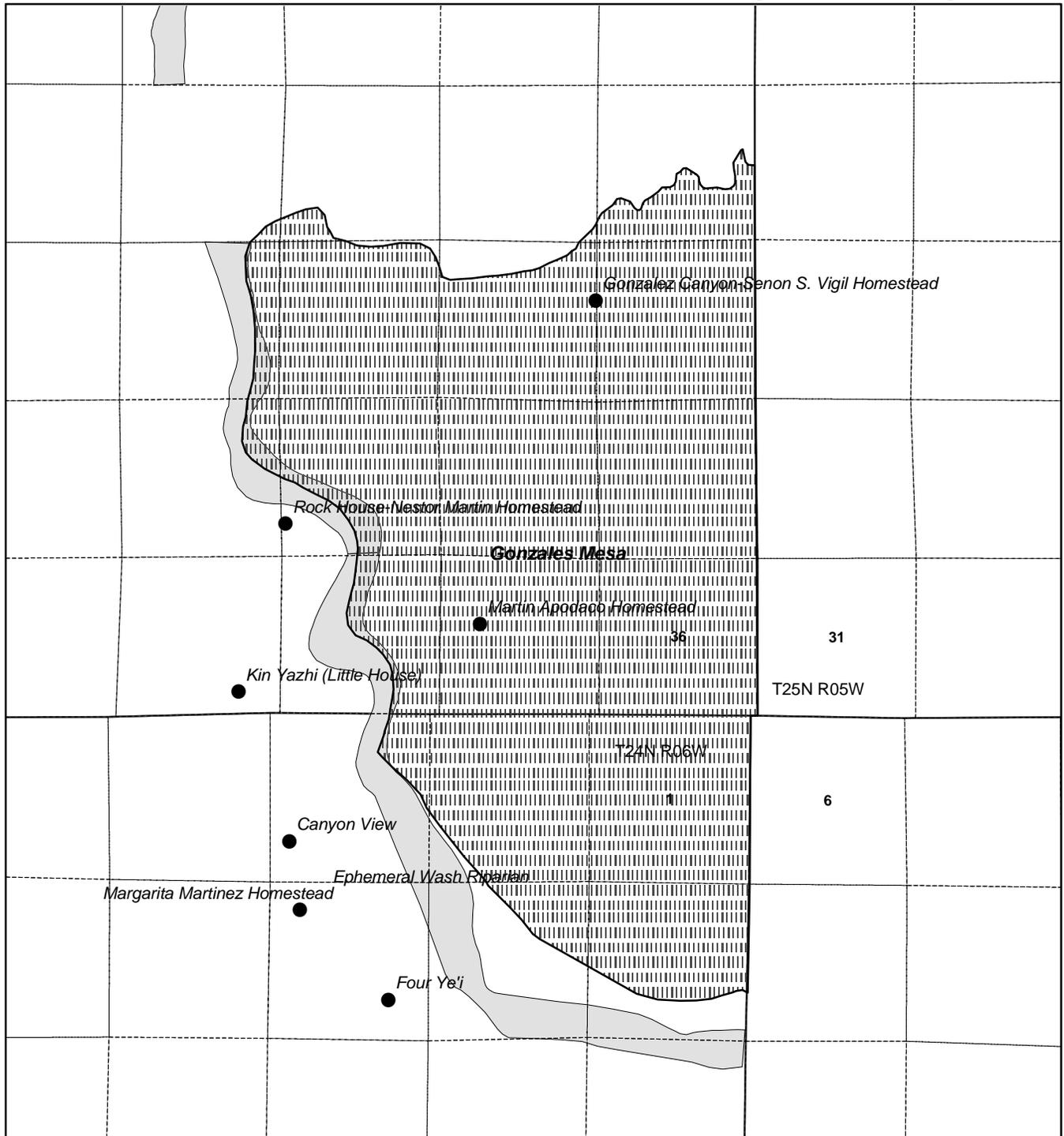
Helicopter surveys in recent years have revealed increasing numbers of deer using this area during the winter. This observation is consistent with the emphasis that the Jicarilla Apache Tribe has placed on increasing their resident deer numbers. Most likely, the deer observed using the BLM land are migrants from the Apache Reservation.

