

Nevada Hunter Information Sheet



DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP **Unit 212**

LOCATION: See unit description in the big game hunting brochure. Unit 212 is comprised of Lone Mountain and the Weepah Hills of Esmeralda county.

ELEVATION: The elevations range from 5,000 feet at the lower valley floors to over 9,100 feet at the top of Lone Mountain.

TERRAIN: The terrain varies from rolling/undulating benches at the lower elevations to steep rocky canyons and cliffs covered with heavy pinyon/juniper from 7,000-9,000 feet. .

VEGETATION: Desert shrub and low sagebrush in the lower valley bottoms and benches. Heavy pinyon/juniper exists from around 7,000-9,000 feet. Quite a variety of plants occur over this mountain, making it more plant rich than most sheep areas. It is also a well watered mountain.

LAND STATUS: All lands administered by the BLM.

HUNTER ACCESS: Access to Lone Mountain exists around the perimeter of the mountain. The best access is from Alpine or Jacks canyon areas, located along the west side of the mountain.

MAP REFERENCES: The U.S. Geological Survey 1:100,000 topographic map that covers the area is: **Tonopah**. The 1:250,000 AMS topographic map that covers the area is: **Goldfield**.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES: Full services are available in the town of Tonopah. The small town of Silver Peak provides some services, but not all. Generally primitive camping is the rule.

RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP: Because of excellent food and water distribution, sheep can be distributed over the entire mountain. Generally speaking, most sheep are to be found on Lone Mountain itself. Start looking in the northwestern portion of the mountain. From here it is possible to access the north slope as well. As temperatures cool and precipitation is received, Paymaster Canyon and the Weepah Hills increase in importance to the herd. Many times rams can be found in these areas. Lone Mountain is heavily treed in comparison with most desert sheep ranges, and patience and intense glassing are paramount to a successful hunt.