

DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTER INFORMATION SHEET

See unit descriptions Unit 205



LOCATION: The main part of this sheep hunting area is along the eastern side of the Gabbs Valley Range. Sheep will also be found on the western facing side of the Pilot Mountain area.

ELEVATION: Elevations range from Walker Lake at 4,000 feet to the top of Mount Ferguson at 8,353 feet. Recommended hunting areas range from 6,000 to 8,000 feet.

TERRAIN: Precipitous slopes along the east face typify the areas where the sheep are found.

VEGETATION: The area is principally represented by classic Great Basin habitat, consisting of high desert brushland and piñon-juniper forests. The piñon-juniper canopy can be fairly tight in many areas, but otherwise, vistas are fairly open. There are some spring sources in the area in addition to the artificial water sources installed to support wildlife in the area.

LAND STATUS: The sheep hunting areas in this unit are on public land administered by the Carson District BLM.

HUNTER ACCESS: Access to the hunting area is within a short drive from Hawthorne.

MAP REFERENCES: Topographic maps are most highly recommended. The **Walker Lake** 1:100,000 scale series covers the majority of this hunt area. The **Excelsior map covers the western side of Pilot Mountain.**

For greater detail in specific areas, there are several 7.5-minute scale topographic maps available. Topographic 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 (775) 358-0923. 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 Hawthorne has all necessary accommodations including health care. There are no public campgrounds in this unit. Dispersed camping is allowed on BLM.

RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR BIGHORN SHEEP: South of Wildhorse Canyon and east to south of Mt. Ferguson in the Gabbs Valley Range. Telephone Canyon and the Volcano Peak area of Pilot Mountain are also good areas to start.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: Be prepared for a physically demanding hunt. The area is steep and rocky. Insure that you have adequate clothing as the weather can turn bad in a short period of time. Four-wheel drive equipment can be useful; however, most of the hunting effort will begin from lower elevations off of well-maintained roads. Hiking will be the primary means of accessing sheep habitat.