

Nevada Hunter Information Sheet



CALIFORNIA BIGHORN SHEEP **Unit 051**

LOCATION: Unit 051 is located north of the town of Winnemucca. The unit is bounded on the north by the Oregon State line, the east by Units 066 and 068, the south by Units 151 and 046, and on the west by Units 035 and 031.

ELEVATION: Elevations run from 9,700 ' at the top of the Santa Rosa Range to 4,400 ' along the Humboldt River.

TERRAIN: Rangelands near the valley floors and river drainages are flat with extensive agricultural activity. The Santa Rosa Range is a rugged north-south mountain with steep canyons. The Owyhee Desert, a high flat sagebrush desert, is in the northeastern portion of the unit.

VEGETATION: The majority of the basins and slopes up to 6,500-7,000 ' elevation are dominated by sagebrush. The sites above 6,500 feet typically have aspen in the drainages, islands of mahogany, and a mixed variety of shrubs and grasses. Some limber pine pockets are found in the higher elevations of the Santa Rosa Range.

LAND STATUS: Approximately 85% of the unit is comprised of public lands. Private lands are associated with agriculture or mining.

HUNTER ACCESS: From Winnemucca go north on Highway 95. Primary and secondary road access is relatively good. Four-wheel drive (high clearance) vehicles are recommended to access most of the unit. There is approximately 31,000 acres of wilderness area at the southern end of the Santa Rosa Range (closed to motorized vehicles).

MAP REFERENCES: U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps: 1:100,000 scale - **Quinn River Valley and Osgood Mountains**. 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 and Mark, Fore & Strike at (775) 322-9559. For additional information or map orders write to the Humboldt National Forest, Santa Rosa District, 1200 East Winnemucca Blvd. Winnemucca, NV 89445 (775) 623-5025 or Winnemucca Bureau of Land Management, 705 East 4th Street, Winnemucca, NV 89445 (775) 623-1500. 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.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES: Winnemucca provides gas, food, lodging and emergency medical services. McDermitt and Orovada offer food, gas, and lodging. Gas and food are available at the Paradise Hill convenience store at the junction of Highways 95 & 290. Paradise Valley has limited food supplies and no gas. The Lye Creek campground, in the Santa Rosa Range, is the only developed site in the area. The U.S. Forest Service operates this primitive site (water, tables, fire pits, toilets). The cost is \$8.00 per day.

RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR BIGHORN: The largest population, and most popular area for hunting, is associated with the Eightmile drainage in the northern portion of the Santa Rosa Mountains. However, another region of the mountain holds a good population of bighorn that receives very little hunting pressure: the Sawtooth Mountain to Andorno Canyon portion of the Santa Rosas.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: Bighorn sheep hunting can be very difficult. Therefore, it is recommended that the hunter be familiar with the hunt unit, be physically prepared, and have all equipment associated with the hunt in good working order. Trout fishing opportunities exist on the Santa Rosa Range, but check regulations to determine which waters are open.