Sagebrush is the ultimate homebody. You can plant it anywhere but it will thrive best if close to its parent. A few miles away and it will not do as well, struggling more the farther from home it is planted.

The jackalope has myth-like abilities. It is a bit larger than a jack rabbit but projects a size of a small antelope. Even some experienced jackalope hunters have failed to pick up this skill.

Both are native to the land of the flat rabbit and residents in the mountain west.

They have things in common with their human neighbors. All are rugged, shaped by the land they inhabit. They thrive on the rarified air at altitude.

Continuing along this line would stretch a weak metaphor too thinly.

What is clear, though, is that the interstate highway system has influenced how the country is seen. One can drive through Kansas, eastern Colorado, and Wyoming without ever seeing a jackalope.

You'll see cows, maybe horses and sheep. Since the focus is on the destination, most people will miss the raptors

perched on fence posts.

You might see some deer and, depending on the season, herds of Wyoming antelope. Where most will see fields of corn, wheat, or pristine sage brush, stop, observe a canyon.

Take a US highway, where you are not flying over flattened washes.

And before you go, consider buying a Wyo. jackalope hunting license issued by CityOfDouglas.org. You, no doubt, will be there out-of-season. But if you head up that way, drop in to see its jackalope tribute.

It's just off Interstate 25. One and a half hours from the historically significant Teapot Dome oilfield.