

Species: Mule Deer

Unit Group: 014

Hunt Geometry ID: 111

Hunt ID: [183, 89, 866, 257, 415, 105, 287]

Access:

Unit 014 is located just north of the town of Gerlach, Nevada. From Reno, travel north Highway 447. From Alturas or Cedarville, California, travel east on highway 299, and then south on Highway 447. Roads in this unit range from high standard dirt like Highway 34 to small jeep trails. Many of the hunting areas, particularly during inclement weather, are accessible only by four-wheel drive or ATV. Carry extra gas, spare tires, tire chains and water. This unit encompasses approximately 400 square miles; less than 5 percent is comprised of private land. Overall, access to public land is pretty good in this unit, however some of the roads into the higher elevations can be quite rocky and rough.

Recommended Hunting Areas:

Deer are distributed widely from the south end to the north end of this hunt unit. Deer occur at low densities in this hunt unit and have ample hiding cover, so hunters should be prepared to spend a lot of time glassing under junipers, in head basins or saddles, and near riparian areas. In the southern end of the unit, some areas to focus on glassing include the Banjo south to the Tanks, including the upper stretches of Cottonwood Creek, Rock Creek and Granite Creek. On the northern end of the unit, hunters should spend some time looking at the area between Fox Mountain south to Melody Mountain. Be sure to include the head basins of the North, Middle and South Forks of Negro Creek. The upper portions of Crutcher Canyon and west to the Lone Juniper Spring area can also hold deer throughout the season.

Biologist Comments:

Deer populations in this hunt area are down 60 to 80 percent from the highs experienced during the late 1980's. Hunters should expect to encounter low deer densities and a higher degree of difficulty in locating mature bucks than has been experienced in this area historically. There are still some quality bucks in this unit, but hunters will need to spend ample time and effort in this unit to be successful. Hunters should also note that in 2020 the Poodle Fire burned approximately 1,971 acres along the border of units 014, 015.

This area is incredibly remote, and it is important to be prepared for limited facilities within the hunt unit. Fuel, food, vehicle repair facilities, and motels are available in Gerlach. There are no developed campgrounds. Hunters typically take advantage of tree cover and or perennial water sources adjacent to the area that they are hunting. Tent-type camps are recommended. Trailer or RV-type hunters are confined to better road systems in the valley floors and are required to travel farther each day to reach their hunt area. In most cases, drinking water must be hauled from home or the nearest town. During many of the previous hunt seasons there have been burn restrictions in place, so please contact the local BLM office prior to your hunt to see if campfires are permitted.