



Training and Special Events

The Northland Regional Sports Park will train all ages in all recreation interests. Training will include:

- ▶ Minnesota snowmobile and ATV safety courses
- ▶ Environmental education classes
- ▶ Minnesota firearms and hunter safety education
- ▶ Life skills/survival classes
- ▶ BOW (Becoming an Outdoors-Woman) workshops
- ▶ LE certification
- ▶ Horse riding and horse team training
- ▶ National muzzle-loading rifle association classes
- ▶ Minnesota bow hunter education

Regional law enforcement has expressed that there is a dire need for a Northwest Minnesota training facility they could use. This center would fulfill their needs.

This facility will also be an excellent place for the public to sight-in rifles before and during hunting seasons.

The facility will offer special public events such as:

- ▶ Major horse- and wagon- ride events
- ▶ ATV special events and rides
- ▶ Dog Trials
- ▶ 4-H shooting sports and wildlife archery events
- ▶ Skeet- and trap- shooting events and competitions
- ▶ Rifle and pistol competition events

This center will quickly establish itself as the hub of activity for recreation users from all over the state. Bemidji-area residents and their families will soon rely on this location for special events, outings, and educational opportunities.

Benefits of public investment in the Northland Regional Sports Park

- ▶ By increasing outdoor recreational opportunities, the park will improve quality of life for everyone in this region.
- ▶ When construction is completed, it is not unreasonable to expect to see 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 environment for the identified user groups will address some public safety concerns and public land abuses.
- ▶ The park will add another natural system for casual observation of wildlife by both locals and visitors.

Enjoy a healthy lifestyle in Northern Minnesota's outdoors

The Northland Regional Sports Park's primary goal is to attract youth and families to the outdoors and provide them a multitude of recreational opportunities in one convenient location. Participation in outdoor recreation improves the overall mental and physical health of everyone. Teaching youth about the fun of snowmobiling, horseback riding, and the shooting sports related to hunting will preserve the rich traditions of Minnesota outdoor recreation.

Who will operate and maintain the Northland Regional Sports Park?

Beltrami County will be the primary overseer and work with the trail clubs to maintain and groom trails. The shooting ranges and training center will be maintained and operated by the public and nonprofit shooting organizations in Bemidji and the surrounding area.



Northland Regional Sports Park

BEMIDJI, MN | PHASE 1 PROPOSAL



CONTACT

Questions?

Contact John Winter, Recreation Resource Manager of Beltrami County, at (218) 333-4165.

The Northland Regional Sports Park's proposed site is three miles north on Hwy 89 (Intersection of State Hwy 89 and Jack Pine Road).

A great model project

The Northland Regional Sports Park will also provide a "model project" design of Public and Private, Non-Profit partnership that other regional communities in greater Minnesota may want to duplicate.

3 REASONS TO FUND THIS PROJECT

1 It affects multiple user groups.

User groups include ATV riders, bikers, hikers, horseback riders, snowmobilers, firearm enthusiasts, as well as educators.

What is the Northland Regional Sports Park?

Northland Regional Sports Park will be a multiuse sporting facility that promotes outdoor recreation.

This facility will serve people with diverse interests and provide educational and recreational opportunities for families to experience the outdoors together. The site will include a firearms training center as well as rifle and pistol facilities for shooting, skeet and trap fields. ATV, snowmobile, firearms safety, and hunter education training will all be available. Trail users will be delighted by the trailhead, which will connect to the Soo Line and Paul Bunyan regional and state trail systems.

Who are the potential users?

With activities designed for family participation, the Northland Regional Sports Park will attract users of all ages and backgrounds.

- ▶ Trail users—ATV enthusiasts, horseback riders, wagon train clubs, mountain-bikers, and hikers
- ▶ Dog trial participants
- ▶ Hunters—sighting-in rifles and practicing for deer hunting
- ▶ Archers
- ▶ Skeet- and trap- sporting enthusiasts
- ▶ Rifle- and pistol- sporting clubs
- ▶ Youth Programs, such as 4-H and AIM/ATA
- ▶ Law enforcement officers
- ▶ School environment and hunting/rifle education classes
- ▶ Anyone who wants to learn recreation skills

2 It has regional significance.

The trail head will provide water, toilets, parking, and other site amenities so that users have a convenient place to access the Soo Line Trail and the Paul Bunyan Trail.

