LOCATION: These units are located in west central Nevada in Churchill, Pershing and Lander Counties.

ELEVATION: Elevations in these units range from approximately 4,000 feet on the valley floors to the highest mountain peaks at 10,000 feet.

TERRAIN: Mule deer habitat in the three major mountain ranges is characterized as being rugged with steep ridges and side canyons.

VEGETATION: Desert salt shrub plant communities dominate the valley floors. Beginning at approximately the 5,000-foot elevation, sagebrush communities become dominant. Above 7,500 feet, short sage and mountain shrub communities become the norm. All three major mountain ranges have extensive piñyon-juniper woodlands. There are aspen stands associated with upper elevation riparian zones.

LAND STATUS: Unit 181 contains a large agricultural area and is comprised of approximately 85% private land. Units 182, 183 and 184 are comprised of predominantly public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, Carson City, Winnemucca, and Battle Mountain Districts.

HUNTER ACCESS: Access to primary mule deer hunting areas is generally good. Hunters will encounter access restrictions at Smith Creek and Edwards Creek in the Desatoya Range, however alternate public access is available around those private lands.

MAP REFERENCES: U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps (1:100,000 scale) that cover the area include Carson Sink, Fallon, Edwards Creek, Valley and Smith Creek Valley. There are numerous 7.5-minute scale topographic maps of the area as well. Topo maps are sold in Reno at the Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology at (775) 784-6691, Mark, Fore & Strike at (775) 322-9559, and U.S Geological Services at the University of Nevada at (775) 358-0923. In Fallon, topo maps are available through Jeff’s Office Supply at (775) 423-6078. 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. Link to Map Resources.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES: Gas, food, lodging, vehicle repair services and a hospital are available in Fallon. Intermittent gas and food services are available at Middlegate and Cold Springs.

RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR MULE DEER: The highest density mule deer areas during the deer season occur in the Cherry Valley and Augusta Peak areas of the Clan Alpine Range, and the upper elevations of the Desatoya Range between Topia Canyon and the Dens.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: Horses can be used to a hunter’s advantage on all the aforementioned mountain ranges. Hunter success is usually better during the latter part of the regular deer season.