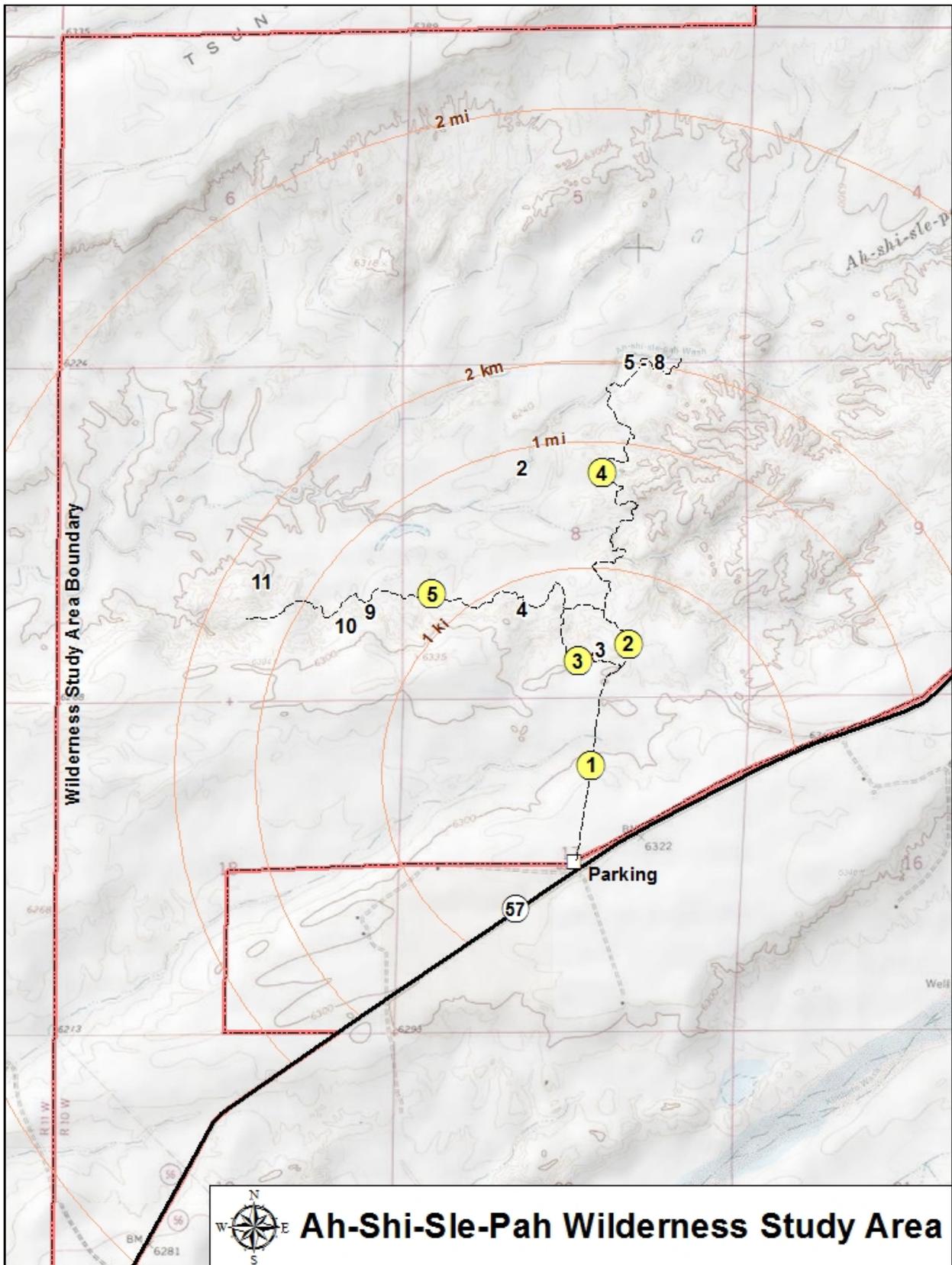




AH-SHI-SLE-PAH WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (WSA)

Map	Trail Name	Difficulty	Route Type	Distance	Elev. Gain
1	Two-Track	Easy	Out & Back	1.2 mi / 1.8 km	65 ft
2	Valley Access	Easy	Out & Back	0.6 mi / 1.0 km	80 ft
3	Ridge Access	Easy	Out & Back	0.8 mi / 1.2 km	100 ft
4	North Hike	Easy	Out & Back	3.0 mi / 4.8 km	70 ft
5	West Hike	Easy	Out & Back	2.8 mi / 4.6 km	70 ft

Other than the two-track, the trails described above are not delineated or defined. Ah-Shi-Sle-Pah WSA is an open range area whereby people can simply wonder freely around since no trails are established. As such the trails provided are simply a general guide to get to certain named features.



