

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

Environmental Assessment for Velva Wildlife Club Shooting Range Complex

Grant Number: ND F18AF00J89 (W-92-E-21)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has prepared this document in accordance with the procedures for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act as it applies to the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act as amended (50 Stat. 917, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 669 etseq.).

North Dakota Game and Fish Department (NDGFD) has submitted a grant entitled *ND Hunter Education - Velva Shooing Range and Educational Facility* to the Service's Region 6 Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR) for review and approval to receive Federal grant funds through the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act Grant Program.

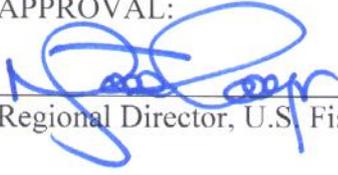
North Dakota Game and Fish Department would use Pittman-Robertson grant funds to construct a shooting range complex to assist with the development of a rifle range on the northeast corner of the property. The rifle range will have three shooting lanes. The range will be 100 yards in length and 20 yards wide. The backstop will be a clay mound 10 feet high by 40 yards in width. The funds will also be used to construct trap houses and storage buildings for the trap equipment. Lastly, there will be two outdoor archery courses, a target course, and a 3D course. This shooting range will be open to the public.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzed a Proposed Action alternative and a No Action alternative. The Proposed Action evaluates the project need to expand safe and accessible shooting opportunities to the communities surrounding the range. There currently is a lack of public shooting ranges in the area, with the closest shooting range located over 60 miles away. The shooting range complex will also provide a space where hunter education classes can be conducted. The No Action alternative would leave the property in its current state and would not meet the needs for a safe and accessible shooting range for the surrounding communities.

The Service published the final draft EA for a 30-day comment period from April 23 through May 23, 2018. No comments were received.

Based on review of the EA, I have determined that the proposed action is not a major Federal action which would significantly impact the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. I also find that all reasonable alternatives were considered in the evaluation of this project, and that this project complies with the intent of the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988 "Floodplain Management" and Executive Order 11990 "Protection of Wetlands. "Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the project will have no effect on listed Federally listed species since they are not found in the project area or surrounding vicinity. Consequently, I have determined that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The EA is on file at the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 134 Union Boulevard, Lakewood, Colorado, 80228, and is available upon request. It is also available online at <http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/wsfr/nepa.php>.

APPROVAL:



Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mountain-Prairie Region

6-13-18

Date

References:

Environmental Assessment Velva Wildlife Club Shooting Range Complex Velva, North Dakota. May 30, 2018.