

**Species:** Mule Deer

**Unit Group:** 101-109

**Hunt Geometry ID:** 128

**Hunt ID:** [233, 882, 211, 232, 231, 390, 385, 152, 150, 369, 300, 153, 210]

**Access:**

Public access is limited in much of the unit group due to private properties on the bench surrounding the East Humboldt Range (Unit 101) and the Ruby Mountains (Unit 102), as well as checkerboarded public/private lands comprising most of Unit 107. Vehicle access is further limited in much of Units 101 and 102 due to two large areas of designated Wilderness. Foot access to the 32,364 acre East Humboldt Wilderness can be found on the Lizzies Basin, Secret-Starr, Smith Lake, and Winchell Lake trailheads. Foot access to the 92,652 acre Ruby Mountain Wilderness can be found on the Colonel Moore, Gardner Creek, Green Mountain, Krenka Creek, Overland Lake, Right Fork, Roads End (Lamoille), Ruby Guard, Soldier Creek, Talbot, and Thomas trailheads. The Harrison Pass Road (border of Unit 102 and Unit 103) has been a popular destination because of its high deer densities and its broad road network. Public access is excellent in Units 103-106, and 108-109, with extensive road networks and very few private land issues. Access to Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge is not permitted for the hunting of big game species.

**Recommended Hunting Areas:**

The vast majority of the deer are found in the highly productive East Humboldt and Ruby Mountain Ranges of Units 101, 102, and 103. Units 104-109 all serve primarily as transition/winter ranges for other more productive units but do all have small resident herds. Hunters have the choice between higher deer densities, higher hunter densities, poorer access (Units 101-103), and more arid sites, lower deer densities, and heavier tree cover (Units 104-109). As hunting season progresses deer will seek refuge in areas away from human disturbance and will be found away from roads and trailheads. Hunters should seek out those areas outside of the view from vehicle access, often only a canyon away.

**Biologist Comments:**

The towns of Elko, Ely, Eureka, Spring Creek, Wells, and Wendover provide access to groceries, fuel, lodging, and other amenities. There are numerous RV parks in Elko, Ely, Eureka, Wells, and Wendover with varying degrees of availability and services provided. Improved campgrounds operated by the USFS include Angel Creek (Unit 101), Angel Lake (Unit 101), Thomas Canyon (Unit 102), and South Ruby (Unit 103). The associated fees, availability, and reservations can be found at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). Dispersed camping opportunities are readily available on other federally managed lands throughout the unit group.