

CALIFORNIA BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTER INFORMATION SHEET Unit 012



LOCATION: Western Humboldt County. See unit description in the **Nevada Hunt Book**.

ELEVATION: Elevations vary from 4,000 feet at the valley floors to 8,500 feet at Donnelly peak.

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

VEGETATION: This unit is considered to be very open in terms of vegetation. Much of the area inhabited by bighorn is made up of open cheatgrass slopes and a mixture of perennial grasses and shrubs on the wetter north slopes.

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 6 inches on the valley floors to 15 inches at the highest peaks. Weather during the bighorn hunting season is typically dry during the first half with an increasing chance of precipitation during the last half of the season. Temperatures can range from the low 30s at night to the upper 80s during the daytime.

LAND STATUS: This area encompasses approximately 250 square miles, of which less than 5 percent is private. No access problems exist in this unit.

HUNTER ACCESS: From Reno Nevada travel north on highway 447. Highway 34 and the soldier meadows road access the east and west sides of this unit. For the most part, roads within the unit are primarily maintained dirt roads. Many of the hunting areas are accessible only by four-wheel drive. Carry extra gas, spare tires, tire chains and water. **Note:** Please be aware that this unit 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: U. S. Geological Survey 1:100,000 scale metric topographic maps which give a broad overview are as follows: **Gerlach and Highrock Canyon**. 7.5 minute topo maps that provide the best detail include High Rock Lake, Leadville, Sheep Peaks, Division Peak and Donnelly Peak. Topo maps are sold at the Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology at 784-6691 and Mark Fore and Strike at 322-9559. The DeLorme Nevada Atlas and Gazetteer is available at most sporting goods stores, or by calling them direct at 1-800-452-5931.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES: The closest hospital is in Reno Nevada. Gas, food vehicle repair facilities and motels are located in Gerlach or Cedarville California. There are no developed campgrounds. 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. Drinking water must be hauled from the nearest town.

RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR BIGHORN SHEEP: The southern half of Calico Mountain currently holds the bulk of the sheep in this unit. Try the main portion of the mountain from Division Peak north to Donnelly Peak.