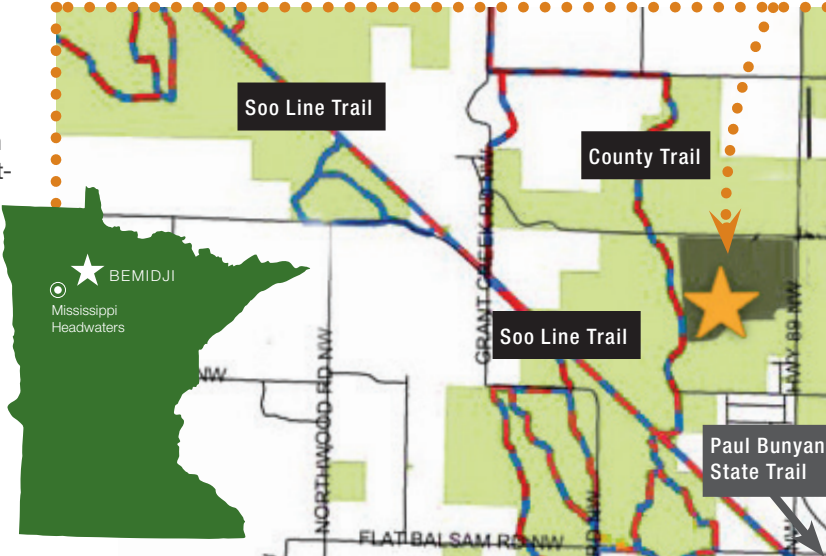


Regional Significance

As one of the major regional centers in Northern Minnesota, the Bemidji area attracts recreation enthusiasts from every part of the state, including the Twin Cities. Each year, thousands of tourists visit Bemidji to hunt and participate in a variety of outdoor activities. Directly connected to the Soo Line Trail and Paul Bunyan State Trail System, NRSP's trailhead will provide visitors access to hundreds of miles of ATV/multiuse trails, including over 400 miles of snowmobile trails.

There are over 25,000 deer-hunting licenses sold in the Bemidji region each year, and this center would provide hunters education and gun safety courses. Although there are currently few shooting sport opportunities in this area, this center will appeal to Northwestern Minnesota youth and introduce them to Minnesota's hunting heritage as well as skeet- and trap- shooting.

A wide range of fun outdoor activities and special events will attract all members of the family.



3 It's shovel ready.

Detailed construction designs and specifications have already been completed. The need to bolster our economy makes this project a high priority. Northland Regional Sports Park will be a success, but it needs funding to make it a reality.

Phase I of this project is ready for construction.

The first phase of the NRSP is outlined in the budget listed below the aerial view map.

