

# DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTER INFORMATION SHEET

See unit description **Unit 181**



**LOCATION:** The sheep hunting area is located in south central Churchill County. Sheep occupy both the Sand Springs Range and Fairview Peak/Slate Mountain.

**ELEVATION:** Elevations range from the Fairview Valley floor at 4164 feet to the top of Fairview Peak at 8302 feet. Recommended hunting areas range from 4900 to 8302 feet.

**TERRAIN:** Rock outcroppings and precipitous terrain between Arterial Canyon and Contact Canyon in the Sand Springs Range. This same terrain prevails in the Fairview Peak/Slate Mountain area.

**VEGETATION:** The area is principally represented by the classic Great Basin habitat, consisting of high desert shrub and piñon-juniper forests.

**LAND STATUS:** The sheep hunting area is on public lands administered by the Carson District of the BLM and on lands administered by U.S. Navy's Fallon Naval Air Station.

**HUNTER ACCESS:** Hunter access to the hunt areas is through Fairview Valley, approximately one hour from Fallon. Hunter access to the two mountain ranges is limited with only a few roads into the hunting area. Hiking will be the primary means of accessing sheep habitat. Sheep hunters may be required to attend a Department of Defense Briefing. There may be adjustments to seasonal use of the Fairview Peak and Slate Mountain vicinities due to ongoing military training activities. Tagholders will receive a letter with additional information.

**MAP REFERENCES:** Topographic maps are highly recommended. The **Fallon** 1:100,000 scale series covers the entire hunt unit. Topographic Maps are sold in Reno at the Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology at 784-6691 and Mark Four and Strike at 322-9559. You may also contact Geological Services at 358-0923. In Fallon topo maps are available at Jeff's Office Supply at 423-6078 or for long distance calls at 1-800-548-3337. 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:** The city of Fallon has gas, food, lodging, vehicle repair facilities and hospitals. Dispersed camping is allowed on BLM administered land. Some services are intermittently available at Middlegate and Cold Springs. Camping is not permitted upon Navy-owned lands.

**RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR BIGHORN SHEEP:** Areas to start looking for bighorn sheep are Slate Mountain, the area between Lucky Boy Canyon and Contact Canyon in the Sand Springs Range.

**SPECIAL COMMENTS:** Hunters should be prepared for a physically demanding hunt. The area is steep and rocky. Hunters should have adequate clothing as the weather can turn bad in a short period of time. Hunting effort usually begins at lower elevations off of the valley floor. Hiking will be the main means of access to the precipitous sheep habitat.