

Shooting Range Grants



INVESTING IN NEW AND EXPANDED SHOOTING RANGES ACROSS COLORADO

Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Shooting Range Development Grant Program provides matching grants to towns, counties, sportsmen and outdoor recreation organizations, shooting clubs, economic development agencies and others for projects to establish, improve or expand shooting ranges and shooting areas across the state. Archery ranges are also eligible for funding.

A relatively new program, the Shooting Range Development Grant Program (SRDG) allocates up to \$500,000 annually in matching funds through a competitive grant process. To date, the SRDG Program has awarded funding to more than a two dozen projects on the eastern plains, along the Front Range and on the Western Slope.

Funding for SRDG Program grants can come from a variety of sources, including Hunter Education and Wildlife Restoration Program funds from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife funds from license revenues. Project applicants must provide non-federal matching funds, donated materials or volunteer labor to cover at least 25 percent of the project costs. Match in excess of the 25 percent minimum will likely help a project be more competitive in the grant review and ranking process.

The announcement of program funding is normally made in November, with applications due at Area or Regional Colorado Parks and Wildlife offices by early February. Details on the exact application deadline and the amount of funding available for that year's application cycle, as well as additional program information, can be found on the Colorado Parks and Wildlife website at www.cpw.state.co.us.

New and improved shooting range elements that are eligible for funding through the SRDG program include berms, sound baffles, shooting benches and covers, trap

and skeet houses, walkways, signage, fencing and other capital items necessary to the operation of a shooting range. Eligible applicants include local and county governments, shooting range owners and operators, sportsman organizations, shooting clubs and others.

Potential applicants should keep in mind the following items when considering to apply or developing a proposal –

- The shooting range must provide substantial public benefits, e.g. public access to the range.
- Funds are provided on a reimbursement basis. No up-front funding is provided.
- Applicants must provide evidence that the range is or will be approved by the appropriate local government or land-owning agency.
- An Environmental Stewardship Plan must be developed before final funding is awarded.
- The proposed project must be completed within two years of funding award.

Additional information on the SRDG Program can be found on the Colorado Parks and Wildlife's website at www.cpw.state.co.us or from the SRDG program coordinator, Jim Guthrie, at 303-866-3203 x4689 or by email at jim.guthrie@state.co.us.