Activities: Hiking, photography, primitive camping.

Facilities: No electrical hookups, water, or restrooms are available.

Season / Hours: Open year-round.

Description: The Ah-shi-sle-pah Wilderness Study Area (WSA) is located in northwestern New Mexico and is a badland area of rolling water-carved clay hills. The area is rich in fossils and has little vegetation to conceal geological formations. The thin vegetation includes sagebrush, piñon-juniper, Great Basin scrubland, and grassland. It is a landscape of sandstone cap rocks and scenic olive-colored hills. Water in this area is scarce and there are no trails; however, the area is scenic and contains soft colors rarely seen elsewhere.

Rock units within the Ah-Shi-Sle-Pah include most of the upper Fruitland Formation (Fossil Forest Member) and lower part of the Kirtland Formation (Hunter Wash Member), both late Cretaceous in age. The rocks are dominated by mudstones and intermittent sandstones, with occasional resistant channel sandstones.

Access: From Aztec: head south on US Highway 550 for 8.5 miles (downtown Bloomfield) and turn right on Broadway Ave. At next light (0.3 miles) turn left back onto US Highway 550 and travel 28.1 miles to NM 57. Travel along NM 57 which goes from paved with potholes (4.9 miles) to gravel to dirt road (13.2 miles). At 18.1 miles there will be a two-track road, turn onto the two-track and stay right.

Please Note:

- 1. NM 57 is a dirt road and may become impassible during or after inclement weather. Drivers should avoid dirt roads during rain or snow. Drivers should be cautious of wash-out following rain or snowmelt.*
- 2. This is a non-motorized area. Please park alongside NM 57. Be cautious, the surrounding area is comprised of private Navajo Nation lands and trespassing is prohibited.*
- 3. There is no access to Chaco Culture National Historic Par from NM 57.*
- 4. There are no marked trails in this WSA. Visitors must possess knowledge and skill in cross country hiking and navigating.*

Special Rules:

- Since this is a Wilderness Area, it is closed to motorized vehicles and mechanical forms of transportation (mountain bikes included).
- Also prohibited are campfires, collecting fossils or petrified wood, climbing on delicate geologic features, traveling in groups of more than eight people, and trespassing on adjacent tribal lands.
- Permits are required for uses such as grazing, scientific research, and commercial guiding.

Have a positive influence on the area and those around you, practice the **Tread Lightly!**

TTravel only where permitted.

Respect the rights of others.

Educate yourself.

Avoid streams, meadows, and wildlife areas.

Drive and travel responsibly.

FORMATIONS

Map #: 1
Name: Ah-shi-sle-pah Rock Garden
Latitude: 36.151514
Longitude: -107.92832



HOODOOS

Map #: 2
Name: Ah-shi-sle-pah Hoodoo
Latitude: 36.157062
Longitude: -107.923394



Photo in 2014.

Photo in 2019.
Nose has broken.



Map #: 3
Name: Chocolate Mushroom Hoodoos
Latitude: 36.149158
Longitude: -107.919168



Map #: 4
Name: Turtle Hoodoo
Latitude: 36.150913
Longitude: -107.923371
Comments: Viewed from the south it looks like a turtle.



Map #: 5
Name: Goblet Hoodoo
Latitude: 36.161452
Longitude: -107.917208



Map #: 6
Name: Mitten Hoodoo
Latitude: 36.161548
Longitude: -107.917399



Map #: 7
Name: Stacked Plates Hoodoo
Latitude: 36.161545
Longitude: -107.916567



Map #: 8
Name: Mutt & Jeff Hoodoos
Latitude: 36.161447
Longitude: -107.916575



Map #: 9
Name: Orange Hoodoos
Latitude: 36.150791
Longitude: -107.931483



PETRIFIED LOGS / STUMPS

Map #: 10
Name: Ed's Stump
Latitude: 36.150162
Longitude: -107.932813



Map #: 11
Name: Sternberg's Stump
Latitude: 36.152094
Longitude: -107.937305



Name: Petrified Tree Roots



FOSSILS



Indeterminate Bone



Indeterminate Bone



Crocodile Scutes



Indeterminate Bone

MISCELLANEOUS



Photos by EMKotyk