Management Goal:

Manage to preserve and protect big game species, especially in wintertime.

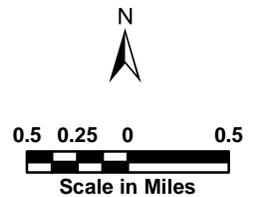
Management Prescriptions:

1. For new and current oil and gas leases, seasonal timing limitation on drilling and construction from 12/1 through 3/31.
2. Manage new oil and gas leases under Controlled Surface Use constraint.
3. Controlled Surface Use of leasable and salable minerals.
4. Open for locatable minerals.
5. Acquire inholdings within the SDA.
6. Retain all public lands.
7. Allow ROWs on a case-by-case basis with special management constraints and mitigation.
8. OHVs limited to maintained roads, designated routes and trails.
9. Implement Class III and IV VRM Designation.
10. Close to fuelwood cutting/gathering.
11. Manage vegetation such as big sagebrush and antelope bitterbrush to meet the needs of wintering deer. Apply limited fire suppression.
12. Continue permitted livestock grazing.
13. Implement wildlife habitat improvement projects.



Legend

-  Township and Range
-  Section Line
-  Cultural SDA
-  SDA
-  Wildlife



Map C-48: Gonzales Mesa Wildlife Area

LAGUNA SECA MESA WILDLIFE AREA

Site Description:

There are a total of 9,211 acres within the boundary of Laguna Seca Mesa Wildlife Area, of which 7,460 acres are public land acres (BLM) and 8,124 acres are federal mineral acres.

This area contains deer, elk, Merriam's turkey, black bear, mountain lion, Abert's squirrel, and a wide variety of songbirds and raptors. This wildlife area also contains the proposed Mexican Spotted Owl ACEC. Additional protection/habitat improvement stated under the Mexican Spotted Owl ACEC description will benefit these species.

Management Goal:

Manage the Laguna Seca Mesa Wildlife Area to preserve and protect local wildlife and their habitat.

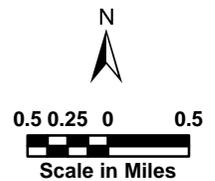
Management Prescriptions:

1. For new and current oil and gas leases, seasonal timing limitation on drilling and construction from 12/1 through 6/15.
2. Manage new oil and gas leases under Controlled Surface Use constraint.
3. Controlled Surface Use management constraint on leasable and salable minerals.
4. Open for locatable minerals.
5. Acquire inholdings within the SDA.
6. Retain all public lands.
7. Allow ROWs on a case-by-case basis with special management constraints and mitigation.
8. Implement Class IV VRM designation.
9. Allow cutting/collection of firewood with a valid permit.
10. This is important habitat for wild turkey, deer, elk, bear, and Abert's squirrels. A diverse compliment of vegetation should be maintained to provide for the yearlong needs of these animals. Mature Gambel's oak should be maintained for its mast production while key browse such as bitterbrush and mountain mahogany should be maintained for deer/elk winter use. Sufficient herbaceous production should also be provided for spring/summer use by deer and turkeys and yearlong elk use. Mature ponderosa pine should be maintained for turkey roosting and nesting by Abert's squirrels. That portion of the SDA designated as critical habitat for the Mexican spotted owl will be managed in accordance with protocol contained in the recovery plan. Apply limited fire suppression.
11. Open to livestock grazing.
12. Implement wildlife habitat improvement projects.



Legend

- Major Road
- Township and Range
- Section Line
- Carson NF
- Cultural SDA
- SDA
- Wildlife



Map C-49: Laguna Seca Mesa Wildlife Area