



Department of Natural Resources Fact Sheet



2016-2017 BIENNIAL BUDGET FACT SHEET

Expanding Shooting Ranges

\$500,000 FY16/\$500,000 FY17

[Game and Fish Fund]

It Is Needed Because

Outdoor recreation is a Minnesota tradition. However, changes in leisure time, increasing urbanization, and other factors are limiting participation in many activities. In contrast, youth and adult archery participation is increasing. There are a growing number of recreational target shooters.

Through the National Archery in the Schools Program, the DNR collaborates with nearly 400 schools to establish two-week archery lessons. Archery is increasing in popularity; however, the opportunity to practice on private property is increasingly limited. More locations that are designated and designed to accommodate target archery shooting are needed.

There are over 500,000 licensed hunters in Minnesota. In addition, there has been a large growth in trap shooting leagues with nearly 8,000 high school team participants. To support Minnesota's hunting heritage and shooting sports enthusiasts, there is a need to provide public firearm shooting ranges.

This initiative will enhance and expand public archery and firearm shooting ranges.

Major Program Elements

- Provide technical expertise state and local government units to ensure safe, accessible, environmentally sound archery and firearms shooting ranges
- Provide and administer grants to site, design, construct, or enhance public archery and firearms shooting ranges, and develop ranges on public lands.

Key Measures and Outcomes

Increase in number of public archery and firearm shooting ranges, improving opportunities for Minnesotans to maintain their hunting tradition

Fiscal Impacts

\$1.0 million for the Division of Fish and Wildlife, which is offset by \$732,000 in federal reimbursements.

This change request helps ensure that Minnesota fully captures the state's increased apportionment of federal excise taxes under the Wildlife Restoration Act (aka Pittman-Robertson), which have doubled in recent years, enabling projects be completed at a net cost of twenty-five percent.

For Further Information, Please Contact:

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