



GMU 18A

March 3, 2025

Species within this unit: Antelope, Black Bear, Elk, Javelina, Mountain Lion, Mule Deer

Unit Boundaries

Beginning at Seligman; westerly on AZ Hwy 66 to the Hualapai Indian Reservation; southwest and west along the reservation boundary to AZ Hwy 66; southwest on AZ Hwy 66 to the Hackberry Rd.; south on the Hackberry Rd. to I-40; west along I-40 to U.S. Hwy 93; south on U.S. Hwy 93 to Cane Springs Wash; easterly along Cane Springs Wash to the Big Sandy River; northerly along the Big Sandy River to Trout Creek; northeast along Trout Creek to the Davis Dam- Prescott power line; southeasterly along the power line to the west boundary of the Prescott National Forest; north and east along the forest boundary to the Williamson Valley Rd. (County Rd. 5, FR 6); northerly on the Williamson Valley Rd. (County Rd. 5, FR 6) to Seligman and AZ Hwy 66; except those portions that are sovereign tribal lands of the Hualapai Indian Tribe.

Species Information

Antelope

Overview: The Unit 18A antelope population has a history of rising and falling depending on precipitation levels and range conditions. Remote real estate subdivision development is taking a significant bite out of available hunting area. The Mormon Peaks, Chino Wash, Markham Well Flat, Echeverrias Flat, Aubrey Valley, and Antelope Valley subdivision areas are all being negatively affected. Most areas are still huntable, but extreme caution and knowledge of your



location are mandatory. Other areas include Truxton Flats, 74 Plains, and Hackberry.

The most productive hunting strategies are generally glassing and stalking. Preseason scouting is important to serious antelope hunters. There are private lands in the area. Do your best to get permission to hunt the area and preserve hunting opportunities in the future.

Black Bear

Overview: Black bears are not common in Unit 18A, but they do either live here or travel through on a regular basis. This is not a hot bear unit, but there is an opportunity to harvest a bear most years.

Areas: Check water holes or creek bed areas in the west half of the unit. The Willow Ranch area along Knight Creek and the edge of Truxton Flat along Wright Creek are two of the best places to look. Isolated waterholes in the central part of the unit should be checked to see if tracks are present.

Elk

Overview: Unit 18A is presently being hunted for elk in combination with Units 15A, 15B. Please check the annual hunting regulations for the correct unit combinations by season. Scouting is important to locate elk in this unit because elk are not evenly distributed. Hilltop glassing and checking water holes are prime methods for scouting and hunting. Elk may be called during the early seasons. Areas: Anvil Rock Road, Jolly Road, Black Mountain, Denny Ranch, Nelson Canyon and the Fort Rock area are good areas to scout for elk. Caution should be exercised in all these areas because subdivisions are intermingled throughout, and boundary lines exist where hunting is not allowed. State Land portions of the X-1 Ranch, Truxton Flats and the Willow Creek areas all hold elk. Private land portions of the X Bar One Ranch and CEMEX property are closed to public access. Fort Rock Ranch has agreed to allow recreational access to its ranches under limited conditions. Ranch access passes are available through the Fort Rock Ranch Manager on a first come first serve basis. These run out quickly so hunters should reach out as soon as possible after learning they were drawn. To do so, hunters should reference the Fort Rock Ranches Landowner Compact Ranch page on the Arizona Game and Fish website to familiarize themselves with the ranch rules and how to contact the ranch.

Remote real estate subdivisions are common all across Unit 18A. Extreme caution is necessary when choosing a location to hunt. Be respectful of private land developments and the wishes of remote area residents. As stated above, scouting is mandatory. Elk are located in pockets across the unit and do move from year-to-year depending on water available and forage conditions. Hunt hard where you find elk or elk sign and be persistent. Remember to sign in at all



ranch access boxes, and attach an access permit to your vehicle window.

Areas: Anvil Rock Road, Jolly Road, Black Mountain, Denny Ranch, Nelson Canyon and the Fort Rock area are good areas to scout for elk. Caution should be exercised in all these areas because subdivisions are intermingled throughout, and boundary lines exist where hunting is not allowed. State Land portions of the X-1 Ranch, Truxton Flats and the Willow Creek areas all hold elk. Fort Rock Ranch and the private land portion of the X Bar One Ranch are closed to public access. Guided hunts are offered on the X Bar One.

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As stated above, scouting is mandatory. Elk are located in pockets across the unit and do move from year-to-year depending on water available and forage conditions. Hunt hard where you find elk or elk sign and be persistent. Remember to sign in at all ranch access boxes, and attach a green access permit to your vehicle window.

Javelina

Overview: Javelina are relatively plentiful across Unit 18A, but can be difficult to actually get a look at during the general season. They are much easier to find during the archery hunt. Many of the herds observed during winter wildlife surveys are located in the higher elevations, frequently in relatively dense Pinyon-Juniper country. Hunters need to preseason scout areas to learn where javelina are present. Check as many water holes as you can. You will likely find sign around them even in the winter. Set up and hunt nearby. Depending on the vegetation type in the areas you hunt, glassing can be vital to success. Tracking javelina is another method that can get you close to a herd. Sitting on a water hole with plentiful sign can also be productive. Random calling with a predator or javelina call will sometimes produce a opportunity. If you don't find sign in any particular area, just keep looking.

