

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory

North Chapel Canyon

Ross Butte - South Desert – Jonah Landscape

Area Identifier: WYD01-6300-205

Completed by Pinedale Field Office



September 13, 2013

Area Number WYD01-6300-205
Descriptive Name North Chapel Canyon

FORM 1

Documentation to BLM Wilderness Inventory Findings on Record

1. Is there existing BLM wilderness inventory information on all or part of this area?

No (if No, go to Form 2) Yes if yes and if more than one area is within the area, list the names of those areas):

a) Inventory Source: _____

b) Inventory Area Name(s)/Number(s): _____

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): _____

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): _____

2. BLM Inventory Finds on Record:

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory area is associated with the area, list each area and answer each question individually for each inventory area):

Inventory Source: _____

Area Number/ Descriptive Name	Sufficient Size? Yes/No (acres)	Naturalness? Yes/No	Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No	Supplemental Values? Yes/No

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FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Number: WYD01-6300-205 Acreage: 10,730

Descriptive Name: North Chapel Canyon

(1) Is the area of sufficient size?

Yes No

Describe the boundaries of the area (roads, property lines, etc.). If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check "Yes" and describe the exception. If more than one inventory area is involved, list the acres in each and evaluate each are/sub-area separately. In completing steps (1) – (5), use additional space as necessary.

The northern boundary is BLM Road 5401 and Wyoming State Land. The eastern boundary is Wyoming State Land and BLM Road 5402. The southern boundary is the Pinedale and Rock Springs Field Office boundary, and a constructed oil and gas road.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS: (Include acreage, land ownership, location, topography, vegetation and summary of the major human uses/activities).

The unit consists of 10,739 acres of BLM land. The unit is located in Sublette County, Wyoming, east of the Green River between Reardon Draw and Chapel Canyon (T. 28 N., R. 111 and 110 W.).

The topography consists of buttes, rock outcrops, badlands, plateaus and canyons. Ecologically the area is in arid high-desert steppe that receives on average 7-9 inches of precipitation annually.

The vegetation is dominated by shrubs such as Sagebrush, Rabbitbrush, Spiny horsebrush and Greasewood. Winterfat, Saltbush, Phlox and Mock goldenweed are the dominant forbs while Limber pine occurs on ridges. Indian ricegrass, Bottlebrush squirreltail, Thickspike fescue, Sandburg's bluegrass and rhizomatous wheat grass are the primary grasses.

The primary human uses of the area are livestock grazing and recreation. Ranchers access the area to manage livestock and maintain rangeland improvements. Seasonally occurring recreational activities are hunting, antler gathering, rock-hounding, sightseeing, and photography. The area is most easily accessible in the late spring, summer and fall. Travel can be difficult during period's spring snowmelt or rainfall. Recreational OHV use is not apparent. Visitation is low and occurs primarily during the big game hunting seasons and summer grazing season.

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(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes X No _____

Description:

The area appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature and work of humans is substantially unnoticeable. The view shed is generally pristine with few human created features. There are about 8 known range improvements and two reclaimed, plugged and abandoned gas well pads and roads. Two functional water wells, with troughs and or stock ponds provide livestock with water in the eastern segment of the unit. A water well is located about two miles within the eastern side of the unit boundary is regularly visited during the grazing season. This well site is visible on the horizon within the flat landscape of a portion the unit. The other operable water well is located on the SE unit boundary road. A few stock ponds, an allotment fence, abandoned water wells and troughs comprise the remainder of the visible rangeland improvements. Some stock ponds are non-functional and blend with the landscape. One allotment boundary fence, aligned north to south traverses the center of the unit is visible when in the immediate area of the fence. A few lightly used two-track routes access portions of the unit. One well-traveled route accesses the one interior water well described above. In general, the routes are lightly traveled and not particularly noticeable to persons unfamiliar with the landscape. These features are substantially unnoticeable due to topographical screening and a low density of manmade features.

Visitors view a landscape of canyons with contrasting vegetation and soils. A generally flat, sagebrush dominated plateau is typical of the landscape within a portion of the units eastern side. The unit appears to be infrequently visited (see J.WC unit 205 photos).

(3) Does the area or the remainder of the area (if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes X No _____

Description:

This unit offers a visitor the opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds and evidence of other people. The unit is of sufficient size and topographical variation to offer opportunities for outstanding solitude.

(4) Does the area or the remainder of the area (if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes X No _____

Description:

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The unit provides opportunities for visitors to experience activities that offer dispersed, undeveloped recreation which do not require facilities, motor vehicles, motorized equipment, or mechanized transport. The predominate area activities are rock hounding, hunting, trapping, horseback riding, photography and wildlife watching.

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)?

Yes X No _____

Description:

The majority of the unit is crucial mule deer and antelope winter range. The area supports a high density of nesting raptors and provides habitat for wintering sage grouse.

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Summary of Analysis

Area Number: WYD01-6300-205

Descriptive Name: North Chapel Canyon

Summary

Results of analysis:

- 1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? Yes No
- 2. Does the area appear to be natural? Yes No
- 3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities of solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes No
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values? Yes No

Check one:

- The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as Land with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC).
- The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

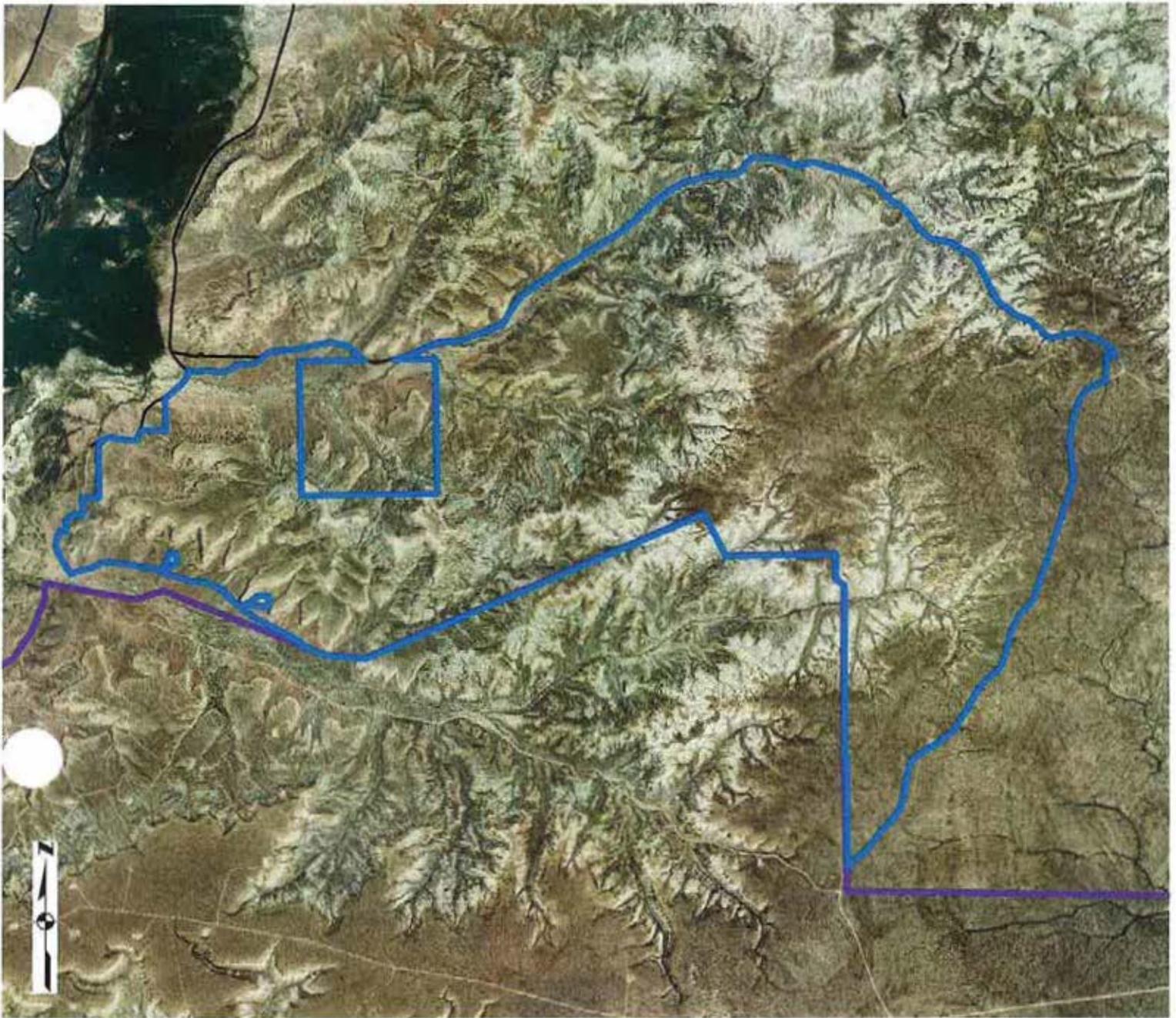
Prepared by:

Team members:

Name	Title
Kyle Hansen <i>[Signature]</i>	AFM Resources
Martin Hudson <i>Martin T. Hudson 9/13/13</i>	Recreation Planner
Jed Gregory	NRS (Resource Data Manager)
RC Lopez	Rangeland Management Specialist
Dale Woolwine	Wildlife Biologist
Sam Drucker	Cultural Resource Specialist

Reviewed by: *[Signature]* Date: 9/27/13
Print Name: Shane DeForest
Title: Pinedale Field Manager

This form documents information that constitutes and inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not



ID - WYD01-6300-205
10730 Acres

Aerial Imagery taken July 2009

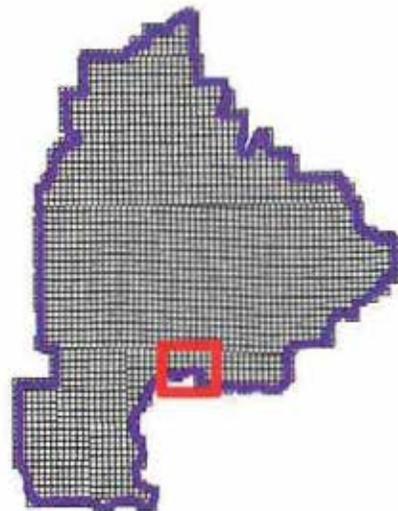
1:69,032



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, completeness, or reliability of the information presented.

end

-  Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Review
-  Improved Roads
-  Plutonic Field Office



Area Number WYD01-6300-205
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represent a formal land use allocation.

