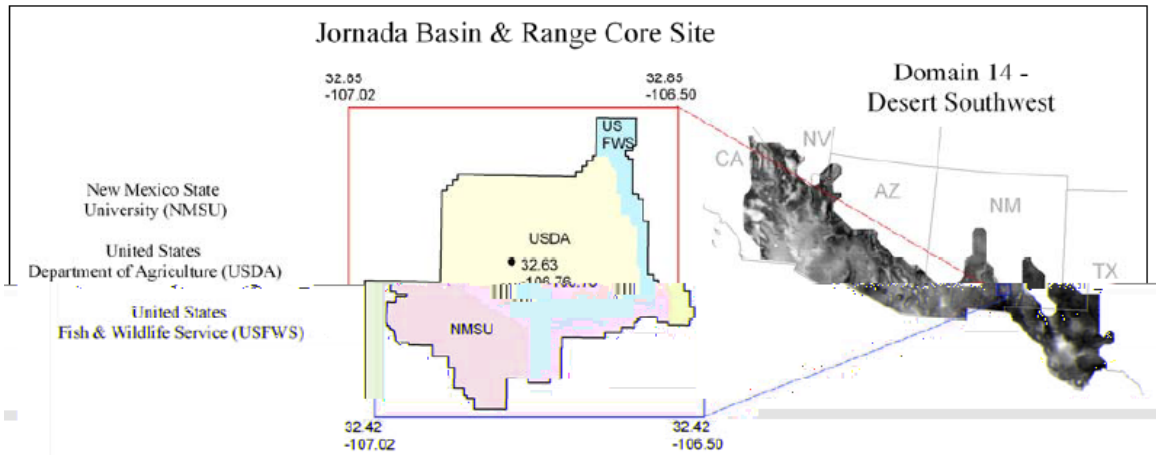
Jornada Basin and Range (JBR)

Contact Person: Kris Havstad; email: khavstad@nmsu.edu; Voice: 505-646-4842
Web Page: http://usda-ars.nmsu.edu/

Location within Domain:



History: long-term research area established in 1912, expanded in 1927 with extensive and intensive history of field research (see: jornada-www.nmsu.edu); one of the original 6 NSF's Long Term Ecological Research sites established in 1981.

Key Characteristics: Existing vegetation (shrublands: mesquite, creosotebush, tarbush; grasslands: tobosa playlands, black grama uplands), soil/landform, ecosystem performance, land use history, and climatic features characteristic of Domain #14; existing resources can address climate, land use, and invasive NEON response themes; representative of the Chihuahuan Desert, the largest desert in North America, and the Basin and Range Physiographic Province; elevation range of 1,307 m (Rio Grande River) to 2,438 m (San Andres Peak); partnership among three institutions – USDA/Agricultural Research Service, New Mexico State University (one of two land grant Hispanic-serving Institutions), U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service San Andres Refuge.

Existing Infrastructure: Member of numerous existing networks including the Man and Biosphere Reserves, U.S. Climate Reference Network, USDA's UV-B Monitoring Stations, USDA's CO_2 Flux Network, Organization of Biological Field Stations (OBFS), and Association of Ecosystem Research Centers (AERC); International Biological Program (IBP) Desert Grassland site; existing instrumented towers (Eddy flux, Bowen ratios, dust collectors) and flumes; network of > 30 weather stations; long-term data on plant and animal populations, and ecosystem processes (e.g., ANPP); remotely-sensed data since 1936; historical data synthesized and accessible; established K-12 science education partnership servicing 10,000+ area students and teachers (http://www.cdnp.org/).

Facilities: On site structures provide housing, field laboratories, equipment fabrication, maintenance, repair, and storage, and logistical support; 6 FTE on site support; modern utilities including T1 fiber optics and wireless network distribution points; road access throughout 100,000+ ha; secured area with no unescorted public access; planned expansion of housing for 50+ with supporting facilities.