

DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTER INFORMATION SHEET

See unit description **Unit 183**



LOCATION: The unit is located in eastern Churchill County. Bighorns are predominantly found on the western and southern slopes of the Clan Alpine Range.

ELEVATION: Elevations range from the flat of Dixie Valley at 3411 feet to the top of Augusta Peak at 9993 feet. Recommended hunting areas range from 4000 to 6500 feet.

TERRAIN: Rock outcroppings and precipitous terrain along the western and southern exposures of the Clan Alpine Range typify areas where sheep can be found.

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 land administered by the Carson District of the BLM.

HUNTER ACCESS: Hunter access to the hunt areas is through Dixie and Edwards Creek Valleys, approximately an hour to an hour and a half drive from Fallon. Hunter access to the range is limited with only a few roads into the hunting area. Hiking will be the primary means of accessing sheep habitat. Hunter access onto Navy-owned lands in the Horse Creek Drainage area is permitted through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Nevada Division of Wildlife.

MAP REFERENCES: Topographic maps are highly recommended. The Fallon, Carson Sink, and Edwards Creek Valley 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 can also call 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 intermittent at Middlegate and Cold Springs. Some private and Navy-owned lands exist in Dixie Valley.

RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR BIGHORN SHEEP: Areas to start looking for bighorn sheep are Cow Canyon, Horse Creek, Chalk Mountain, Hercules Canyon, Lauderback Ridge area, and the Bench Creek Spur.

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.