

Melrose Woods

Part of Lot 2 of Section 4, T2N, R30E
Part of SE4 of Section 33, T3N, R30E

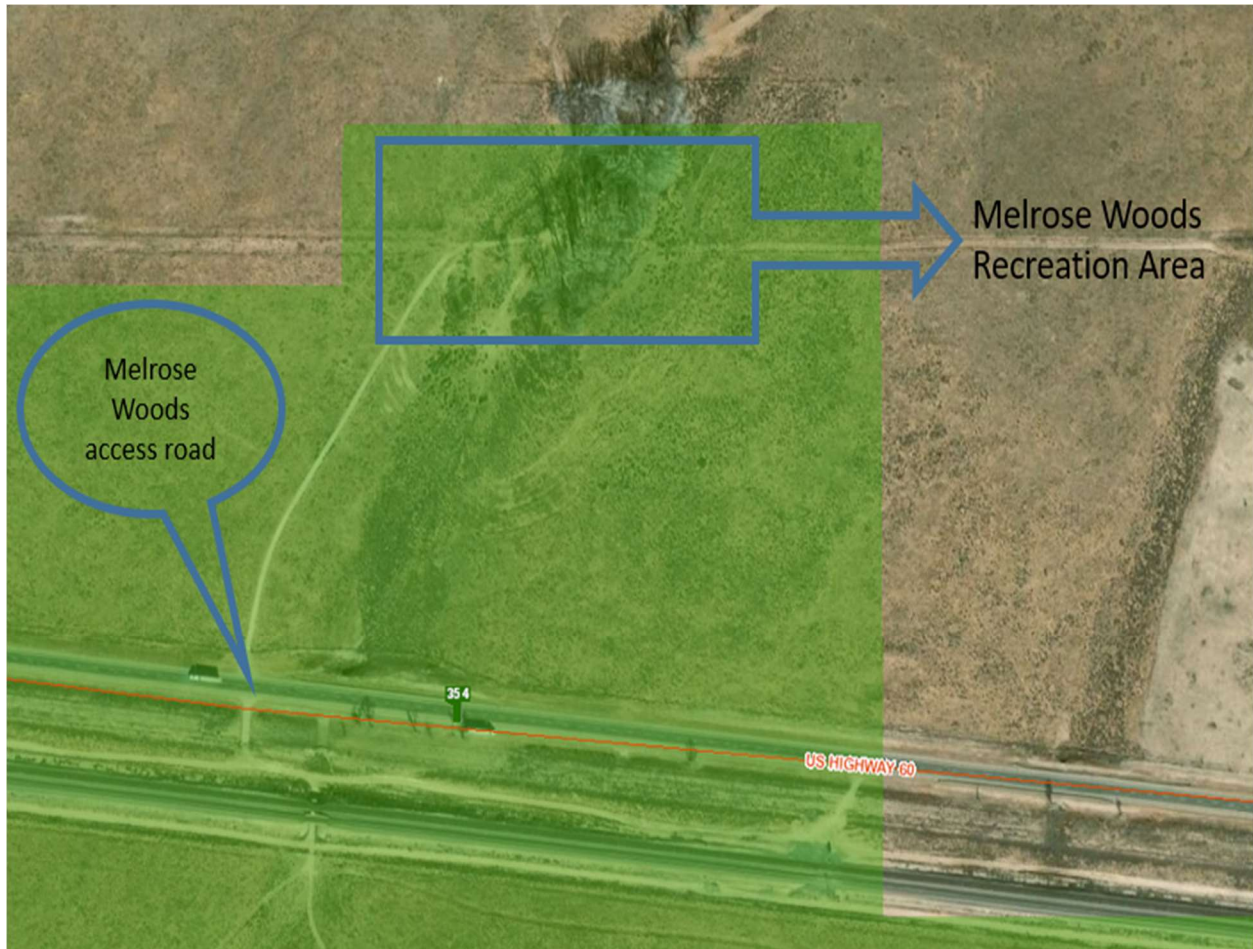
Welcome to Melrose Woods! Nestled among the grasslands of the Llano Estacado is an unexpected oasis of remnant cottonwoods that serves as host to an open-air ornithological aviary for myriad migratory birds.

Located approximately 10 miles west of Melrose, the trap serves as a stopping-off point for a vast variety of migrating birds. The spring and fall typically are aflutter with winged visitors and the venue is a well-known haven for birders from within the state and from coast to coast as well. Melrose Woods hosts a wide variety of migrant birds and fowl – including the majestic barn and great horned owls, among over 250 other species.

The New Mexico State Land Office (NMSLO) is currently working with the Central New Mexico Audubon Society and the agricultural lessee to develop a plan to restore native vegetation, provide reliable water, develop better visitor facilities and generate new revenue to the NMSLO's beneficiaries.

This site is easily accessible by most vehicles. Parking at the site is limited. For those wanting to get in a little exercise during your excursion, visitors can hike along primitive trails in the area. Visitors should be mindful of the fence line on the north side of the site which approximates the property boundary. **Do not trespass onto this adjacent private land!** Melrose Woods is leased to an area rancher who owns the agricultural improvements for their grazing operations. Visitors are prohibited from manipulating any of these improvements or interfering with the ranching operations.

Getting there: This site can be found by going west on US -84 from Melrose, NM approximately 9.6 miles or east from Ft. Sumner, NM approximately 23 miles on US-84 to the access gate. There is a red gate in the north side of US-84 at Latitude 34.431722 N and Longitude 103.80106 W. The site itself is approximately ¼ mile beyond the gate and is easily visible from the highway.



THINGS TO KNOW:

- * Recreational users of State Trust Lands must have a recreational access permit to access these lands. You can apply for the permit here: <https://openforadventure.nmstatelands.org/>
- * Obey all postings/respect private property.
- * No digging for or collecting cultural artifacts.
- * SLO operates under a multiple-use concept therefore visitors may encounter other permitted users on-site.
- * We strongly recommend visitors to trust lands carry and utilize a GPS device to avoid trespassing on to lands not managed by the NMSLO.
- * Visitors are not allowed to manipulate any of the site's improvements and are prohibited from interfering with the ranching operations.
- * Please try to minimize your use footprint and pack out all trash. [Leave No Trace](#).
- * Please be attentive to weather reports. Storms can form quickly.
- * Pack appropriate clothing for the season. During spring, summer and fall, typical day-hiking gear is recommended.
- * Be mindful of tree snags (widowmakers).
- * Please close the gate after entering the site, even if you find it open, and ensure the gate remains closed.
- * Please be aware of prohibited activities under the [Recreational Access Permit](#).

For more information, please call 505-827-5760