Areas: Javelina are spread all across Unit 18A from the lower desert country on the west end to the higher Pinyon-Juniper country and grassland fringe on the east side. The Knight Creek drainage is usually good as are the Trout Creek, the Big Sandy, and Wright Creek areas. The Willow Creek drainage contains many herds, some in higher Pinyon-Juniper country as well as along I-40. There are javelina throughout the Cottonwood Cliffs. Cross Mountain, the Juniper and Black mountains are all good for javelina. The Denny Ranch area holds many javelina as well. Remote housing is common. As always, know where you are hunting and respect private property developments.

Mountain Lion



Overview: Unit 18A has a healthy mountain lion population. Any lion harvest here will help reduce mortality to the deer and pronghorn population. It is best to hunt lions on a fresh snow, but those hunters with good dogs can hunt on dry ground as well. Good snow conditions are more rare here than some other areas, especially in the lower elevations. Hunters calling for coyotes and bobcats will occasionally call in lions. Callers who want to call specifically for lions should call from one location for at least 30 minutes to one hour or more. Many lion tracks around a water hole may indicate a nearby kill and the lion may still be near. Call near the site. It would not be uncommon for a hunt for another species to turn into a lion hunt with the location of a heavy amount of fresh lion sign.

Areas: The Truxton Flat/Walkover Mine area, Jolly Road and Juniper Mountains are all worth checking out. Watch out for remote real estate developments.

Mule Deer

Overview: Mule deer are found all across Unit 18A with the exception of wide-open grassland areas. Population densities are relatively low, and hunting success can depend on time spent pre-season scouting. Remote real estate subdivisions are common all across Unit 18A. Extreme caution is necessary when choosing a location to hunt. Be respectful of private land developments and the wishes of remote area residents. The Fort Rock Ranch, CEMEX Property, and the private land portion of the X Bar One Ranch are closed to public access. Remember to always sign in at the ranch access boxes and put a green permit tag in your vehicle window.

Much of Unit 18A is covered with dense stands of pinyon and juniper trees. Glassing is possible in some of the country, but still-hunting (creeping through 'the cedars') and sitting at waterholes can also be productive. Mule deer bucks rivaling the Kaibab or the Strip occasionally come out of Unit 18A, but they are few and far between.

Areas: The Truxton Flat-Walkover Mine area in the northwest corner of Unit 18A is mostly public (BLM) land and accessible to hunters. State Land sections and undeveloped private lands across Unit 18A are generally open to hunters who are careful and mindful of private land developments and ranching operations. The Juniper Mountains, Mormon Peaks, Black Mountain and Cross Mountain on the eastern side of the unit have good deer populations. The Cottonwood Cliffs and the Northern Aquarius mountain range on the southwestern side of the unit have been good areas to hunt mule deer in the past. The Nelson Area north of the unit has also produced good bucks in the past. Scouting for areas to hunt is almost as important as looking for deer within Unit 18A. Care should be given to boundary lines and subdivisions not accessible to hunting within the unit.



Unit Summary

Primary Game Species/ Hunting Month(s)

Mule Deer	August-January
Antelope	August/September
Javelina	January/February

Secondary Game Species/Hunting Month(s)

Elk	September/October
Quail	October-January

Climate Information

Month	Avg. Temp	Avg. Rainfall	Avg. Snowfall
January	Max 70°/Min 20°	1.61"	6-12"
February	Max 70°/Min 20°	0.89"	6-12"
March	Max 75°/Min 25°	1.26"	3-6"
April	Max 80°/Min 30°	0.46"	0.0"
May	Max 90°/Min 40°	0.61"	0.0"
June	Max 100°/Min 50°	0.41"	0.0"
July	Max 100°/Min 50°	2.37"	0.0"
August	Max 100°/Min 50°	3.45"	1.99"
September	Max 80°/Min 40°	0.86"	0.0"
October	Max 80°/Min 25°	0.79"	0.0"
November	Max 75°/Min 25°	0.80"	0.0"
December	Max 70°/Min 20°	1.56"	6-12"

Other Pertinent Climate Information

Monsoon usually arrives by mid-July. Snow frequent from December through March. Freak storms October through May not unusual. October through December can be short sleeve weather but bring clothes for cold weather, it can change quickly.



Cities, Roads & Campgrounds

Major Cities and Towns in or Near Game Management Unit and Nearest Gas, Food, and Lodging

Seligman, Valentine, Truxton, Kingman

Major Highways and Roads Leading To

From the East: I-40, Hwy 66

From the West: I-40, Hwy 66

From the North: None

From the South: State Hwy 93

Developed Campgrounds

None.

Undeveloped Campgrounds

Camping allowed while hunting on state lands and BLM land (northwest corner of unit – Truxton/Valentine vicinity) and on private ranch land with permission from landowner/lessee.

Brief Description of Terrain, Elevation, and Vegetation

Elevation 4,500' – 6,000' cottonwood cliffs on west edge of unit. Rest of unit is a combination of mountains, valleys, mesas, plateaus, and canyons. Vegetation ranges from desert scrub and desert grassland to pinyon-juniper to chaparral to grassland. (one tiny patch of aspen located on Black Mountain just west of Seligman.)

Government Agencies and Phone Numbers

Bureau of Land Management, Kingman Area – (928) 718-3700

Arizona State Land Department/Prescott – (928) 778-9567

Arizona Game and Fish Department, Region III -928 692-7700

Note: Much of the unit is subdivided. Caution to hunters regarding remote housing scattered across unit. Much of unit is private land – research and contact landowners/lessee for access permission