

Species: Mule Deer

Unit Group: 011, 012, 013

Hunt Geometry ID: 105

Hunt ID: [125, 378, 204, 141, 865, 286, 353]

Access:

To access this hunt unit group, travel east on Highway 299 from Alturas and Cedarville. To access the unit group from the south, travel north out of Reno or Gerlach on Highway 447. Roads in the unit group range from high standard dirt to jeep trails. Many of the hunting areas are only accessible by four-wheel drive vehicles or ATV. Tire chains, extra gas, extra water, and spare tires are recommended. Please be aware that Unit 012 contains a significant amount of designated wilderness. Motorized equipment, mechanized transport, including wheeled game carriers and chainsaws, are prohibited in wilderness areas. This unit grouping encompasses approximately 1,400 square miles; with less than 5 percent of the area comprised of private land. Forty-nine Mountain and the Coleman Canyon area, on the northeast end of the Vya Rim, represent the only significant access problems. Overall access to public land is good in this area.

Recommended Hunting Areas:

Most of the upper elevations hold deer in varying densities. A few places to focus your efforts are the Hays Canyon Peak south to Packsaddle Spring and east to include Boulder Mountain. Spend some time looking along the Vya Rim north of Highway 8A to the Oregon border to include Crooks Lake, Holy Lake and upper elevation areas north of Gravelly Spring. Cherry Mountain, east of Wall Canyon Reservoir, can be productive, particularly later in the regular deer season.

Biologist Comments:

Deer in this unit are widely distributed and occur at lower densities than some of the other hunt units. Hunter success will largely be dictated by the amount of time and effort spent glassing the mahogany stands and bitterbrush. Earlier in the season deer are more closely tied to the limited distribution of water than later in the year, and hunters may benefit from spending time near water sources.

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 Cedarville and 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.