APPENDIX 1

PHOTO LOG

Photographer(s): Martin Hudson

Inventory Area Unique Identifier: WYD01-6300-205

Date	Frame #	Camera Direction	Description All Views Look Into LWC Unit	Long.	Lat.	Photo Point #
06/13/2013		SE	View from BLM Road 5401 of N. Chapel Canyon with ridges and colorful buttes	110 04 13.302	042 24 48.564	1
same		E	View of a reclaimed gas well road.	110 04 30.138	042 24 36.996	2
same		NE	View from SW boundary into unit.	110 05 14.274	042 23 30.03	3
same		NE	View from south boundary of lightly used route	110 03 57.852	042 23 24.33	4
same		SE	View from south boundary of reclaimed gas well road.	110 03 46.902	042 23 17.142	5
same		NE	View from south boundary (active oil and gas pad).	110 03 37.206	042 23 20.982	6
same		SE	View within unit (north side), typical of major interior drainages.	110 02 01.386	042 24 44.31	7
same		E	In unit, view of non-functional stock pond.	110 01 25.878	042 24 20.268	8
same		NE	In unit view of defunct stock well, tank and fence.	110 01 16.02	042 24 36.102	9
same		SE	View from BLM Road 5401 on north boundary. Lightly used route may go through to the north south allotment boundary fence.	110 00 49.20	042 25 31.164	10

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same		N	View from BLM Road 5401. Distant functional stock pond blends in with vegetation and soil.	109 57 13.176	042 25 13.152	11
same		W	View from road junction with BLM Roads 5401 and 5402. In contrast to most of the unit, a flat, sagebrush covered bench comprises a portion of the unit's east side.	109 56 06.876	042 24 44.346	12
same		WSW	View of well used route accessing the South Desert Well AKA Big Fan Well.	109 56 29.094	042 24 34.26	13
same		NW	View of South Desert Well and pond.	109 57 49.938	042 24 22.218	14
same		ENE	View from South Desert Well of sagebrush flat and largely unnoticeable well used route.	109 57 49.734	042 24 22.218	15
same		WSW	View from RSFO/PFO boundary fence.	110 00 04 806	042 23 45.30	16
same		N	North view from FO boundary fence.	110 00 04.776	042 23 45.60	17
same		WSW	View of upper basin of Riordan Draw drainage. The access route is likely an old seldom used seismic survey line.	109 59 10.248	042 24 38.406	18
same		ESE	View from old seismic line at allotment fence.	109 59 10.104	042 24 38.352	19
same		E	View into Upper Chapel Canyon. Route appears faint and seldom used.	109 58 28.416	042 23 55.842	20
same		SSE	View from faint seismic route towards FO boundary fence	109 58 28.83	042 23 56.034	21

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205pp1



205pp2

Area Number WYD01-6300-205
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205pp3



205pp4

Area Number WYD01-6300-205
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205pp5



205pp6

Area Number WYD01-6300-205
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205pp7



205pp8

Area Number WYD01-6300-205
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205pp9



205pp10

Area Number WYD01-6300-205
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205pp11



205pp12

Area Number WYD01-6300-205
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205pp13



205pp14

Area Number WYD01-6300-205
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205pp15



205pp16

Area Number WYD01-6300-205
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205pp17



205pp18

Area Number WYD01-6300-205
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205pp19



205pp20

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205pp21

PHOTO #1 NW BOUNDARY SE VIEW
LWC 205 N. CHAPEL CANYON



2013/06/13

N:110° 04' 00"
N:042° 26' 56"

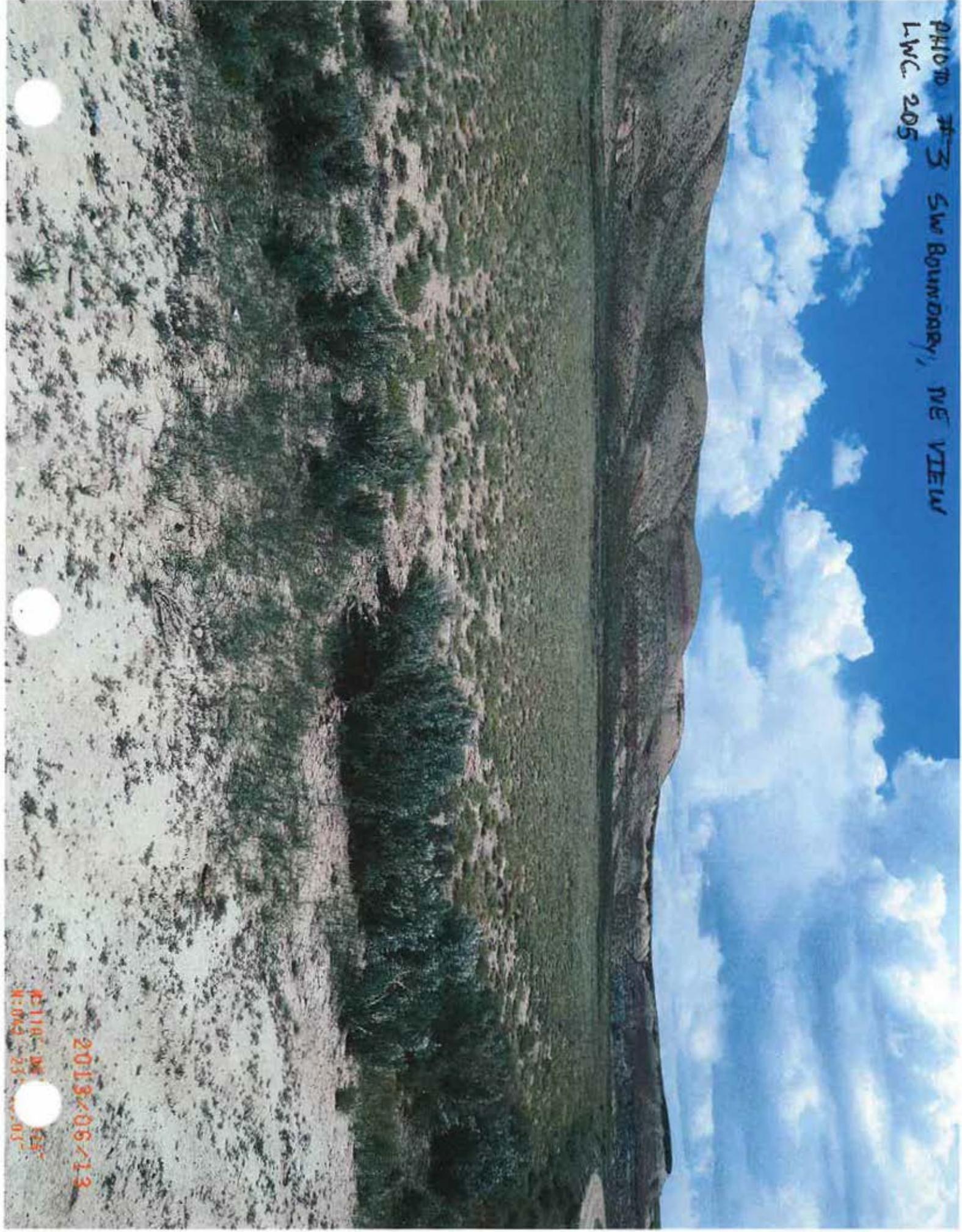
PHOTO #2 RECLAIMED ROAD TOO PLUGGED AND ABANDONED GAS WELL NE VIEW
LW6205

← RECLAIMED ROAD

2013/06/13

W: 110° 04' 38"
N: 062° 24' 996"

