

# Nevada Hunter Information Sheet



## **DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP** **Unit 211, north of U.S. Hwy 95**

**LOCATION:** See unit description in the big game hunting brochure. That portion of Unit 211 north of U.S. Hwy 95 is comprised of the Monte Cristo Mountain range of Esmeralda county.

**ELEVATION:** Elevations range from 4,800 feet at the lower valley floors to 8,000 at the highest peak on the Monte Cristo Range.

**TERRAIN:** The terrain in the Monte Cristo Range is typically more rolling/undulating type terrain. While some cliffs and steep canyons do exist, the terrain is much easier to traverse than many sheep ranges in Nevada.

**VEGETATION:** Desert shrub and low sagebrush in the lower valley bottoms and benches. The Monte Cristo Range is dominated by desert shrub with little Pinyon/Juniper cover.

**LAND STATUS:** Lands are administered by the BLM.

**HUNTER ACCESS:** Access to the Monte Cristo ranges is pretty much unrestricted, except by the terrain itself. Refer to the maps referenced below for road and access locations.

**MAP REFERENCES:** The U.S. Geological Survey 1:100,000 topographic map that covers the area is: **Tonopah**. The 1:250,000 AMS topographic maps that cover the area are: **Tonopah**.

**FACILITIES AND SERVICES:** Full services are available in the town of Tonopah. Some services are available in the small towns of Silver Peak and Dyer, Nevada. Generally primitive camping is the rule.

**RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP:** If conditions remain warm and dry, sheep may still be tied to water when the November season arrives. The Cottonwood Spring, Trough Spring, and Gilbert areas are all good bets under those conditions. More commonly, cooler temperatures and precipitation have dispersed sheep by November and they can be observed throughout much of the range. The western half of the range typically holds the most animals, but movement between Pilot Peak and the eastern portions of the Monte Cristos has been observed on occasion. Three wildlife water developments exist in the Monte Cristo Range, but only one receives regular use. This development is located on the northwest end of the range.