

Species: Elk

Unit Group: 078, 105-107, 109

Hunt Geometry ID: 130

Hunt ID: [825, 8375927, 432, 794, 816, 534, 438, 8374833, 777, 8375945, 793, 707, 823, 586]

Access:

In Unit 078, the Long Canyon Mine and the associated private properties impede access to portions of the South Pequops. The checkerboarded public/private land ownership of Hunt Unit 107 can make for nearly impossible access without permission to cross private lands. Hunt Units 105, 106, and 109 have excellent access, with extensive road networks and very little private land.

Recommended Hunting Areas:

This unit group is quite arid, with limited natural waters and numerous wildlife water developments. Early season hunters should key in on water sources and the adjacent habitat. Overutilization by wild horses continues to plague a majority of this unit group, hunters should seek out those portions of the mountain that still support suitable vegetative conditions.

Hunt Unit 078 has high elk densities during portions of the year. Elk are consistently harvested in Nanny Creek, Sixmile Canyon, and the Spud Patch burn. A sizable portion of the unit group's elk population uses the Big Springs Ranch seasonally. Hunters are reminded to respect private property rights.

Hunt Unit 105 has high elk densities and supports a majority of the elk harvest. Elk can be found on all portions of Spruce Mountain and throughout the South Pequop Wilderness Study Area. Since 2013, the BLM and the Nevada Department of Wildlife have partnered to implement approximately 10,000 acres of enhancement projects on Spruce Mountain that will be areas to focus on in coming years.

Hunt Unit 106 has low elk densities and accounts for very little harvest. Hunters should focus on the small pockets of quality habitat of the Goshute Mountains, the Dolly Varden Mountains, and the Antelope Range that have conditions conducive to elk use.

Hunt Unit 107 seasonally has moderate densities of elk. Historically, the complicated land ownership of the unit has led to very little harvest.

Hunt Unit 109 seasonally has high densities of elk, most notably in the winter. Elk regularly move back and forth from Hunt Unit 105 to Hunt Unit 109. The primary focus area is Valley Mountain and the associated canyons.

Biologist Comments:

The towns of Elko, Ely, Wells, and Wendover provide access to groceries, fuel, lodging, and other amenities. There are numerous RV parks in Elko, Ely, Wells, and Wendover with varying degrees of availability and services provided. Dispersed camping opportunities are readily available on federally managed lands throughout the unit group. The Nevada Department of Wildlife conducts post season helicopter surveys that can overlap with the Late Any Legal Weapon Bull Hunt and/or the Late Antlerless Hunt.