PHOTO # 3 SW BOUNDARY, NE VIEW
LWC 205

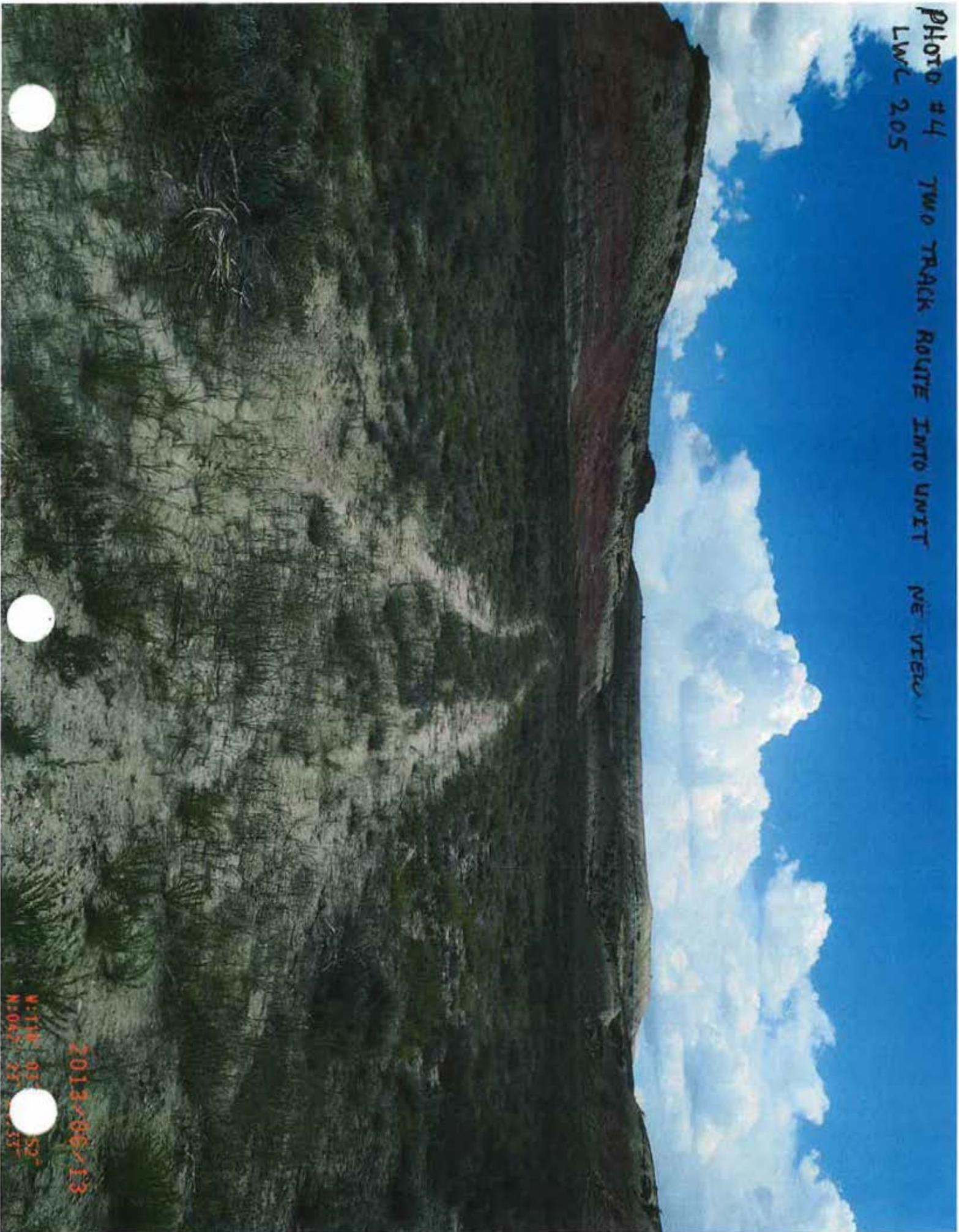


2013/06/13

E: 119.06
N: 063.23

PHOTO #4 TWO TRACK ROUTE INTO UNIT NE VIEW

LWL 2.05



2013-06-13

W:116 03 52
N:047 21 53

PHOTO # 5 SOUTH BOUNDARY RECLAIMED ROAD, SE VIEW
LWC 205

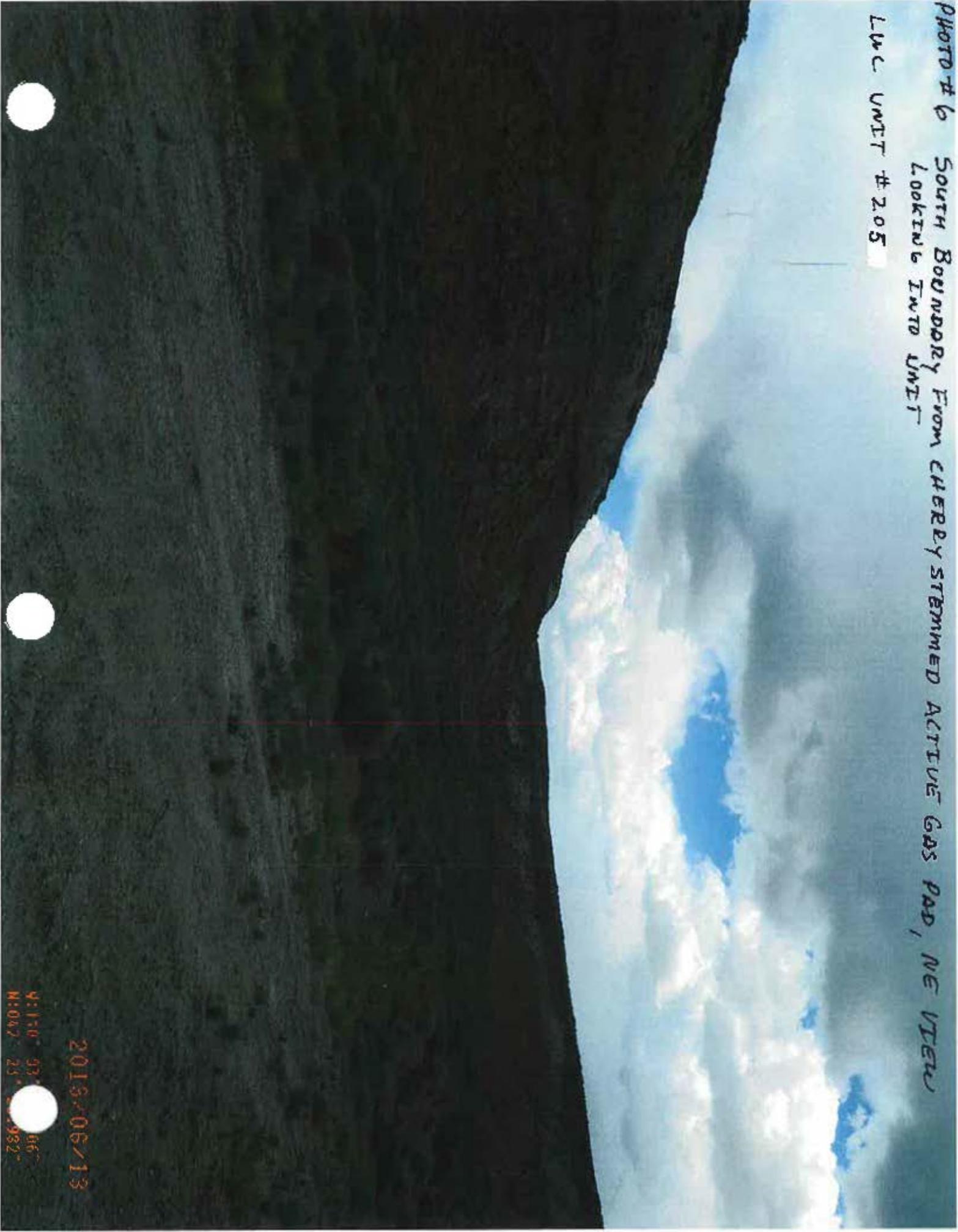
RECLAIMED ROAD

W:110 01' 02"
N:062 23' 42"

