



NORTHLAND REGIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS PARK

Special Thanks:

- ▶ To the George W. Neilson Foundation for their generous financial support to help fund the Phase 1 - Part 1 development of the Northland Regional Sports Park shooting range areas.
 - ▶ Beltrami County for their foresight, leadership and continued support in establishing /developing recreational opportunities for our residents and visitors to our area.
 - ▶ To the many area businesses for their past and continued support of the shooting sports programs in our area.
 - ▶ To the many individuals who have given so freely of their time, talent and personal resources helping to make the Northland Regional Sports Park a reality.

Thank you!

Your financial support is needed to make the Shooting Park a reality!

Please make your most generous tax-deductible gift or pledge to the Northland Regional Shooting Sports Fund (NRSSF) which has been established at the Northwest Minnesota Foundation to promote, firearms safety training, marksmanship programs, public shooting opportunities and range development in the Greater Bemidji Area.



- Online: www.nwmf.org: click "Donate Now" and select NRSSF under "N" (direct donation to: Project Fund)
 - Pledges, Planned or Deferred Gifts: Please contact Lisa Peterson at lisap@nwmf.org or 218-759-2057

Questions?

Recreation Resource Manager of Beltrami County (218) 333 - 4165

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The Northland Regional Sports Park's entrance is three miles north on Hwy 89 (1/2 mile south of Jackpine Road NW).



What is the Northland Regional Shooting Sports Park?

The Northland Regional Shooting Sports Park is part of the Northland Regional Sports Park, which will be a multi-use sporting facility that promotes outdoor recreation. The 360-acre Northland Regional Sports Park is located in section 17 of Eckles Township; and the park entrance is approximately 3 miles north on Hwy 89 (1/2 mile south of Jackpine Road NW).

Designated as a multiuse park, the initial phase of development will be the Shooting Sports Park. The Shooting Sports Park facility will serve as a firearms training center and include a rifle and pistol shooting facility, skeet and trap fields and a firearms safety and hunter education training center along with supporting infrastructure.

Background / History

Shooting sports in the United States are time honored traditions dating back to when firearms first arrived on our shores.

In early 1991 members of the local shooting community, recognizing the need for quality shooting ranges, began meeting as the Beltrami Shooters Federation to discuss securing land on which to develop range facilities for rifle, pistol, archery, trap and skeet.

The name was later changed to the Headwaters Shooting Sports Association, which was incorporated in February of 1992.

The group began contacting local, state and federal officials/agencies along with national shooting organizations regarding funding, partnerships and potential sites for a shooting complex in Beltrami County.

These efforts continued into the early 2000s when the Beltrami County began discussing a recreation system plan that would include shooting ranges. In 2005 Beltrami County committed to developing a first-class parks and recreation system to serve its residents and visitors. Phase 1 was for a Recreational Trails Plan, which received national recognition winning a NACO award for excellence. A more detailed Phase 2 Parks Plan draft was presented in 2007 and included Ronglien Park, Pine Tree Park, Shooting Sports Park, ATV/Multi-Use Trail Area Plan, Three Island Park and Movil Maze Area Plan.

Who will operate and maintain the Shooting Sports Park?

The shooting ranges will be operated and maintained by public, non-profit shooting groups through shooting fees, memberships, grants and local fundraising events. **Your financial support is needed to ensure the continuing success of this project.**

What are the benefits of public investment?

- By increasing outdoor recreational opportunities, the park will improve quality of life for everyone in this region.
- When construction is completed, it isn't unreasonable to expect increases in retail sales, hospitality services, and employment.
- The park may also help to increase sales tax revenues and license sales as public use of the park increases.
- Providing a safe, controlled, family friendly environment will address some safety concerns on public lands.



Regional Significance

The Bemidji area is rich in outdoor recreation opportunities and the hunting heritage, and as one of the major regional centers in northern Minnesota, it attracts thousands of outdoor recreationists and shooting sports enthusiasts. Northwest Minnesota is a popular destination for deer, grouse, goose, duck and turkey hunters from around the country and state. Historically, there are over 25,000 deer hunting licenses sold and 500 youth receiving firearms safety certification in the Bemidji region each year.

Currently, there are few shooting sports facilities in the area and little opportunity for youth and families to be introduced to the shooting sport and hunting traditions. Add to that the growing popularity in high school clay target shooting.

This shooting sports park will serve to meet these needs as a skill-building facility and educational venue where youth and families can learn how to shoot, compete in local and statewide shooting sports events, and develop hunting skills that ensure the future of the hunting and shooting sports traditions.

Who are the supporting partners?

Partners

- Your name here _____
- Beltrami County
- George W. Neilson Foundation
- Northwest Minnesota Foundation
- Northland Regional Shooting Sports Fund (NRSSF)
- Bemidji Area Shooters Association (BASA)
- Bemidji Trap & Skeet Club (BTSC)
- Headwaters Shooting Sports Association (HSSA)

Affiliations

- Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA)
- Minnesota Trap Association (MTA)
- National Skeet Shooting Association (NSSA)
- National Rifle Association (NRA)
- National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF)
- Minnesota State High School Clay Target League



Who are the potential users?

Designed to provide for family participation in shooting sports, the facility will attract families, youth and users of all shooting sports backgrounds. Including opportunities for:

- The Shooting Public
- League, Match and Registered events for rifle, pistol, clay target, skeet, 5-stand sporting clays
- MN Department of Natural Resources Youth Firearms Safety Training and Range and Field Days
- MN High School Clay Target League – ISD 31
- 4-H Shooting Sports
- Boy Scouts of America
- Collegiate Shooting Sports
- Becoming an Outdoors Women (BOW) workshops
- First Shots programs
- Hunter Education
- NRA training programs
- Sight-In Days
- Law Enforcement training & certification
- North Country Snowmobile Club

