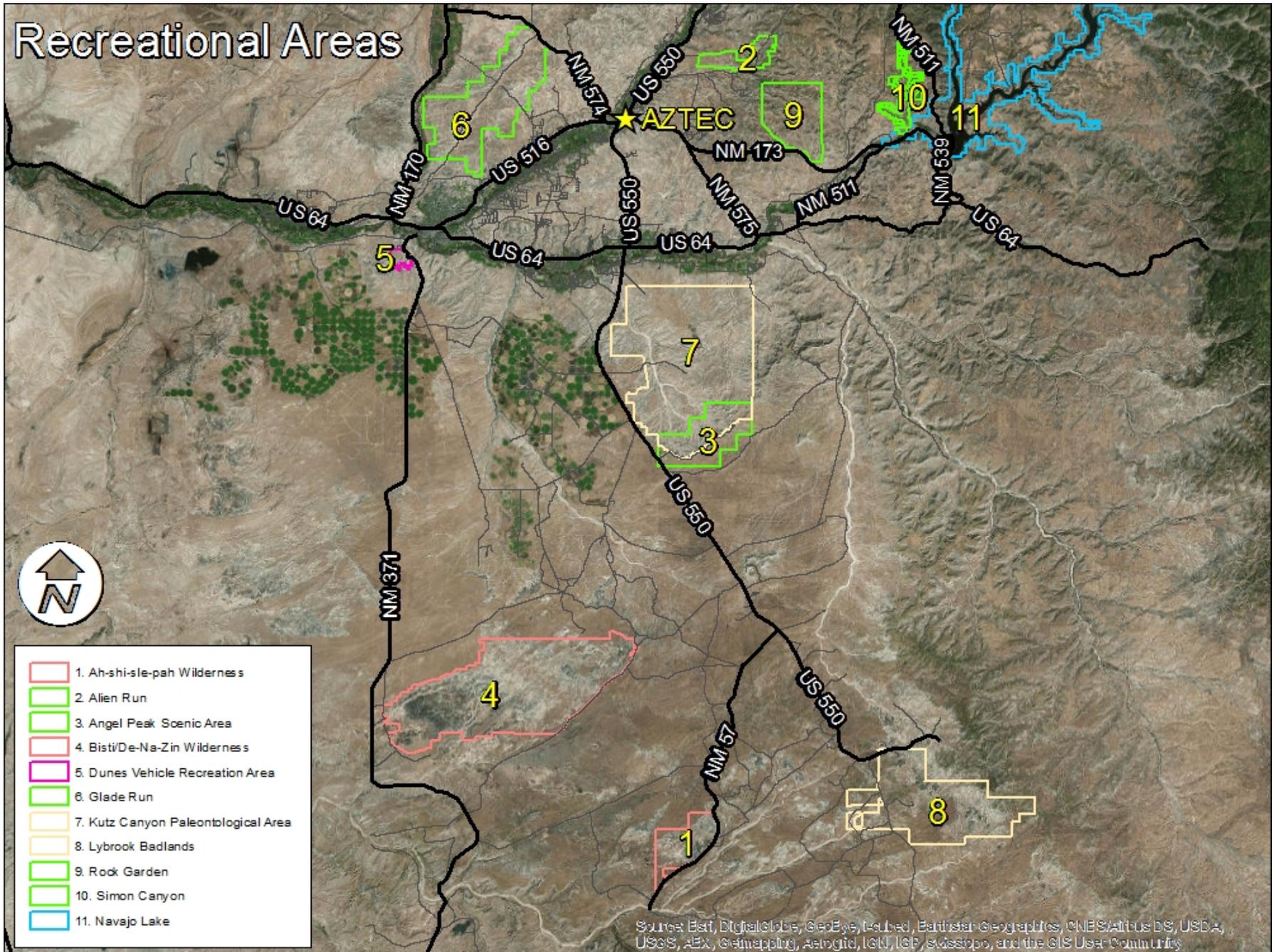


Recreational Areas



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, IGN, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Geomatics, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

1. Ah-shi-sle-pah Wilderness Study Area

A BLM wilderness study area, "Ah-shi-sle-pah" are eroded badlands that like the Bisti offer some of the most unusual scenery in the Four Corners. Time and Mother Nature have etched a fantasy world of strange rock formations. Most commonly found in the Ah-shi-sle-pah are hoodoos, petrified logs and stumps, and fossils from the late Cretaceous era (dinosaur, crocodilian scutes, and turtle shell).

