

Around Wyoming

Oh Deer!

Migration takes place in Wyoming in the spring. Migration is the wildlife moving from one area to another. The areas that wildlife move between are often from places they live in the winter to places they will live in the summer. This can be very dangerous for wildlife. They have to cross roads, highways and mountain ranges just to name a few of the obstacles. But in southwestern Wyoming, some deer are getting a break.



Mule deer migrate to and from the Wyoming Range by crossing a major highway, U.S. Highway 30, in an area known as Nugget Canyon. Can you find Nugget Canyon on a map? Recently there were six underpasses built under the highway between Sage Junction and Kemmerer. Underpasses allow wildlife to pass under the highway instead of crossing it.



One of the main concerns is that mule deer won't use the underpasses, but recent pictures taken by a motion-activated Web camera show that some animals are using it! Green River Wildlife biologists think that these underpasses will save 200 to 300 mule deer a year! It will also help motorists by reducing the danger of hitting a deer.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department is working with many people on this project, including the Wyoming Department of Transportation and Western Ecosystems Technology. The Wyoming Game and Fish has been working for 20 years to reduce deer and vehicle collisions during migrations in Nugget Canyon, and now with everyone's help, we are making a difference.



Search for "Wildlife Crossing" on the Game & Fish website for current information!