2013/06/13

PHOTO # 6 SOUTH BOUNDARY FROM CHERLY STEMMED ACTIVE GAS PAD, NE VIEW
LOOKING INTO UNIT

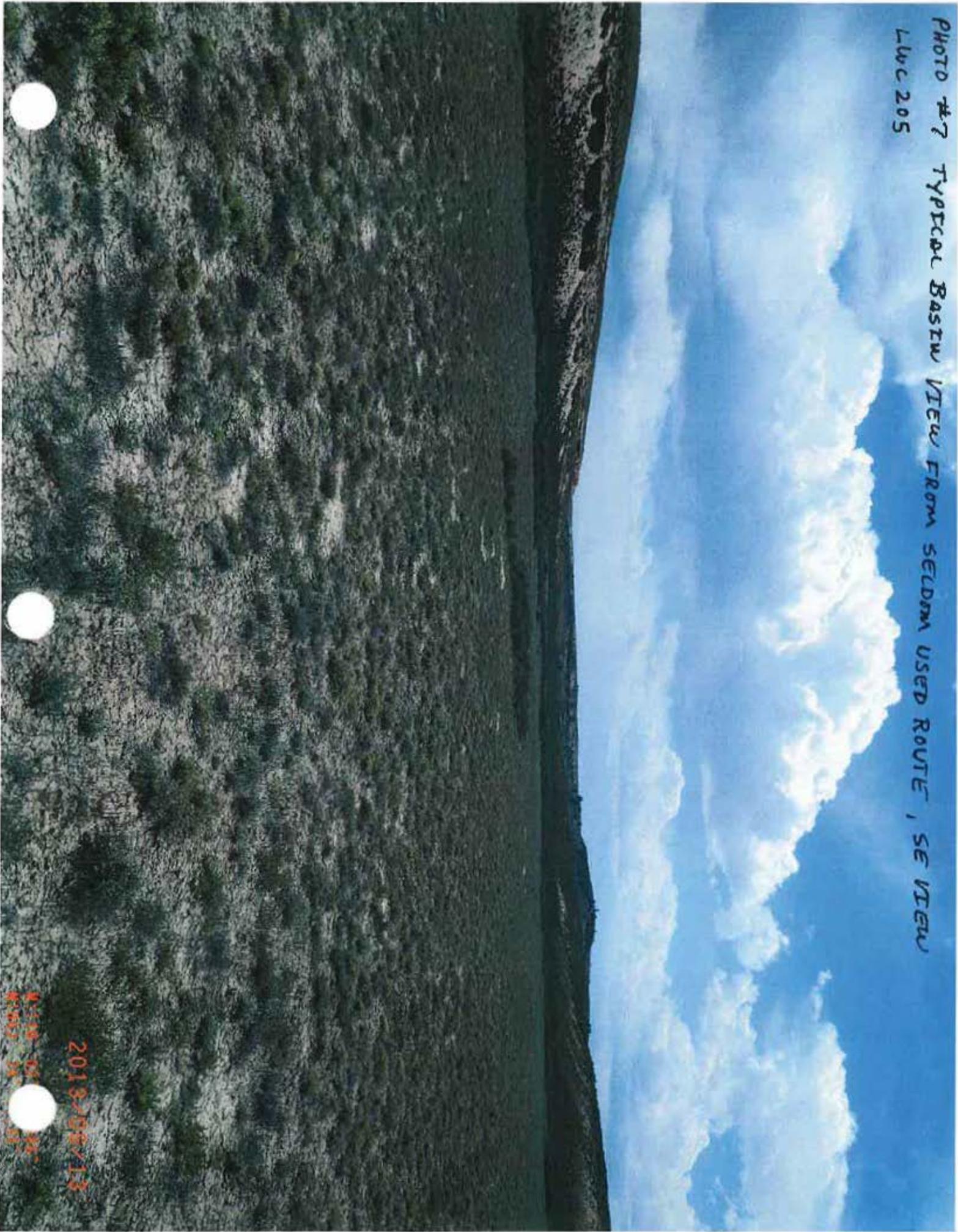
LWC UNIT # 205



2013-06-13

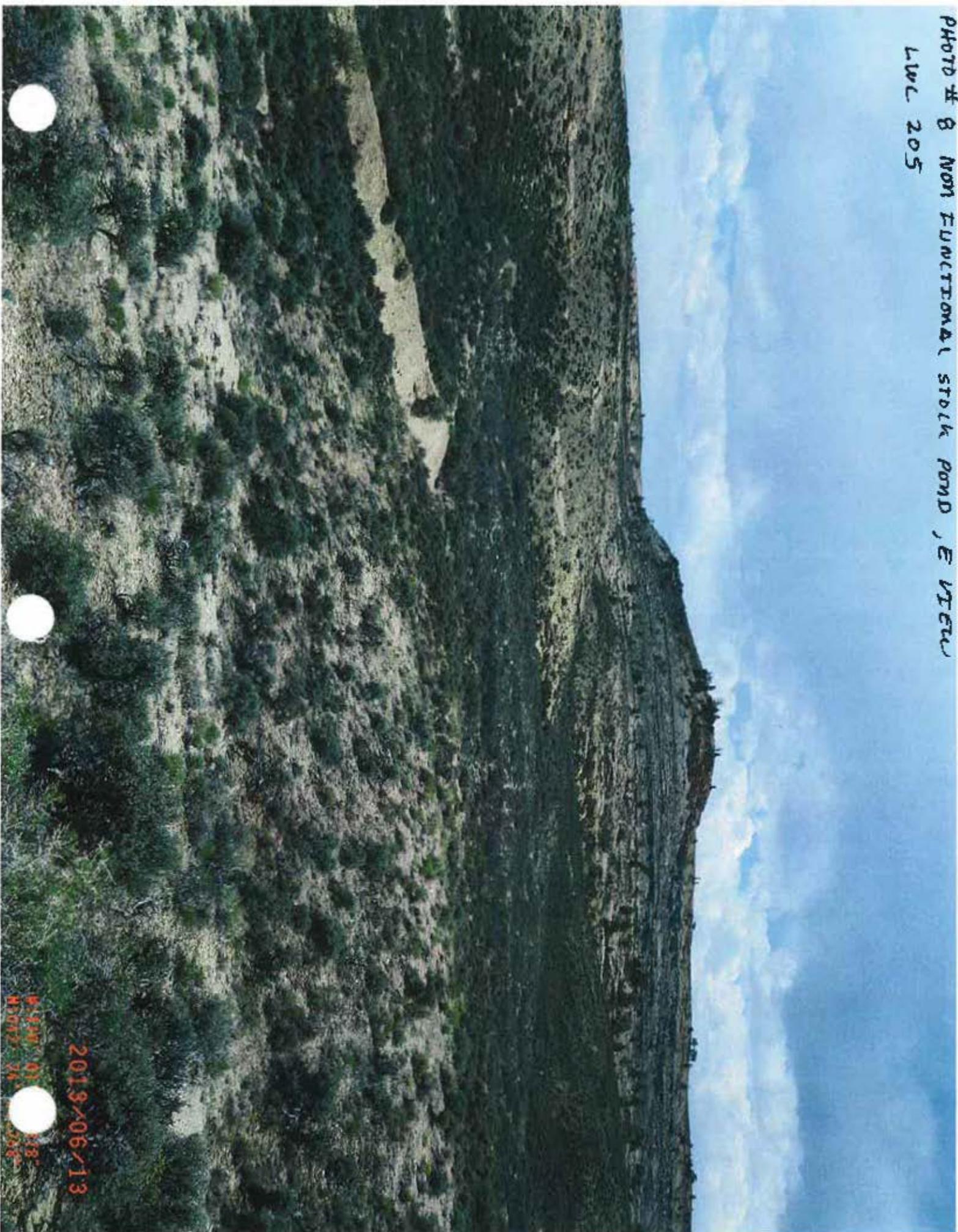
M:00 23 982

PHOTO #7 TYPICAL BASIN VIEW FROM SELDOR USED ROUTE, SE VIEW
LWC 205



2013-08-13
11:30 AM
LWC 205

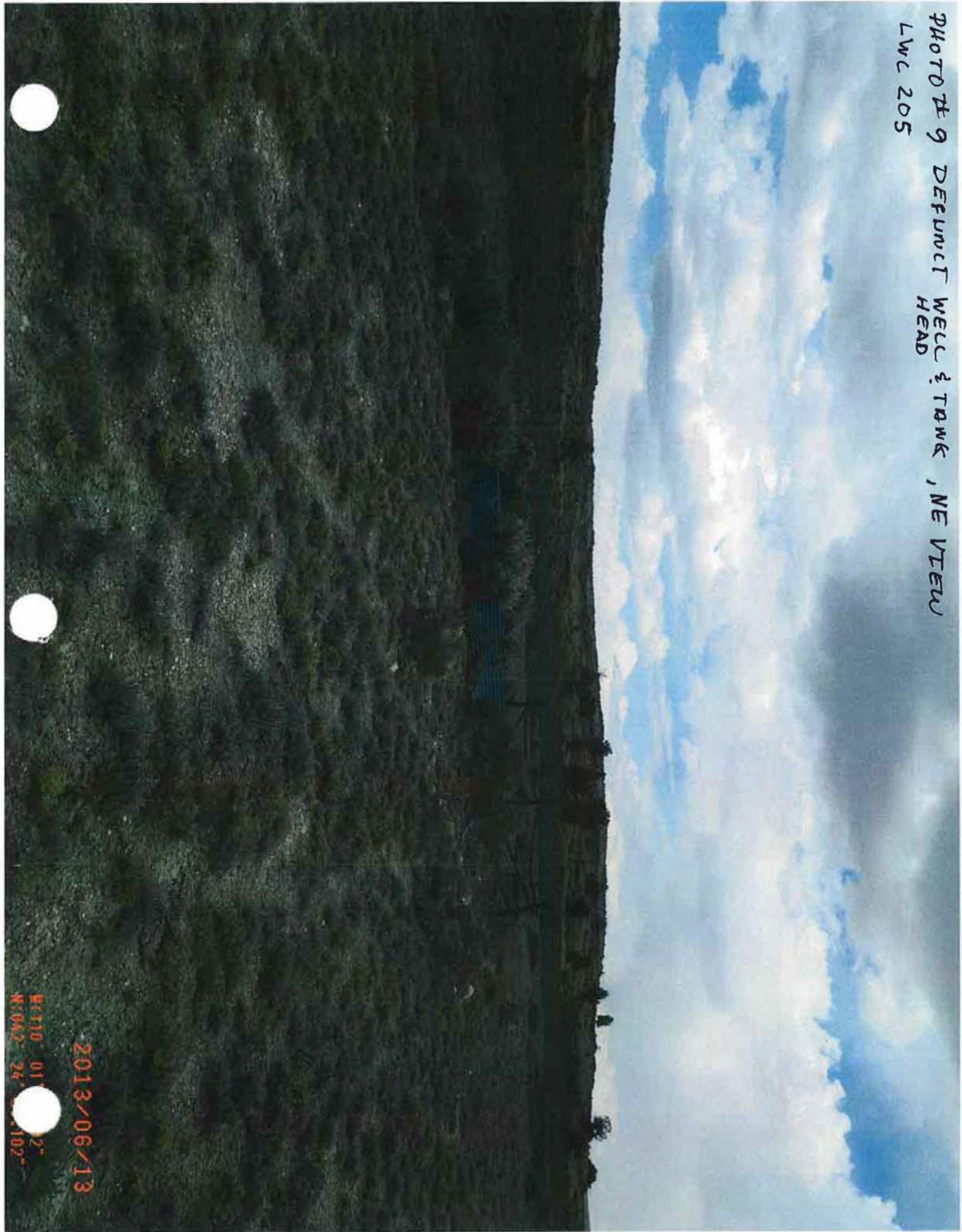
PHOTO # 8 NON FUNCTIONAL STOLK POND, E VIEW
LWL 205



