Species: Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep

Unit Group: 241

**Hunt Geometry ID: 27** 

**Hunt ID:** [640]

## Access:

Major access points can be found off U.S. Highway 93 on the northern and western boundaries of this unit, as well as on State Route 317 (Meadow Valley Wash) and along the Kane Springs Road. Numerous gravel and dirt roads exist throughout the unit. Off-road vehicles are recommended when traveling on unmaintained roads, as this unit is prone to flash flooding and extreme erosion which may make roads rough or impassible. There are two designated wilderness areas in this unit, the South Pahroc Range and the Delamar Mountains Wilderness Areas. "Cherry-stem" access into the Delamar Mountain Wilderness include Bomber Canyon on the southwestern boundary and Willow Spring on the southern boundary. Motorized equipment, mechanized transport, including wheeled game carriers and chainsaws, are prohibited in wilderness areas. Terrain in this unit is extremely steep and rugged. It is recommended that hunters are well prepared with adequate gear, including extra food and water, when hiking.

## **Recommended Hunting Areas:**

Desert bighorn sheep can be found in the South Hiko, South Pahroc, and the western half of the Delamar Mountains. Sheep are typically found in steep, rocky terrain with adequate escape terrain to evade predators. During hot and dry conditions sheep can be associated with reliable water sources, including natural springs, cattle troughs, and guzzlers. Later in the year sheep can be more spread out across the range as fall precipitation increases areas where sheep can get water. Hunters should plan on spending large amounts of time glassing with binoculars and spotting scopes to locate sheep. Bighorn sheep may be found near the Six-mile and Eight-Mile springs in the South Hiko and South Pahroc areas, or along the western and southern portions of the Delamar Mountains via access from Bomber Canyon (that accesses Delamar #2 guzzler) and U.S. Highway 93.

## **Biologist Comments:**

This area can experience heavy monsoonal precipitation patterns late summer, which may cause flash flooding events and extreme erosion of roadways. Hunters should be cautious when traveling on dirt roads, as they may have sustained damage. Many hunters may focus on the South Hiko and South Pahroc ranges due to increased road accessibility, however many good rams can be found in the Delamar Mountain Wilderness Area. Bighorn may not be associated with water sources during the hunting season due to cooler temperatures and early winter precipitation. Full services are only available in Las Vegas and partial services in Caliente, Alamo, and Ash Springs. Camping in this unit involves primitive camping or a few developed campsites at the USFWS Upper Pahranagat Lake campground.