2. Alien Run Mountain Bike Trail

Aztec boasts over 30 miles of mountain bike trails, including the Alien Run, which is ranked among the more technically challenging and scenic single tracks in the Southwest. Routed near an alleged UFO crash site, "the Alien Run" can be navigated by a novice yet is immensely challenging for experts.

3. Angel Peak Scenic Area

This 10,000-acre landscape is celebrated for its rugged and scenic wonders, including 7,000-foot Angel Peak. The river-deposited San Jose Formation sandstone is visible for miles in any direction. The banded colors of the badlands and the deep sculpted canyon fingers are fully revealed only to those who make the short journey along the rim. BLM managed, overnight camping and picnics.

4. Bisti/De-Na-Zin Wilderness

A federal wilderness area, "the Bisti" are eroded badlands that offer some of the most unusual scenery in the Four Corners. Time and natural elements have etched a fantasy world of strange rock formations. Bisti (pronounced bis-tie) is Navajo for "a large area of shale hills." De-Na-Zin (deh-nah-zin) is Navajo for "cranes." Petroglyphs of cranes have been found south of the wilderness area.

5. Dunes OHV Area

Over 800 acres of fun is waiting for off-road enthusiasts at the Dunes Vehicle Recreation Area south of Farmington. The off-highway vehicle area contains a wide variety of topography including large sand dunes, steep to gentle hillsides, and sandy arroyo bottoms. Innumerable roads and trails exist in the Dunes, created by nearly 40 years of off-road vehicle use. The diverse landscape attracts a variety of motorized activity and provides riders a place to play, test their endurance, and improve their skills.

6. Glade Run Recreation Area

A great spot for the weekend warrior, the Glade Run Recreation Area is comprised of 19,000 acres of sandy arroyos, slick rock and rolling terrain. Vegetation is sparse, primarily consisting of common grasses, rabbitbrush, sagebrush, junipers, and pinions.

7. Kutz Canyon Paleontological Area

An area designated by the BLM that is of paleontological significance. This area is located adjacent and north of the Angel Peak Scenic Area and consists of the valley and ridge systems that feed into the San Juan River. The area is extensive and has numerous oil field roads scattered throughout. Little is known or recorded about this area in terms of hiking and other outdoor recreation.

8. Lybrook (Badlands) Fossil Area

A BLM area designated as a 'Fossil Area' this area is commonly referred to as the Lybrook Badlands. This area is somewhat similar to the Bisti and Ah-shi-sle-pah Wilderness areas. It consists of extensively eroded badlands with scattered strange rock formations, banded clay domes, massive hoodoos, and fossils from the late Cretaceous era (dinosaur, crocodilian scutes, and turtle shell).

9. Rock Garden Recreation Area

An area designated by the BLM that will be developed in the future for off-road activities such as mountain biking and off-road vehicles. Currently the area is traversed with oil field roads which provide some accessibility to many of the Aztec Arches.

10. Simon Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern

Simon Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) is about 3,900 acres in size and is managed for semi-primitive forms of recreation including fishing, hiking, and backpacking. Development at the mouth of the canyon is minimal (with a parking lot, picnic table, and toilet) and provides the visitor an alternative to the more highly developed state park sites located nearby. A moderate hike into the canyon will allow you to visit Simon Canyon Pueblito. Constructed in 1754, it is one of the last pueblitos built and is one of the few pueblitos located north of the San Juan River, which traditionally formed the boundary between the Navajo and the Utes.

11. Navajo Lake State Park and Quality Waters of the San Juan River

Nourished by the Pine and San Juan rivers, Navajo Lake is 25 miles long with more than 200 camping and picnic sites, two improved boat ramps and a marina. Recreation includes boating, sailing and other water sports, plus trophy fishing for brown, rainbow, and cutthroat trout, largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, channel catfish and kokanee salmon. Flowing from Navajo Lake, the lower San Juan River is ranked among America's top-10 trout fishing waters. A 4.5-mile, nutrient-rich section below Navajo Dam is so spectacular for fishing that it has earned "Quality Waters" designation. (Special angling regulations are in effect.) Attracting sports enthusiasts the world over, the river further compels with multi-hued sandstone canyons and desert vistas.