

Lands with Wilderness Characteristics

NM-060-801

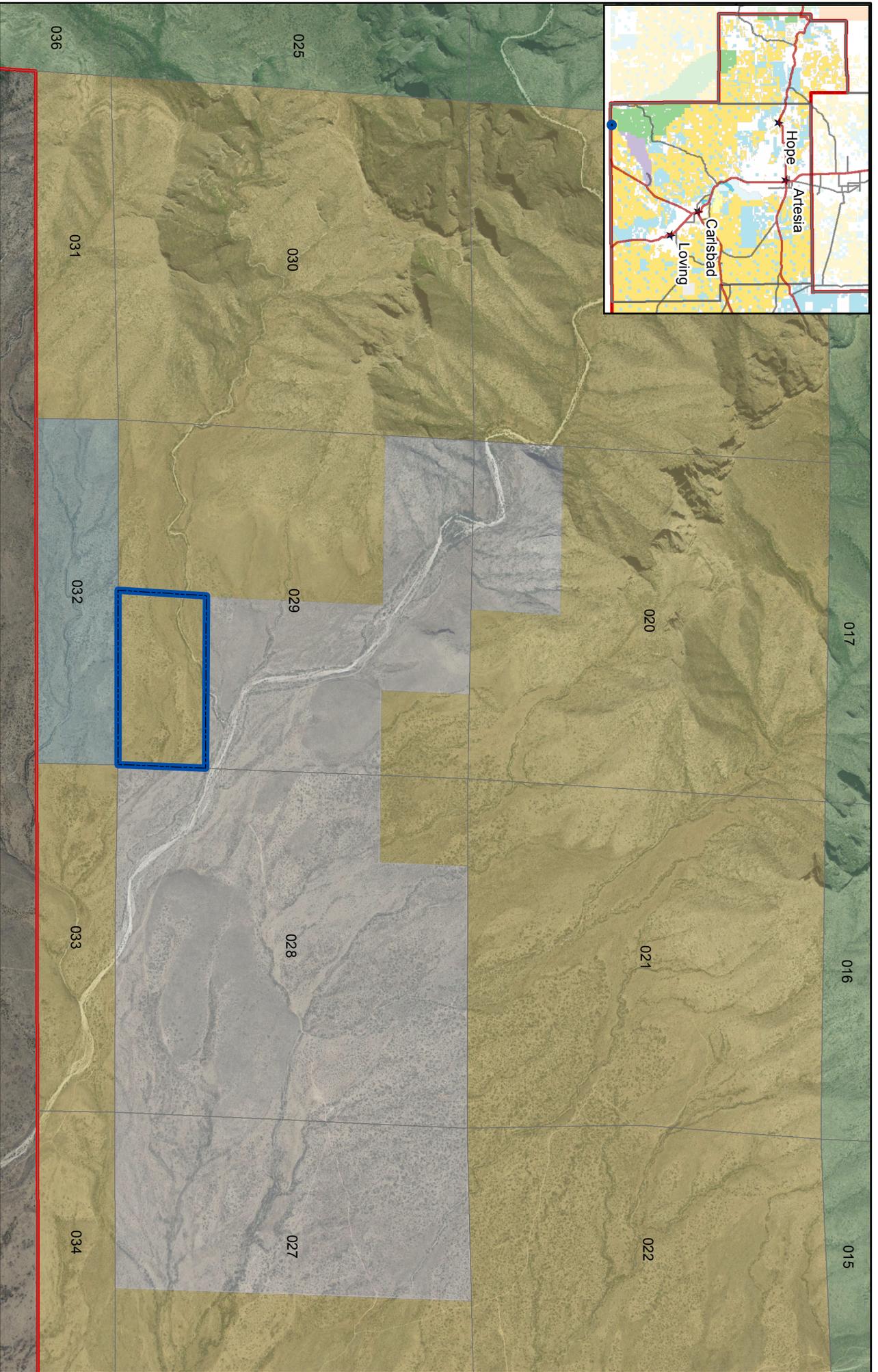
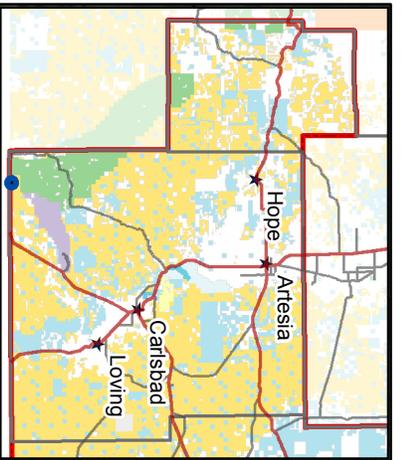
The unit is only 80 acres but is contiguous with the Lonesome Ridge Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The unit is isolated and small but there is no evidence of any roads or other encumbrances that would detach it from the Lonesome Ridge WSA. It was determined that its lack of inclusion in the 1979 inventory was a mapping error. The area is bound by property boundaries and the Lonesome Ridge WSA boundary.

The unit is bounded on the north and east sides by private lands and on the south by state land. The west side is contiguous with the other public lands managed as the Lonesome Ridge WSA. The unit lies only a quarter mile north of the Texas state line 2 miles south of the Lincoln National Forest. The topography of the area consists of flat to slightly rocky and loamy hills dissected by many heavily vegetated arroyos and drainages. Vegetation and landscape is indicative of the Chihuahuan Desert, containing a variety of succulents, large shrubs, and trees such as lechuguilla, Texas madrone, juniper trees, cacti and yucca. There is no evident human use as the unit is very natural. The adjoining WSA contains incredibly dramatic, deep, rugged canyons that offer outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation. There are no human improvements within the unit and no travel routes.

The unit is highly detached from any developed areas. The remoteness alone provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The deep washes within the unit provide the opportunity for complete solitude. The large rugged canyons in the adjacent LWC are so remote and receive relatively little visitation that they provide extreme solitude even though they are significantly large open spaces.

There are no constructed trails, campsites, or other facilities within the unit. Any recreational activities by default would be primitive. There are no private lands within the unit. The unit adjoins an existing Wilderness Study Area and visitors can move freely in between these areas. The unit is very popular with mule deer, javalina, elk and Barbary sheep hunters. Therefore, there are outstanding opportunities to see and hunt an abundance of wildlife that you would not see elsewhere. The Capitan Reef is on display north of the unit and adjoining WSA provides fantastic and unique views for hikers and backpackers due to its unique geological origin.

The unit and the adjoining WSA contain a large segment of the Guadalupe Mountains and the Capitan Reef. The Capitan Reef is cited as being the best example of an exposed Permian aged reef in the world.



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-  Lands with Wilderness Characteristics
 -  NM Townships
 -  NM Sections
- Administered Lands**
-  Bureau of Land Management
 -  Forest Service
 -  Private
 -  State