



MULE DEER

Odocoileus hemionus



With 11 subspecies, the mule deer is a common deer in western North America, ranging from the Northwest Territories of Canada to central Mexico. The mule deer can be found in a variety of habitats, including high mountains, plains, and deserts. They can be distinguished from the white-tailed deer by the larger head and ears, white rump, and smaller rounded tail with a black tip. Adult mule deer are a uniform shade of soft red, gray, or brown. The female gives birth to one to three spotted fawns between April and July.



SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

An adult mule averages about five feet in length and three to four feet in height.

WEIGHT

An adult mule deer can weigh anywhere between 75 and 400 pounds.

FOOD HABITS

The mule deer eats a variety of foods, including succulent plants, acorns, fruits, and berries.

HABITAT

The mule deer can be found in a variety of habitats, including high mountains, plains, and deserts.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The mule deer is found throughout the western half of North America, ranging from the Northwest Territories of Canada to central Mexico.

FUN FACT

Mule deer often injure coyotes and other predators that bother them by kicking them with their hooves.