2013/06/13

11:44 AM
M002 24 008

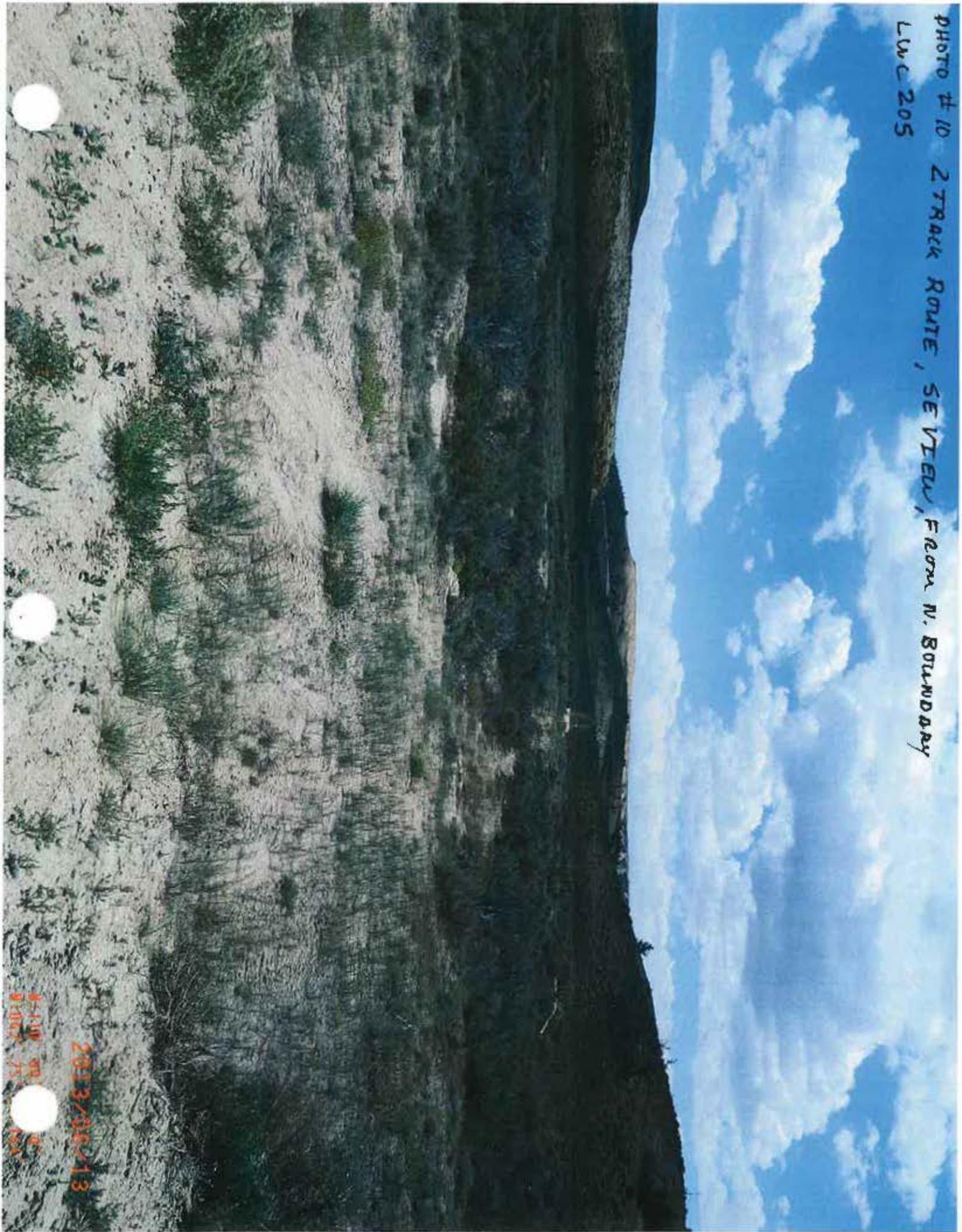
PHOTO # 9 DEFUNCT WELLS & TANK , NE VIEW
LWC 205



2013/06/13

E: 110° 01' 22"
N: 042° 24' 102"

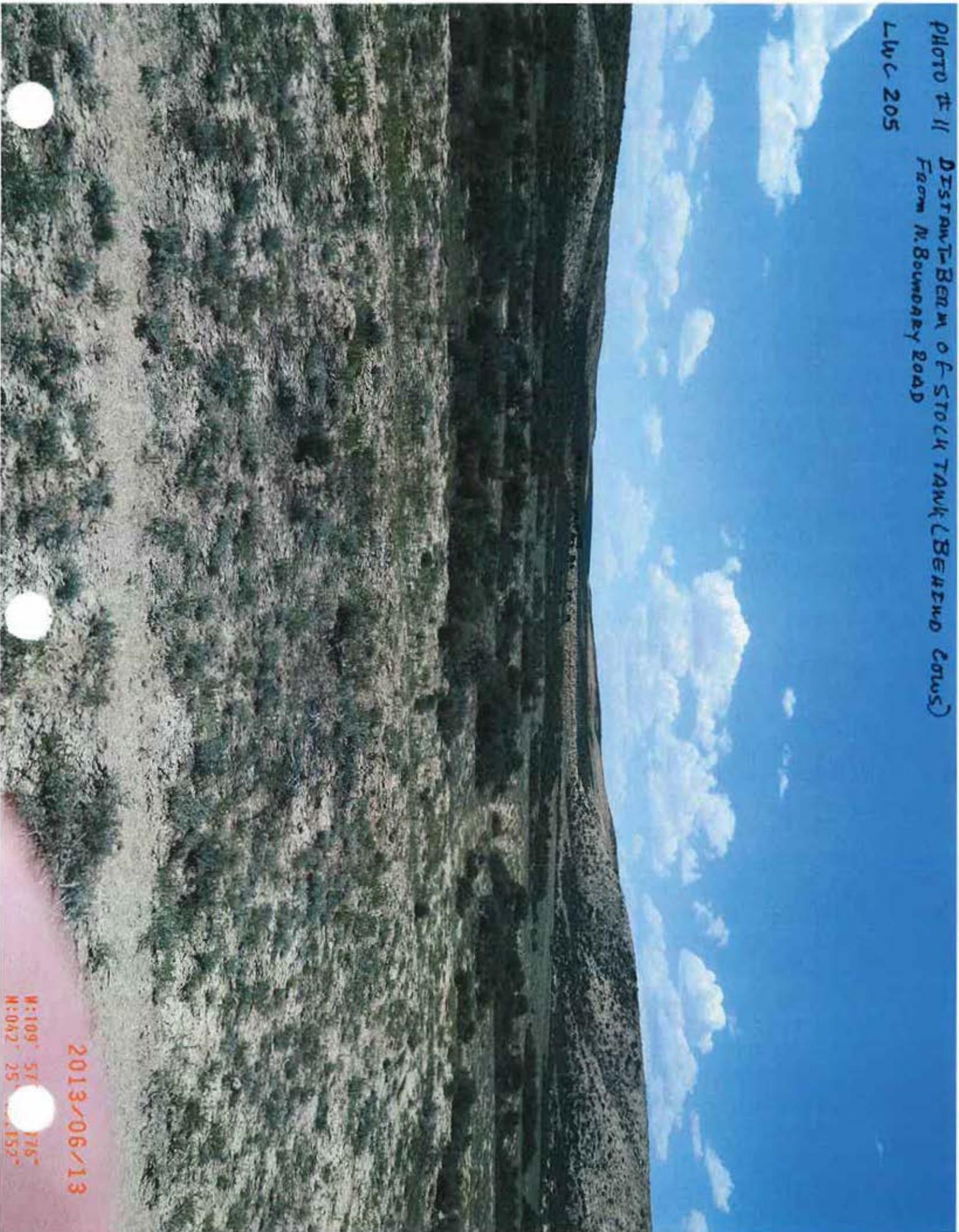
PHOTO # 10 2 TRACK ROUTE, SE VIEW, FROM N. BOUNDARY
LWC 205



2013/06/13

8:10 AM
11003 25

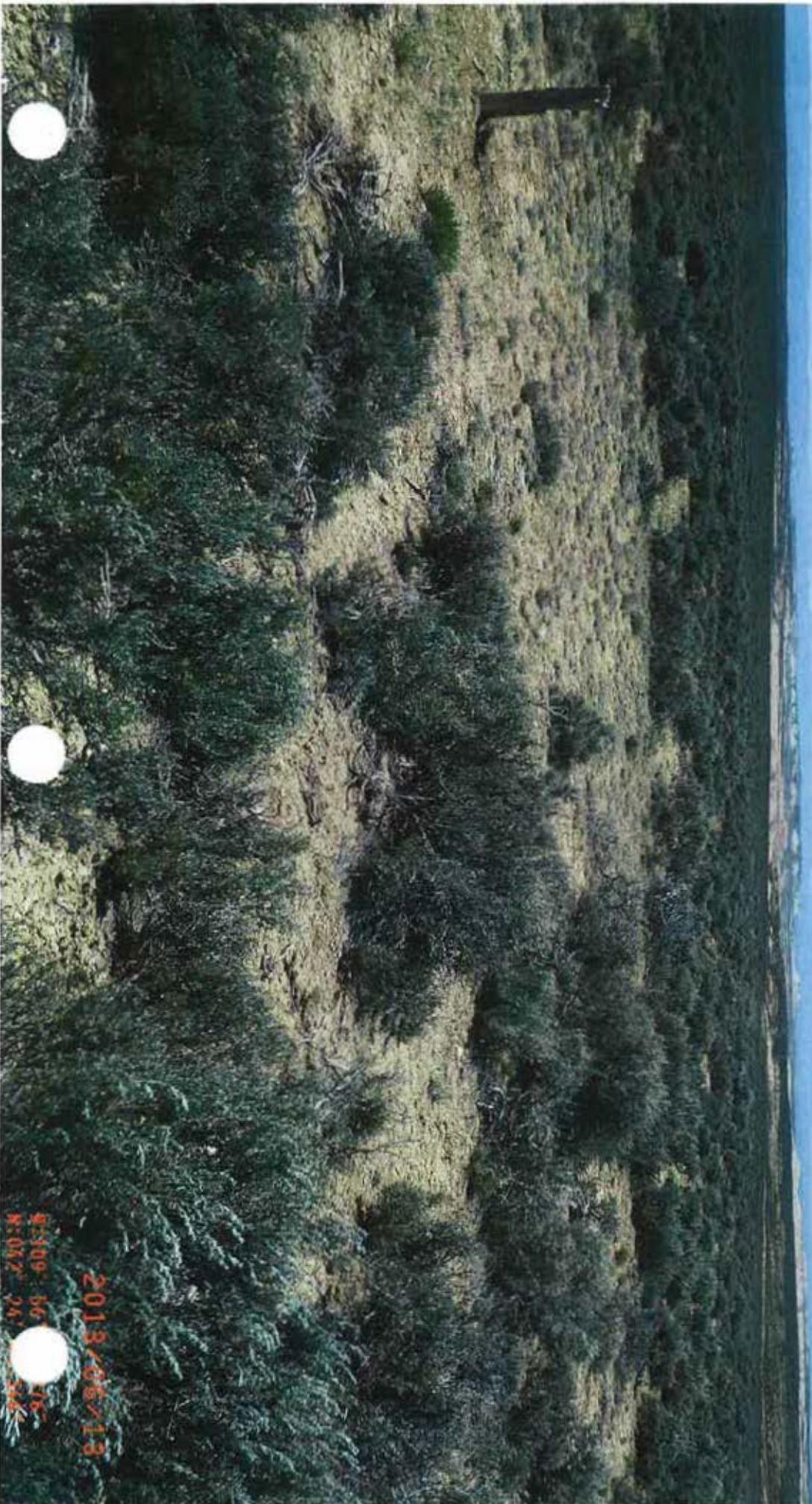
PHOTO # 11 DISTANT VIEW OF STOCK TANK (BEHIND CORUS)
FROM N. BOUNDARY ROAD
LWC 205



