

There are many issues concerning mule deer in Lyon County. Below are several issues listed.

1. The Pine Nut Mountains.
 - a. Pinyon Juniper encroachment in many areas
 - i. This blocks mule deer movement throughout the range.
 - ii. Any improvements will also enhance sage grouse populations and Antelope (Pronghorn) movement and supportive habitat.
2. Pine Grove Hills.
 - a. The same problem exists here. Pinyon Juniper encroachment is a major problem here. This area supports a major migratory deer herd to winter range. This is a very broad area and reduces the ability for the herd to exist throughout the winter period because of a closed canopy created by a mature stand of Pinyon/Juniper.
 - b. This area also suffers from a major loss from crossing across US 395.
 - i. A number of items could be instituted here. The choices include a highway crossing to signage to signify a migratory crossing.
 - c.
 - i. This blocks movement of the herd.
 - ii. Any improvement in this area will also be a benefit to other species of wildlife.
3. Wellington Hills.
 - a. The same problem exists here. Pinyon Juniper encroachment is a major problem here. This area supports a major migratory deer herd to winter range. This is a very broad area and reduces the ability for the herd to exist throughout the winter period because of a closed canopy created by a mature stand of Pinyon/Juniper.
 - b. This area also suffers from a major loss from crossing across US 395.
 - i. A number of items could be instituted here. The choices include a highway crossing to signage to signify a migratory crossing.
4. Bodie Hills.
 - a. The same problem exists here. Pinyon Juniper encroachment is a major problem here. This area supports a major migratory deer herd to winter range. This is a very broad area and reduces the ability for the herd to exist throughout the winter period because of a closed canopy created by a mature stand of Pinyon/Juniper.
 - i. An existing project in the China Camp area will benefit the movement of Mule Deer and Antelope as well as Sage Grouse.
 - ii. More work needs to be done in this area to open major movement corridors for both Mule Deer and Pronghorn as well as for Sage Grouse.
 - iii. This area is a major movement corridor for the movement of Mule Deer to the East Walker/Pine Grove area to winter range.
5. Wassuk Range (Mt. Grant).
 - a. The same problem exists here. Pinyon Juniper encroachment is a major problem here. This area supports a major migratory deer herd to winter range. This is a very broad area and reduces the ability for the herd to exist throughout the winter period because of a closed canopy created by a mature stand of Pinyon/Juniper.

- b. Movement from high elevation to lower elevation wintering areas are important here. This also holds true for the reverse.

There are many areas that need attention to benefit Mule Deer. The above denotes the major problems that exist in Lyon County. The number one problem today for Mule Deer is encroachment by human development. Future losses can be addressed by wise planning. Any habitat improvement can benefit many species, not only Mule Deer.