



Figure 4.7 A recently filled-in mud pit awaiting final reclamation and revegetation is found about 40 m south of the two locales designated as Tribal Sites Nos. 4 and 5 (photograph looking north). The white pin flags denoting Tribal Site No. 4 (left arrow) and Tribal Site No. 5 (right arrow) are faintly seen in the distance.

4.1.5 Tribal Site No. 5

Tribal Site No. 5 (Site No. 9 in SSN 2013) is located on the same hilltop as Tribal Site No. 4, about 13 m to the east/southeast. It lies in the in the [REDACTED], Township 29N, Range 51W (Figure 4.8; Appendix E). The feature consists of a localized outcropping of Arikaree sandstone cobbles, measuring about 50 cm north/south and 35 cm east/west.



**Figure 4.8 Tribal Site No. 5, looking southeast.
Top: View of rock outcropping in an erosion feature. Bottom: Close-up of the
sandstone cobble feature.**

Tribal Interpretation: This stone feature was interpreted by the Tribal field crews as being a possible hearth.

Additional Information: This feature appears to be a natural outcrop of eroding and weathering Arikaree sandstone cobbles exposed by erosion on the northeast facing slope of this hilltop. The substrate of the hilltop contains a dense concentration of sandstone cobbles, as evidenced by past and recent explorative drilling activity (See Figure 4.7 above). There is no evidence of a cultural association for this feature, such as charring or evidence of the effects of heat on the cobbles, charcoal flecks in the soil fill, or artifacts in the vicinity. If the nearby Tribal Site No. 4 had been interpreted as a tipi circle, as originally posited, it would have strengthened the argument for this stone feature being cultural in origin. However, Tribal Site No. 4 is clearly a physical remnant of recent exploration and reclamation activity.

4.1.6 Tribal Site No. 6

Tribal site No. 6 (Site No. 11 in SSN 2013) is located in a small clearing situated just to the east and above the place identified as Tribal Site No. 7 (see Section 4.1.7). It is located in the [REDACTED], Township 29N, Range 51W (Figure 4.9; Appendix F). At the time of the July 2013 field visit, vegetation growth in this area was very dense, permitting only an estimated 5- to 25-percent visibility of the ground surface.

Informal communication with the Tribal field crew indicates that they observed an exposed bone at this place during the November–December 2012 Tribal field inventory. Because of the limited visibility of the ground surface, the area was inspected during the July 2013 visit by a two-person team, walking the entire clearing with an interval between individuals of about 1 meter. This effort did not identify any evidence of bone or any other features, although this result is possibly due to the dense vegetation cover than an actual absence of the previously noted item.