

Billings Rod and Gun Club Rifle Range Survey

RESULTS

Capacity

Do you feel that the rifle range at BR&G Club offer enough capacity to adequately serve the current recreational shooting needs of the 2000 family club membership? Circle one --- YES -8 NO -2

If you answered NO --- how many more rifle rests should be provided?

- 1) 20 at least
- 2) The rifle range could be expanded 1 bench at most. The benches are spaced to accommodate handicapped shooters, so, the benches shouldn't be moved closer together. Capacity is only aq problem during hunting season sigh-in and having a range officer has solved that problem.

Amenities

Do you feel that the existing rifle range equipment, building and site infrastructure are adequate? Circle one - --- YES - 6 NO - 4

If you answered NO what items could be improved?

- 1) Some type of sun shield- cannot even shoot with the sun in my eyes. I made my own sun shield.
- 2) Longer rifle range 600 to 100 yards (requires same safe zone).
- 3) Longer range targets – 600 yards close contact rifle shooting area e.g. – 25 yard bermed area for AR and 3 gun (shotgun/rifle/pistol) practice.
- 4) The berms need much better maintenance. This has been ignored for too long.
- 5) I would like to see a realignment that would allow for longer range shooting out to a minimum of 500 yards.

Safety

The safe zone behind a rifle range should provide land for bullets that ricochet or are mistakenly shot over the berms. The required safe zone distances ranges roughly 1 mile (5280') to up to 15,747' for up to .30 cal (about 3 miles); and up to 21,325' for .50 cal (about 4 miles). Currently the safe zone for the BR&G Club rifle range is predominantly off the property to the north. This land area includes a variety of public and private lands, and a portion of the existing Alkali Creek Road. Another future item of interest is the proposed Innerbelt Loop connector road right-of-way which will connect Wicks Lane to Zimmerman Trail. The approved alignment is approximately ½ mile north of the BR&G Club property and the project, while not yet funded, is a high priority project that the City/County is attempting to fund so that it is in place by 2012. The lack of an adequate safe zone at BR&G Club could create an unsafe liability for BR&G Club in the future. Given these facts do you feel that BR&G Club should: Circle all that apply.

- a) Move the rifle range to another property that offers a safe fall out zone. - 1
- b) Build overhead baffles, ground baffles and increased berm protection that will contain all shots within the BR&G Club property. - 9
- c) Take no action - 0
- d) Other
 - 1) Study the feasibility of all of these ideas and make a special report to the membership.
 - 2) Move/realign range on existing property to allow for SAFE shooting out to 500 yards or longer.

Other Comments

Please list any other comments that you may have which will assist the Master Planning efforts on the back of this sheet.

- 1) Covered Benches are nice, but need sound proofing. Now that benches are covered need to address bench top coverings. With the number of semi auto rifles on range need movable barriers to protect shooter on right.
- 2) Prone shooting area – elevated 3 positions. And 50 yard off hand shooting area.

- 3) The only problem with bullets leaving the range has been with ricochets. The 300 yard berm could be elevated fairly easily. The overhead baffles would be an effective way to stop aimed shots from leaving the grounds but not ricochets.
- 4) Please amend by-laws to allow ALL LEGAL firearms to shoot in APPROPRIATE areas at the club. This includes 50 cal. and full auto firearms. We need to encourage all shooting sports and should resist any attempts to ban specific calibers or firearm types.