2013/06/13

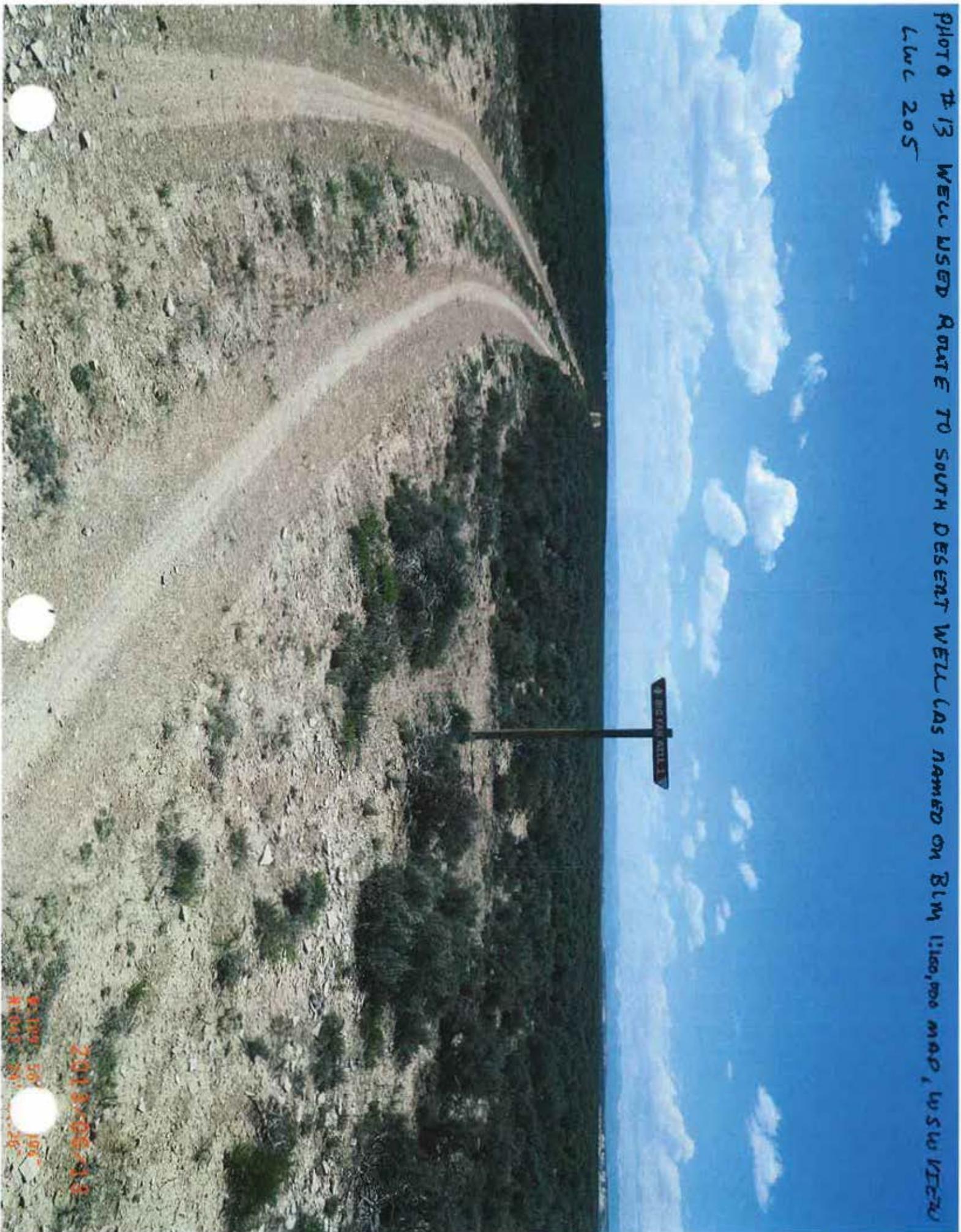
W: 109° 57' 176"
N: 062° 25' 152"

PHOTO # 12 FROM EAST BOUNDARY ROAD, WEST VIEW
LWC 205



2013/06/13
9:109 56 205
8:02 26 52

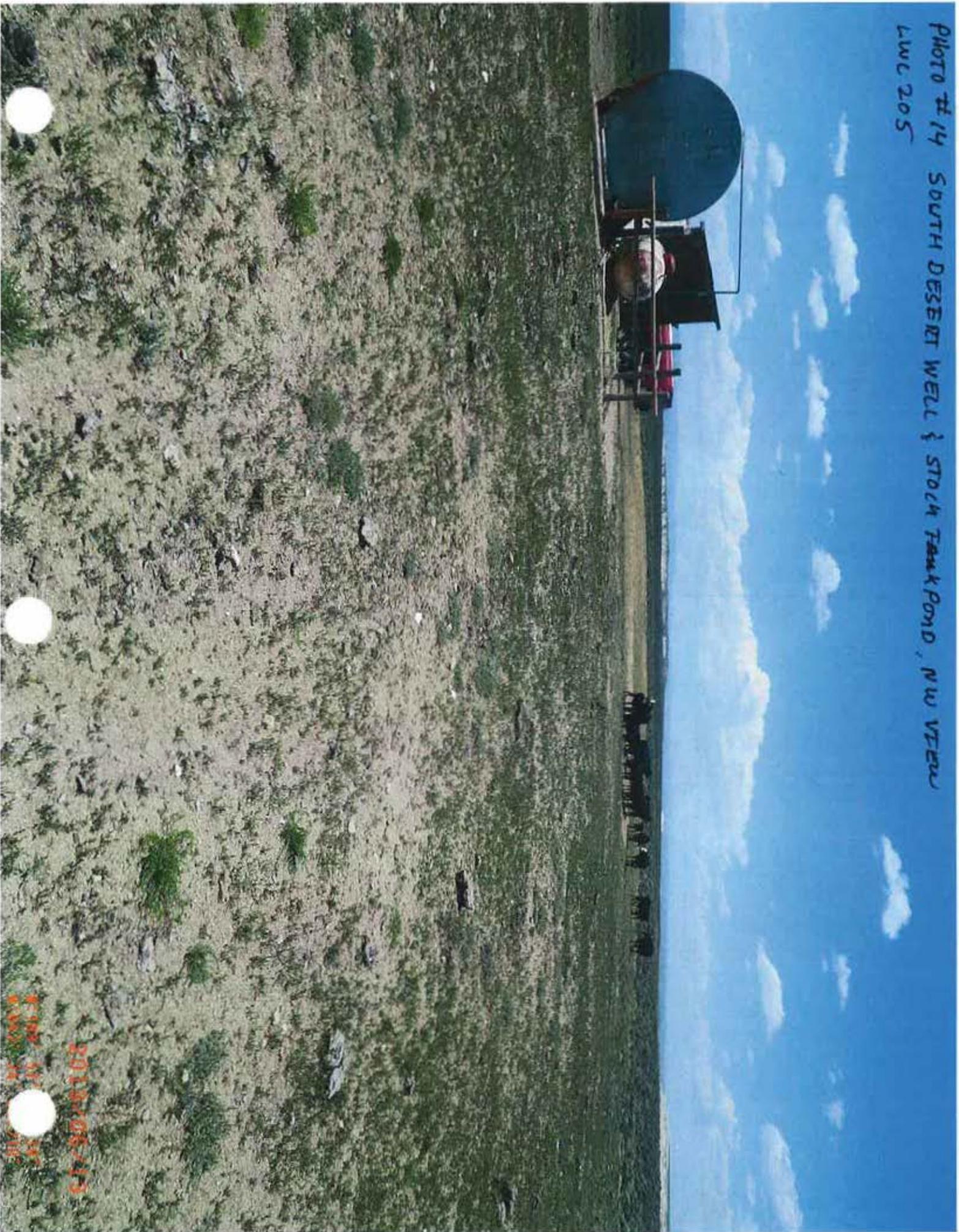
PHOTO #13 WELL USED ROUTE TO SOUTH DESERT WELLS NAMED ON BLM 1:100,000 MAP, W5W1E2W
LWC 205



