

Nevada Hunter Information Sheet



CALIFORNIA BIGHORN SHEEP Area 1 – Units 011, 013 –

This unit is currently closed as a result of a disease event.

LOCATION: Western Washoe County. See unit description in the big game brochure.

ELEVATION: Elevations vary from 4,000 feet at the valley floors to 8,000 feet at Hays Canyon 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: Vegetation in this unit is made up of big sagebrush, juniper, mountain mahogany and various native grasses. Bighorn will utilize the denser stands of juniper in this unit making them more difficult to locate.

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 230 square miles, of which approximately 20 percent are private. Forty-nine mountain in the north end of unit 013 is privately owned and off limits to sheep hunters in this unit.

HUNTER ACCESS: From Reno Nevada travel north on highway 447 to Gerlach. Unit 013 can be reached on Highway 447 or 34 from Gerlach. Unit 011 lies north of Unit 013 and can be accessed by continuing on Highway 447 to Cedarville, then east on SR 299 or by traveling further north on Highway 34 to its intersection with SR 299. For the most part, dirt roads within the unit are not maintained. Many of the hunting areas are accessible only by four-wheel drive. Carry extra gas, spare tires, tire chains and water.

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 Fortynine Mountain, Big Hat Mountain, Boulder Lake, Hays Canyon, Pegleg Canyon, Massacre Lake, Massacre Lake NW, Calcutta Lake and Coleman Canyon. Topo maps are sold at the Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology at 784-6691 and Mark Fore and Strike at 322-9559. In Carson City, topo maps are available through the Nevada Department of Transportation at 687-3449. 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: Gas, food vehicle repair facilities and motels are located in Gerlach, Nevada 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 SHEEP: Try the main portion of the mountain from Hays Peak north to Slide Spring in unit 013. In unit 011, try hunting the rim and benches northwest of Massacre Lake or the Coleman Canyon area on the Oregon/Nevada border.