

Species: Mule Deer

Unit Group: 271, 272

Hunt Geometry ID: 20

Hunt ID: [910, 333, 284, 182, 418, 230, 330]

Access:

This unit group can be accessed via Interstate 15 and State Route 170. Several dirt roads, both maintained and unmaintained branch off these highways to allow off-road vehicle travel within the unit. Unit 271 can also be accessed on the north via State Route 317 and the Tule Flat Road. The New Gold Butte Road provides major access to many areas within unit 272.

Recommended Hunting Areas:

Deer density is low and sparse throughout this unit group. Most deer can be found in the Mormon Mountains or East Mormon Mountains in unit 271 or the Virgin Mountains in unit 272. During archery and muzzleloader seasons deer can be located at higher elevation areas of the Mormon and Virgin Mountains. Deer will be closely associated with reliable water sources, including natural springs and wildlife guzzlers. Weather conditions can be very hot and dry during both archery and muzzleloader seasons. In the Mormon Mountains, most deer will be found in the wilderness area in August and September. Hunters should be prepared to hike long distances to locate deer. Adequate gear, food, and water is essential to remain safe. As temperatures cool, deer will move to lower elevation areas with adequate shrub cover for foraging. Deer will remain closely associated with water sources on winter range, particularly if conditions have been dry.

Biologist Comments:

This area has been affected by prolonged drought cycles in the past and receives precipitation following monsoonal weather patterns. Majority of the annual precipitation for this unit group comes during the late fall and winter as both rain and snow. Late spring and early summer tend to be dry with limited precipitation falling during June. Beginning in late July, monsoonal weather patterns can bring significant precipitation that may last through mid-August. This late summer precipitation can cause vegetation green-up and change animal distribution across the landscape. If monsoonal weather patterns do not arise and conditions are hot and dry throughout the summer, animals may be more reliant on permanent water sources, including springs, and wildlife guzzlers.