

MULE DEER
HUNTER INFORMATION SHEET
Units 011, 012, 013



LOCATION: See unit descriptions in the Nevada Hunt Book. Unit group 011, 012 and 013 are located in the very northwest corner of Nevada. This hunt area is bounded on the north by the Oregon border, on the west by the California - Nevada state line, on the south by the Lost Creek Road, and on the east by Highway 34 and the Sheldon National Antelope Refuge boundary.

ELEVATION: Elevations range from 4,500 feet in the valley floors to 7,900 feet at Hays Canyon Peak.

TERRAIN: The terrain is typical of the Great Basin and can best be described as rugged with broken rims, plateaus and small mountain ranges running in a north - south direction. Much of the area is volcanic in origin, making vehicular traffic slow and rough.

VEGETATION: Mountain mahogany, bitterbrush, big sagebrush, and juniper characterize upper elevation deer habitat. The wetter sites, near perennial water sources, and/or northeast slope pockets, typically have small aspen stands associated with them. When compared to areas in eastern Nevada, vegetation in this hunt area is considered to be fairly open, and lends itself well to observation of deer.

WEATHER AND CLIMATE: Precipitation in this area comes primarily in the form of snowfall during the months of November through March. Amounts of precipitation range from 8 inches on the valley floors to 18 inches at the highest peaks. Weather during the October hunting season is typically dry for the first two weeks with chances of snowstorms and accumulations of snow increasing during the last half of the season. Temperatures can range from the low 20s at night to the upper 70s during the daytime.

LAND STATUS: This area encompasses approximately 1,400 square miles, of which less than 5 percent is private. Fortynine Mountain and the Coleman Canyon area, on the northeast end of the Vya Rim, represent the only significant access problems. Overall access is considered to be good in this area.

HUNTER ACCESS: Travel east from Alturas and Cedarville, California on Highway 299. From Reno and Gerlach, Nevada, travel north on Highway 447. Roads in the unit range from high standard dirt, like Highway 299, to jeep trails. Many of the hunting areas are only accessible by four-wheel drive. Tire chains, extra gas, and extra spare tires are recommended. **Note:** Please be aware that Unit 012 is in a wilderness area. Motorized equipment, mechanized transport, including wheeled game carriers and chainsaws, are prohibited in wilderness areas. Contact the Federal Management Agency responsible for this area for more information.

MAP REFERENCES: The U.S. Geological Survey 1:100,000 scale metric topographic maps which give broad overview of the area are Vya and Highrock Canyon. There are many 7.5-minute quads that provide the best topographic detail. Topo maps are sold in Reno at the Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology at 784-6691 and Mark, Fore & Strike at 322-9559. The DeLorme Nevada Atlas and Gazetteer is available at most book or sporting goods stores, or by calling them direct at 1-800-452-5931.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES: There is a small hospital in Cedarville, California. Gas, food, vehicle repair facilities, and motels are available in Cedarville and Gerlach. There are no developed campgrounds. Hunters typically take advantage of tree cover and or perennial water sources adjacent to the area that they are hunting. Tent-type camps are recommended. Trailer or RV-type hunters are confined to better road systems in the valley floors and are required to travel farther each day to reach their hunt area. In most cases, drinking water must be hauled from home or the nearest town.

RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR MULE DEER: Most of the upper elevations hold deer in varying densities. Try Hays Canyon Peak south to Packsaddle Spring and east to include Boulder Mountain. Look at the Vya Rim north of Highway 8A to the Oregon border to include Crooks Lake, Holy Lake and upper elevation areas north of Gravelly Spring. Cherry Mountain, east of Wall Canyon Reservoir, can be productive, particularly later in the regular deer season.