

# Nevada Hunter Information Sheet



## **MULE DEER** **Unit 192**

**LOCATION:** This unit is bounded on the north by Highway 50 and the south by Topaz Reservoir. It is bordered on the east by U.S. Highway 395 and on the west by Lake Tahoe and the California border. The Carson Range, a spur of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, is the primary mountain range in the unit.

**ELEVATION:** Ranges from the valleys at 5,000 feet to East Peak at 9,500 feet.

**TERRAIN:** Inclines are gentle at the toe slopes but the mountains rise rapidly and feature numerous stream-filled canyons. A few high elevation flats and basins exist. Many of the backcountry roads are very rough. Carry spare tires and a heavy -duty jack.

**VEGETATION:** The tree line begins at approximately 5,100 feet. Along the Carson Front, the canopy consists primarily of Jeffrey pine mixed with fir and cedar in some areas. Aspen stands are associated with riparian areas. In the southern part of the unit, piñon pine predominates with some stands of Jeffrey pine and mahogany. Fires in the past decade have eliminated tree cover in much of the southern part of the unit. Brushland dominated by sage and bitterbrush exist where the canopy is open and where timber is absent.

**LAND STATUS:** The Carson Ranger District of the Toiyabe National Forest manages the majority of the public land on the Carson Range. The Jacks Valley Wildlife Management Area south of Carson City is also administered by the United States Forest Service. The Forest Service has some lands in the southern portion of the unit as well. The Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California administers a considerable amount of land south of Dresslerville. Valley lands are almost exclusively private-owned. Seek permission to pass before hunting the toe slopes along the Carson Front.

**HUNTER ACCESS:** The upper elevations on the Carson Range are accessed through Forest Service road 036 at Spooner Summit. The Jacks Valley WMA is accessed through entrance gates on Highway 206 approximately 12 miles west of its intersection with U.S. Highway 395. There are numerous access roads off of Highway 208 but many of these cross private lands. Check first. In the southern portion of the unit, access to the Carson River and its associated benches is achieved from the east through Bodie Flat off U.S. Highway 395 and from the west from Long Valley (private land).

**MAP REFERENCES:** Forest Service: Toiyabe NF-Carson District at (775) 882-2766. U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps: 1:100,000 scale - **Carson City and Smith Valley**. Topo maps are sold in Reno at the Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology at (775) 784-6691, Mark, Fore & Strike at 322-9559, and U.S. Geological Services at the University of Nevada 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.

**FACILITIES AND SERVICES:** The cities of Carson City and Gardnerville/Minden are nearby and offer all facilities and services. There are no public campgrounds in this unit. Dispersed camping on the Toiyabe NF is allowed, but a campfire permit is required.

**RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR MULE DEER:** Archers and muzzleloaders should concentrate on the riparian areas along the eastern flank of the Carson Range. These areas are also productive during the general season, but the majority of the unit's deer arrive through migration from the Sierra Nevada beginning in late October. These deer concentrate at the Jacks Valley WMA, in the vicinity of Fay Canyon on the California border and in the southern portion of the unit near the Carson River. The public lands just west of Topaz can be productive after a winter storm.

**SPECIAL COMMENTS:** The majority of the deer inhabiting this unit are associated with the Carson River Interstate Herd. This population is cooperatively managed with the California Department of Fish & Game. California's hunting season precedes Nevada's. If the deer are at lower elevations during the hunt period, please be cautious about shooting around suburban housing areas. Since the units include large urban areas, many nonhunters will also be recreating. Be considerate of their experiences in the field as you would hope that they would be considerate of yours.