

# Nevada Hunter Information Sheet



## **MULE DEER** **Units 171, 172, 173**

**LOCATION:** Southern Lander and northern Nye counties. See unit description in big game brochure.

**ELEVATION:** Elevations within the hunt area range from approximately 5,500 feet in the valleys to nearly 12,000 feet on Arc Dome.

**TERRAIN:** Terrain in most of the deer habitat is single ridge mountain ranges running north to south with deep canyons running both east and west.

**VEGETATION:** Desert shrub and low sagebrush in lower valley bottoms, pinyon/juniper from around 6,500-8,000 feet, sagebrush, mountain brush and big sagebrush, as well as significant stands of aspen and mountain mahogany (8,000-11,000 feet) with some Limber Pine at the higher elevations.

**LAND STATUS:** Most lands are administered by the BLM or U.S. Forest Service.

**HUNTER ACCESS:** Good, except off-road vehicular travel is restricted in some areas and prohibited in the southern portion of unit 173 designated as the Arc Dome Wilderness, this area supports very good deer densities. The east slope of unit 173 is extremely rugged and steep.

**MAP REFERENCES:** Maps are available from BLM or USFS (Tonopah, Reno or Las Vegas) or private vendors such as Mercury Blueprint (Las Vegas) and Brundiges and Oakman's (Reno). USGS 1:100,000 topographic maps that cover the area are: **lone Valley, and Smith Creek Valley**. The 1:250,000 AMS topographic maps that cover the area are: **Tonopah, Goldfield and a portion of Caliente**.

**FACILITIES AND SERVICES:** Full services are only available in the towns of Austin, Eureka and Tonopah. Generally, primitive camping, a few developed campsites with some developed trailhead facilities.

**RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS:** Deer occur in all units of the management area from the foothills to upper peaks. Lowest densities occur in unit 171 due to limited deer habitat. The greatest densities and highest harvest rates occur in unit 173, unit 172 also supports good numbers of deer. During the hunting season, the highest deer densities can be found above the dense Pinyon/Juniper belt in higher elevation, more open habitat types, from 8,500-10,500+ feet. The best access to good mule deer country is along the west side of the Toiyabe Range, Unit 173, and the east side of the Shoshone Range, Unit 172. Look for more open country with a good mixture of Mountain Brush, Meadows, and pockets of Pine or Aspen, and Mountain Mahogany. **Significantly more deer and better hunting can be found away from roads.** Good mule deer habitat can be found at higher elevations along the nearly the entire length of the Toiyabe and Shoshone ranges. Patience while glassing is a must in this high country mule deer habitat. Be patient, move less, glass more.