

The background of the entire page is a dark green color. Overlaid on this background is a stylized illustration of several evergreen trees of varying heights and sizes, arranged on a rolling hill. The trees are rendered in a lighter shade of green, creating a layered effect. The overall aesthetic is clean and nature-oriented.

# Beltrami County SHOOTING SPORTS PARK

*On Target for Safe Family Fun* 

## Public Information Guide

View latest developments at [www.shootingsportspark.org](http://www.shootingsportspark.org).

## What is the Beltrami County Shooting Sports Park?

A firearms education and training facility that will provide classrooms and range facilities to the public and shooting clubs that will offer firearms and law enforcement training, hunter education along with recreational and competitive shooting opportunities in a safe and controlled environment.

### Why A Shooting Sports Park?

- ▶ To educate the public and promote the safe and responsible use of firearms.
- ▶ To provide area residents and visiting guests a family-friendly place to shoot that is monitored for safety and environmental impact.
- ▶ To create a Regional Law Enforcement Training Facility
- ▶ To pass on the rich traditions of hunting and the shooting sports
- ▶ For safety: Growth and development of this Bemidji area has eliminated many back-yard shooting ranges along with most of the gravel pit sites. This has created an environment where many people target practice in undesignated and potentially unsafe areas.

### What are the Features of the Shooting Park?

- ▶ Perimeter fencing and signing
- ▶ Gated main entrance
- ▶ Internal roadways
- ▶ Rifle and pistol ranges
- ▶ Covered firing points
- ▶ Concrete shooting benches
- ▶ Trap, skeet and sporting ranges
- ▶ Archery area
- ▶ Biathlon course
- ▶ Support structures that will include office, reception, meeting/classroom, restrooms, kitchen facilities and storage.
- ▶ Training and education center
- ▶ Indoor range
- ▶ Trail walk
- ▶ Handicap accessible
- ▶ 360 Acre park



### Who are the Potential User Groups?

- ▶ Public
- ▶ MN DNR Youth Firearms Training Program
- ▶ 4-H Shooting Sports/Wildlife – Archery Program
- ▶ Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP)
- ▶ Boy Scouts
- ▶ Youth Hunter Education Challenge
- ▶ Bemidji Police Department
- ▶ Beltrami County Sheriffs Department
- ▶ FBI
- ▶ MN BCA
- ▶ MN DNR
- ▶ Other area law enforcement departments
- ▶ Hunting and Conservation Organizations
- ▶ Bemidji Archery Club
- ▶ Bemidji Trap and Skeet Club
- ▶ Bemidji Area Shooters Association
- ▶ Northern Minnesota Hunter Education and Firearm Safety Instructors Association
- ▶ Bemidji Black Powder Club
- ▶ AIM/ATA Program (Academics – Integrity – Marksmanship)

### What About Range Safety and Controls?

- ▶ Safety Officers will monitor all public shooting.
- ▶ Users will be required to participate in a safety orientation and view a safety video before using the ranges.
- ▶ The Shooting Park Perimeter will be fenced and signed.
- ▶ Ranges will be designed to current standards and practices that will include berming and covered firing points.

### Are Hunting and the Shooting Sports Safe?

- ▶ Outdoor shooting sports are some of the safest forms of recreation in America, especially when compared with other outdoor activities such as football, downhill skiing and horseback riding.

### Who Will Operate and Maintain the Shooting Park?

The Ranges will be operated and maintained by public, non-profit organizations.

### How Will It Be Funded?

- ▶ Beltrami County
- ▶ State
- ▶ Capital Campaign
- ▶ Grants
- ▶ User Fees

### When Will the Beltrami County Shooting Park Be Open?

- ▶ At this time plans are to have a portion of the park available for youth activities in late 2009.
- ▶ The construction schedule will depend upon the funding and resources.

Headwaters Shooting Sports Association established.

Shooting Sports Park Task Force established. Planning and organizing begins.

County grants land parcel

Youth training area constructed



1991



2007



2008



2009



## Economic Contributions of Shooting Sports

### Statewide

- ▶ In 2006, **561,000 paid license holders** purchased over \$30 million in license, tags and stamps
- ▶ Hunting related retail sales—exceeding \$664 million dollars and accounting for over 12,000 jobs.
- ▶ **Estimated income taxes** paid on hunting related jobs—\$11.5 million
- ▶ **Estimated sales taxes** paid on hunting purchases—\$42.9 million.

### Regionally

- » Hunters / Shooters—25,700
- » Hunting Related Retail Sales/Expenditures—\$27 million dollars

Shooting Sport —  
**\$664 Million and  
 12,400 Jobs Statewide**



## Participation

### Education and Training

- ▶ LE Certification
- ▶ Minnesota Firearms Safety
- ▶ Minnesota Advanced Hunter Education
- ▶ Minnesota Bow Hunter Education
- ▶ Minnesota AHE Hunter Clinics (Bear, Deer, Turkey & Waterfowl)
- ▶ NRA Basic Classes
- ▶ Concealed Carry Classes
- ▶ National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association Classes
- ▶ Life Skills / Survival Classes
- ▶ BOW (Becoming and Outdoors Women Workshop)
- ▶ Minnesota ATV Safety Classes
- ▶ AIM/ATA
- ▶ Scholastic Shooting Program
- ▶ 4-H Shooting Sports
  - » **Total Participants 1600**

### Recreational League Shooting Programs

- » **Total Participants 600**

### Registered and Sanctioned Matches

- » **Total Competitor Days 1200**

## How can I get involved?

1. **Join** one of the local shooting organizations today. Applications and information available at [www.shootingsportspark.org](http://www.shootingsportspark.org)
2. **Encourage** your family, friends and co-workers to get involved.
3. **Join** and become active in local conservation organizations.
4. **Print and distribute** membership applications and copies of this brochure.
5. **Volunteer** on construction, fund-raising, planning, and coordinating.



### Contact Information

**Headwaters Shooting Sports Association (HSSA)**  
 P.O. Box 1845  
 Bemidji, MN 56610  
[www.shootingsportspark.org](http://www.shootingsportspark.org)

**Bemidji Area Shooters Association (BASA)**  
 PO Box 1851  
 Bemidji, MN 56619

**Bemidji Trap & Skeet Club**  
 P.O. Box 1052  
 Bemidji, MN 56619-1052  
[www.bemidji-trap-skeet.org](http://www.bemidji-trap-skeet.org)

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