

Gallup Police are still in the beginning of an investigation into the identity of a body discovered July 11, north of town.

Captain Marinda Spencer said the body was so badly decomposed that identifying the person will be challenging. She said the remains have been forwarded to the Office of the Medical Investigator in Albuquerque for an autopsy.

The body appears to be male, she said.

The body was located in shrubbery about 1.2 miles north of Gallup on U.S. Highway 491, across from the Gallup Dental Group, and appears to have been there for at least a week, Spencer said.

High temperatures during the past week accelerated the decomposition of the remains.

The body was found by a man who was out looking for cans, she said, adding that he noticed a foul smell which led to the discovery of the body.

There were no obvious signs of foul play but cause of death has not been determined, Spencer said.

Dead body found on Gallup's north side

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