2013-08-14

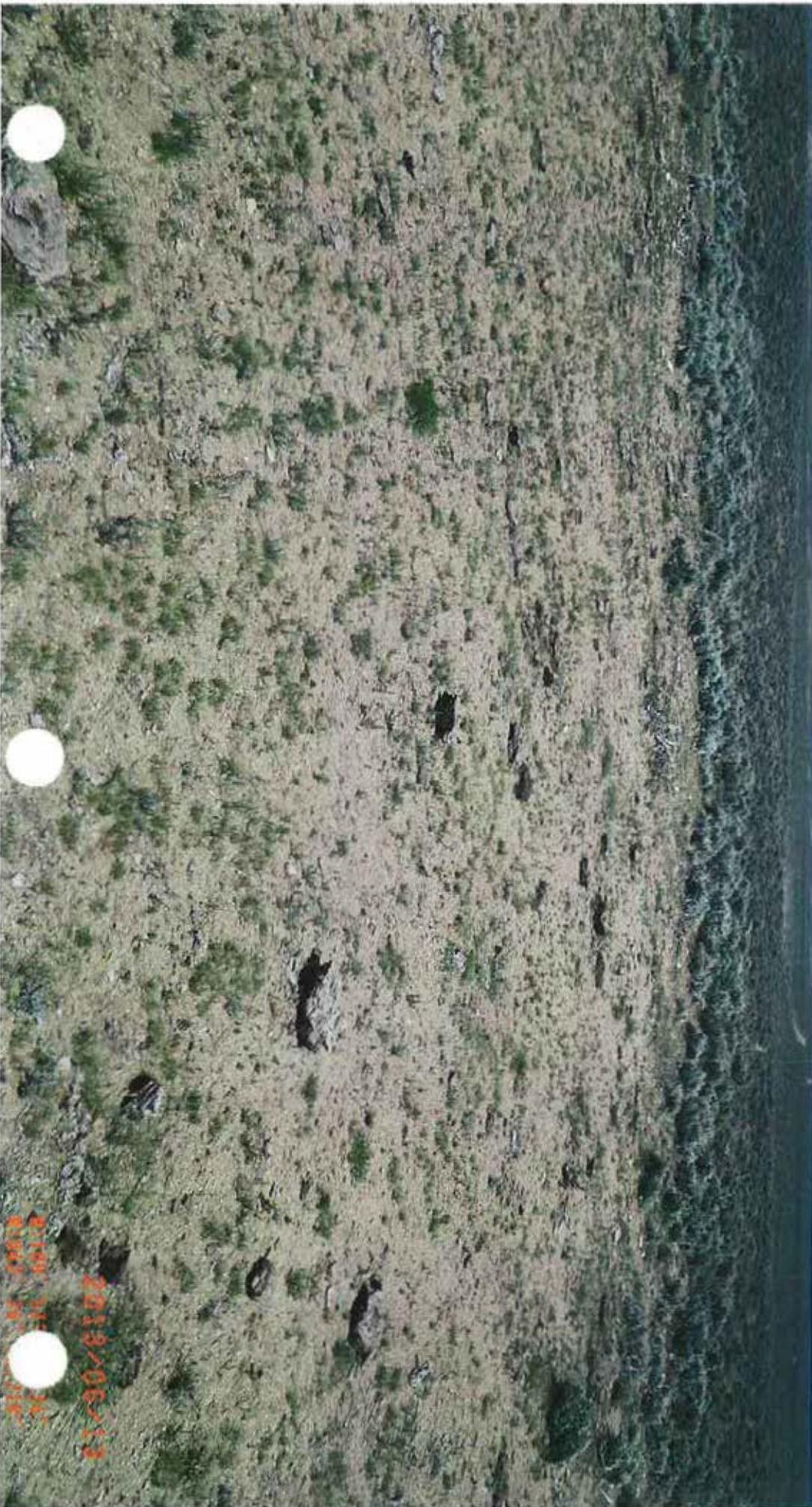
4:10 PM 50' 100'
N 104.1° W 11.28'