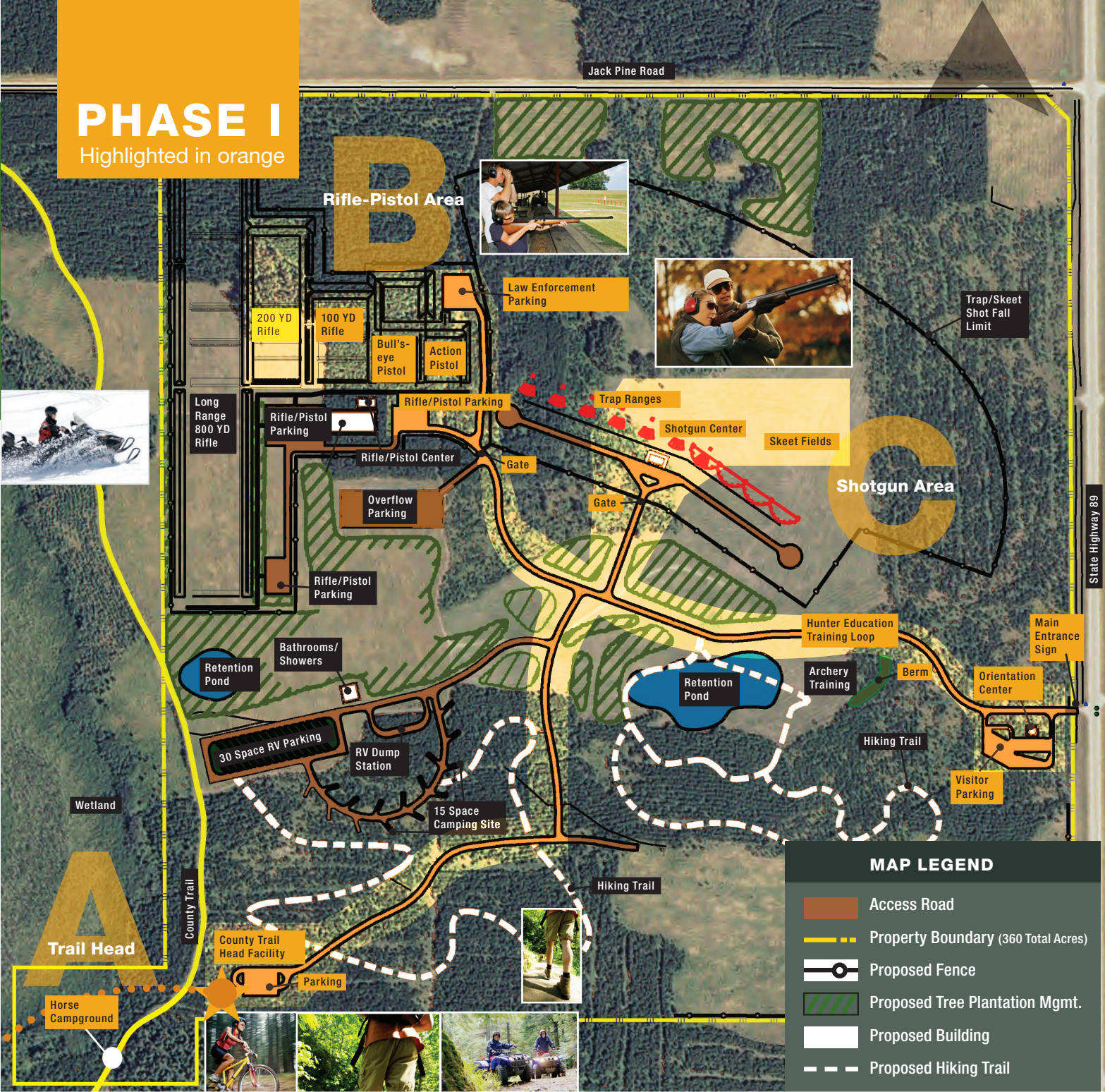
Progress we've made so far:

- ▶ Beltrami County funded the road construction, engineering plan, sound study, and removal of merchantable fiber from range area
- ▶ Master lease approved
- ▶ Sub-leases approved
- ▶ 501c (3) application sent to IRS
- ▶ USDA grant submitted
- ▶ Grant writer hired to search for potential funds and write grants
- ▶ Local funding sources identified (Nielson Foundation, Yamaha, and NRA)
- ▶ Contacts and discussions with local businesses and contractors to support range construction
- ▶ Meetings with local legislator(s) to discuss funding support

In order to continue with Phase I of this project, we must receive funding.

PHASE I

Highlighted in orange



PHASE I BUDGET: \$1.7 Million

Trail Head: \$150,000 (A)

- ▶ Road - \$50,000 – (Road to Ranges already completed)
- ▶ Parking Lot - \$10,000
- ▶ Shelter - \$15,000
- ▶ Water - \$5,000
- ▶ Vault Toilets - \$10,000
- ▶ Signage & Information Board - \$5,000
- ▶ Hitching Posts, Picnic Tables, Fire Rings - \$5,000

Rifle – Pistol Area: \$750,000 (B)

- ▶ Grubbing, Grading & Berm building
- ▶ (2) fifty yard Ranges (Pistol – Small Bore) & One Hundred yard Rifle Range
- ▶ Parking Lot (30 vehicles)
- ▶ ADA compliant walkways
- ▶ Electrical Service
- ▶ Sewer & Water
- ▶ Small Building

Shotgun Area: \$800,000 (C)

- ▶ Grubbing and Leveling
- ▶ (1) Skeet Field & (3) Trap Fields
- ▶ Parking Lot (30 vehicles)
- ▶ ADA compliant walkways
- ▶ Perimeter Fencing
- ▶ Electrical Service
- ▶ Sewer & Water
- ▶ Small Building
- ▶ General Park Development