PHOTO #14 SOUTH DESERT WELL & STOLCH TANK POND, NW VIEW
LWC 205



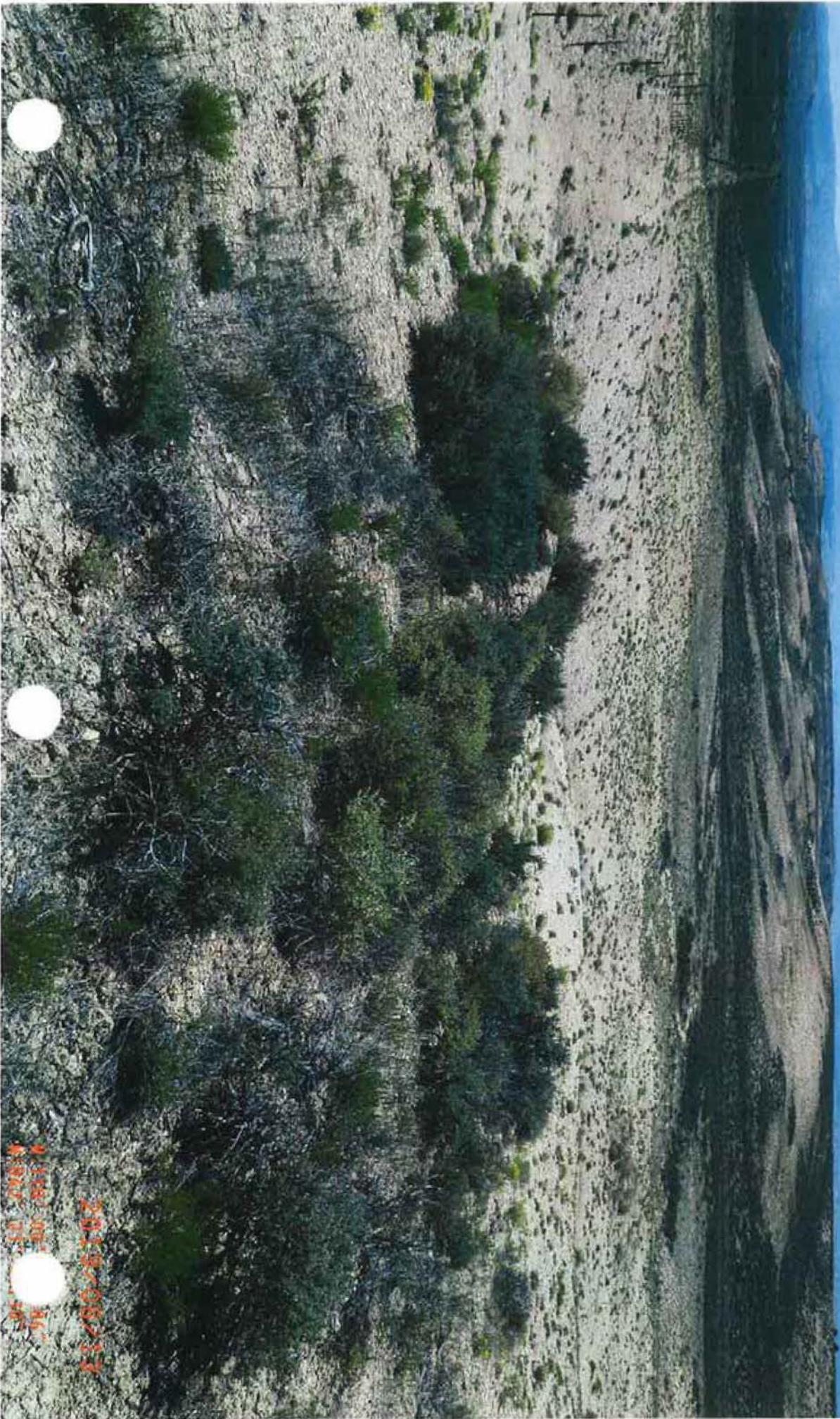
2013-08-13
11:00 AM
LWC 205

PHOTO # 15 FROM SOUTH DESERT WELL, NE VIEW
LWC 205



2013/06/13
11:00 AM
LWC 205

PHOTO # 16 SOUTH BOUNDARY & RS/PINEDALE BLM BOUNDARY FENCE (LIMIT TO RIGHT OF FENCE)
LWC 205 WSW VIEW



2012-09-06 11:33
4558.00 ft
4527.75 ft

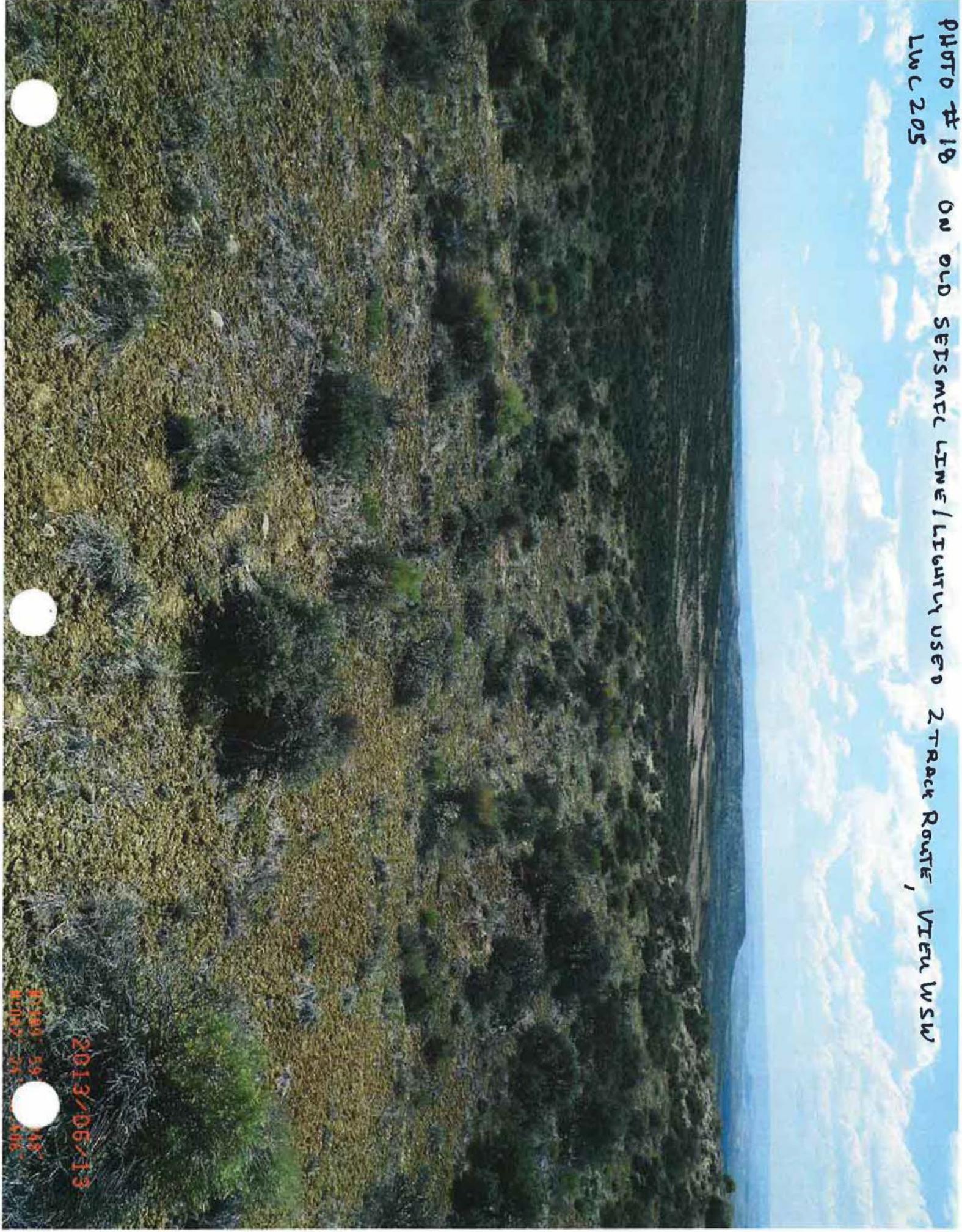
PHOTO #17 VIEW NORTH FROM FO BOUNDARY FENCE
LWC 205



4:10 PM 776
M:042 23 776

2013/08/13

PHOTO # 18 ON OLD SEISMIC LINE / LIBRARY USED 2 TRACK ROUTE, VIEW WSW
LWC 205



2013/06/13

19:13
24.0
MIX

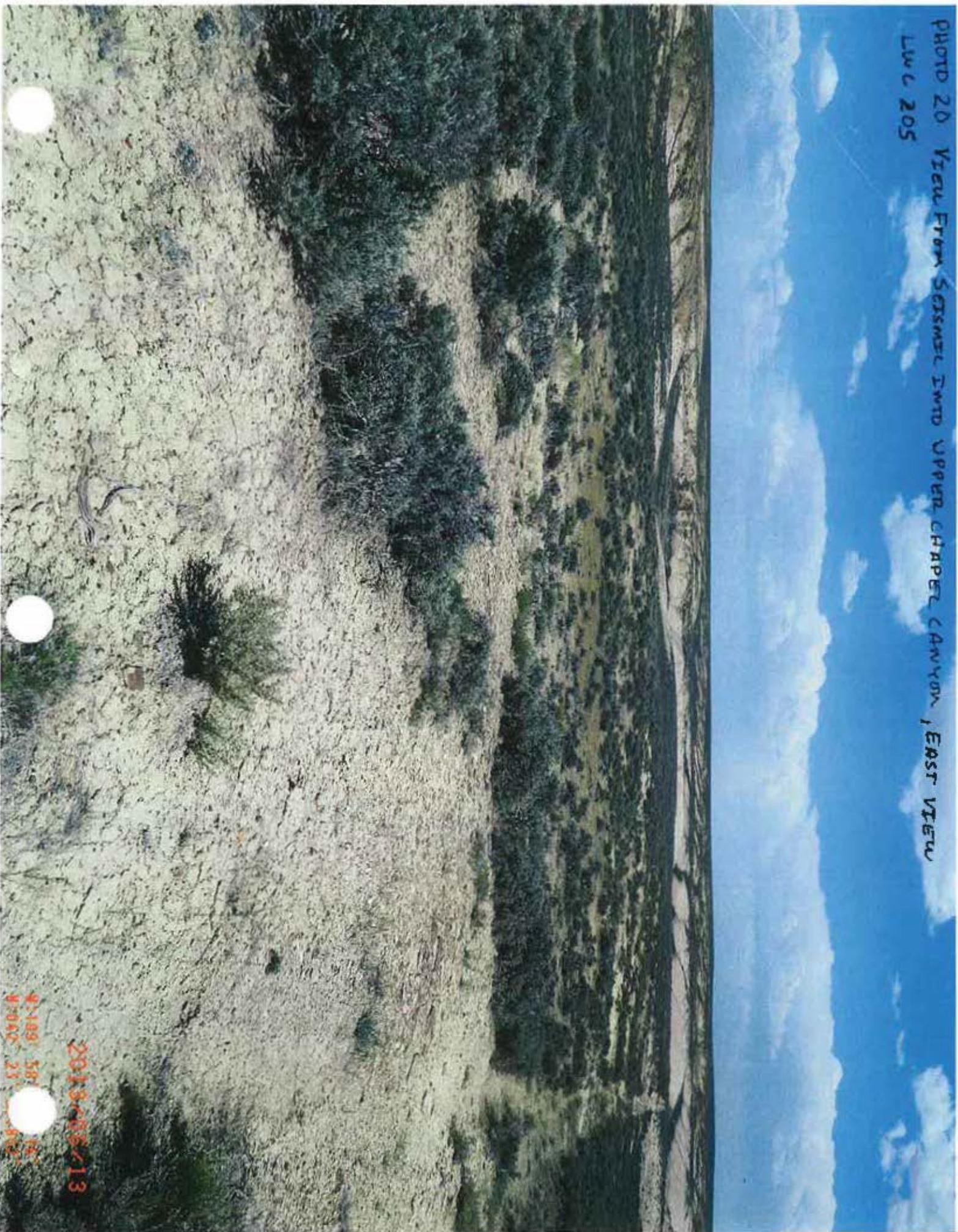
PHOTO # 19 ON SEISMIC LINE 2 TRACK ROUTE, LOOKING AT ALLOTMENT BOUNDARY FENCE
LWC 205

ESE VIEW



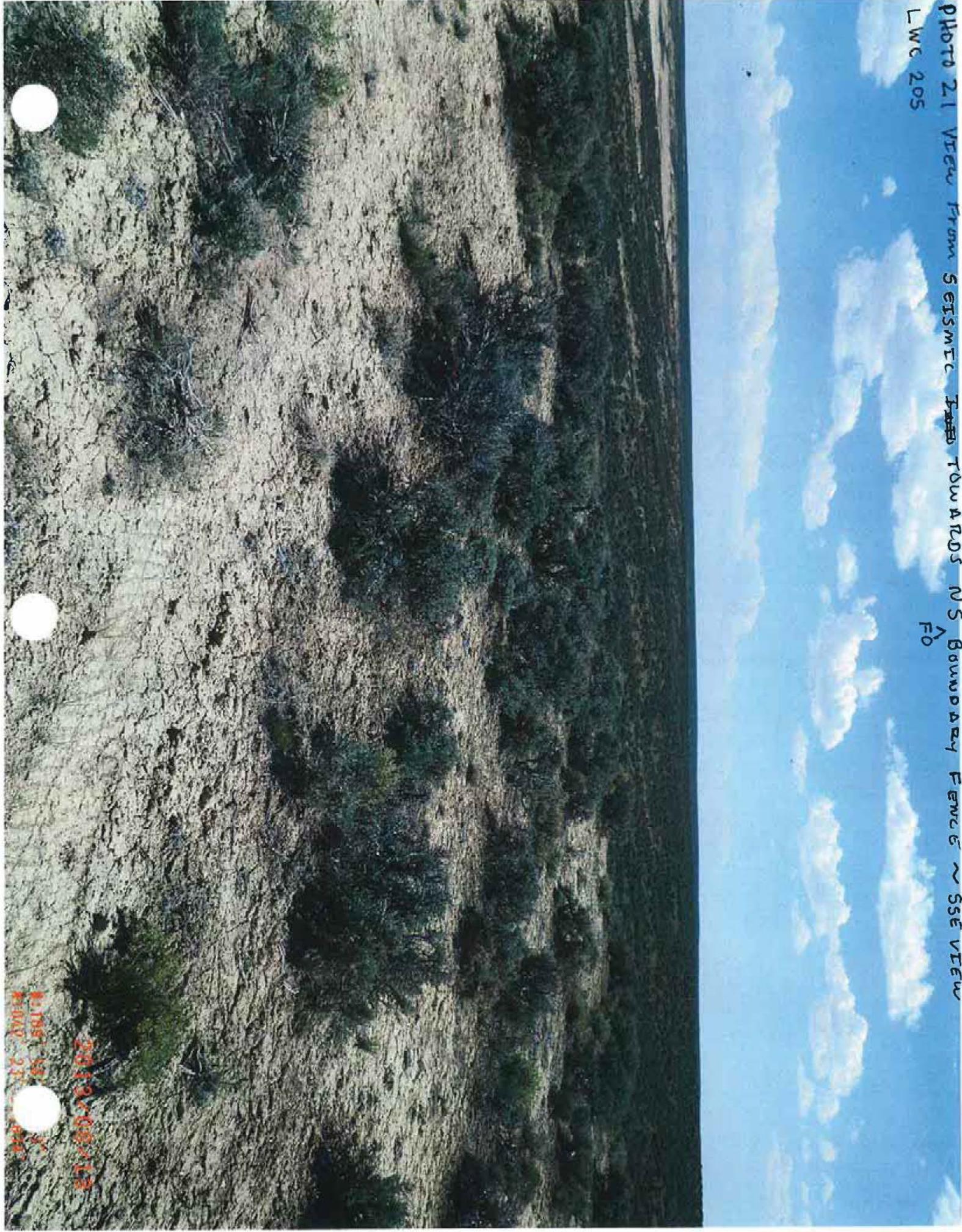
08/23/2005

PHOTO 20 VIEW FROM SEISMIC IWD UPPER CHAPEL CANYON, EAST VIEW
LWC 205



4:109 58
8:002 23
2013-08-13

PHOTO 21 VIEW FROM SEISMIC ~~LINE~~ TOWARDS NS BOUNDARY FENCE ~ SSE VIEW
LWC 205



2019-09-13
11:05 AM
PHOTO 21