

**Operational Project**  
**Ohio Department of Natural Resources**  
**Division of Wildlife**

---

**Project ID:** IOHK02

**Title:** Shooting Range Improvement Project Phase II

**Federal Aid ID:**

- Aquatic Education
- Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program
- D-J Sport Fish Restoration
- D-J/P-R (Combined)
- Competitive Grants
- Hunter Education
- Inter-jurisdictional Fisheries
- (SWG) Land Acquisition for Wildlife Diversity
- Non-federal Aid
- NOAA-OWC
- P-R Wildlife Restoration
- (P-R) Land Acquisition for Dependent Recreation
- State Wildlife Grant
- Wildlife Related Recreation

**Program:**     Fish             Wildlife             Support

**Group:**         Fish             Wildlife             Law             I&E  
                   HR               Bus. Operations     Administration

**Project Type:**

- B    -basic service
- X    -routine operations, management, and maintenance
- S    -survey and inventory
- R    -research
- G    -competitive grants
- C/K -construction and capital improvements
- L    -land acquisition

**Type of Work:**    Field             Office             Both

**Submitted By and Responsible for Reporting:**

**Title:** Shooting Range Improvement Project Phase II

**Name:** Eric Postell

**FY Start:** October 1, 2016

**FY End:** September 30, 2019

**Federal Aid Eligible?**                             Yes             No

**Use Federal Aid During This Fiscal Year?**     Yes             No

---

**Project Overview:**

The Division of Wildlife operates 41 public shooting ranges around the state and many of these ranges have been in existence for more than 40 years and receive substantial use. These ranges consist of supervised and unsupervised rifle, pistol and shotgun ranges. These ranges have been neglected and are in serious need of updates and repairs. The Division of Wildlife has a responsibility to provide safe and readily available shooting opportunities for the citizens of Ohio, as well as provide this opportunity in an environmentally safe and responsible manner.

**Objective 1:**

To conduct planning and administrative activities in support of assessments and/or evaluation of range improvements.

**Activity Code:** 10200 – Basic Service

**Justification/Need:** Shooting range assessments and improvements are needed to upgrade and modernize shooting ranges throughout the state. With the help of the Division of Engineering, the Division of Wildlife will address range improvements and/or relocation and all associated assessments and necessary remediation. Planning and Administration is necessary to ensure efficiency in project development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

**Benefits/Expected Results:** Well-managed range improvements will enrich accessibility to ranges and increase range usage throughout the state. Further, well-implemented range clean-up, when necessary, will result in restored, quality wildlife habitat that will foster increased wildlife-related recreational opportunities and sustainable wildlife populations.

**Approach/Planned Activities:** The management of personnel, hours, materials, equipment, and subsidies are crucial to carrying out the objectives in a range improvement project. Such administration also includes meetings to discuss state partnerships with private shooting ranges or conservation clubs and potential range relocation(s).

**Plan Linkage:**

**Information and Education Tactical Plan: Chapter 7 – Shooting Sports Education**

**Outcome:** Maximize available recreational shooting opportunities, instruction, and programs to recruit and retain recreational shooting sports participants in Ohio

**Objective 1:** Annually provide resources including funding, materials, and personnel that support opportunities to engage at least 50,000 participants in shooting sports experiences

**Objective 3:** Ensure quality range operation and maintenance at 41 existing ranges across the state

**Location of Work:** Statewide

**Estimated Cost:** The estimated costs for Objective 1 are 150 mandays and \$0 in non-payroll expenses.

OrgUnit	Mandays			Payroll		Non-payroll Expenses					Total
	Regular	*OT	Seasonal	Total	Fund	100	200	300	500	700	
OSIE	125	0	0	125	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
ADFA	25	0	0	25		0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>150</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

\*OT - Fulltime overtime

**Objective 2:**

- Perform evaluation of public shooting ranges not addressed in Phase I and determine extent of safety issues and improvements needed;
- Increase safety, accessibility, and opportunity of public shooting ranges not addressed in Phase I; and
- Complete proper maintenance and/or upgrades on ranges not addressed in Phase I so as to provide safe and enjoyable shooting experiences to the public.

**Activity Code:** 10217 – Ranges

**Justification/Need:** This project is being undertaken to upgrade and modernize numerous public shooting ranges on a statewide level. Maintenance of said ranges ensures that equipment and facilities provide a safe environment for recreational shooting activities leading to larger participation and recruitment. Promotion of ranges and associated shooting activities will lead to increased participation in hunting and related recreational activities.

**Benefits/Expected Results:**

- Numerous upgraded and modernized public shooting ranges on a statewide level;
- Improved accessibility and increased range use with necessary ADA upgrades;
- Improved safety to range patrons and staff by utilizing modern shooting range technology; and
- Implemented Best Management Practices for lead on public shooting ranges.

**Approach/Planned Activities:** This project will upgrade, modernize, and/or relocate numerous public ranges around the state. The Division of Wildlife will work with the Division of Engineering to procure contractors for design and implementation of range updates listed in the attached range improvement priority table. The design consultant(s) will have a dedicated range expert on staff to guide range design and make recommendations for improvements and upgrades. In addition to design the Division of Wildlife will be provided costs and scopes of work to be implemented for upgrading/modernizing/relocating ranges throughout the state. The contractor(s) will implement the scopes of work as directed by the Divisions of Wildlife and Engineering. The timeline may change throughout the course of the project based on range evaluation and resulting prioritization. Likewise, other ranges may be identified as needing improvement as the project scope is refined.

**Plan Linkage:**

**Information and Education Tactical Plan: Chapter 6 – Hunter and Trapper Education**

**Outcome:** Increase awareness, knowledge, and recruitment of hunting and trapping through education, outreach efforts, and partnerships

**Objective 5:** Ensure quality range operation and maintenance at 41 existing ranges across the state

**Information and Education Tactical Plan: Chapter 7 – Shooting Sports Education**

**Outcome:** Maximize available recreational shooting opportunities, instruction, and programs to recruit and retain recreational shooting sports participants in Ohio

**Objective 1:** Annually provide resources including funding, materials, and personnel that support opportunities to engage at least 50,000 participants in shooting sports experiences

**Objective 3:** Ensure quality range operation and maintenance at 41 existing ranges across the state

**Location of Work:** Statewide

**Estimated Cost:** The estimated costs for Objective 2 are 0 mandays and \$4,700,000 in non-payroll expenses.

OrgUnit	Mandays			Payroll Total	Fund	Non-payroll Expenses					Total
	Regular	*OT	Seasonal			100	200	300	500	700	
OSIE	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	4,700,000	4,700,000
Total	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	4,700,000	4,700,000

\*OT - Fulltime overtime

**Summary of Total Estimated Cost:**

The total estimated costs for Project IOHK02 are 150 mandays and \$4,700,000 in non-payroll expenses.

OrgUnit	Mandays			Payroll Total	Fund	Non-payroll Expenses					Total
	Regular	*OT	Seasonal			100	200	300	500	700	
OSIE	125	0	0	125	15	0	0	0		4,700,000	4,700,000
ADFA	25	0	0	25		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	150	0	0	150		0	0	0	0	4,700,000	4,700,000

\*OT - Fulltime overtime

## Shooting Range Improvement Prioritization and Schedule

Priority	Shooting Range	County	Project Budget	Project Completion
1	Harrison State Forest Shooting Range	Harrison	\$200,000	July 2016
2	Fernwood State Forest Shooting Range	Jefferson	\$300,000	August 2017
3	Spring Valley WLA Shooting Range	Greene	\$3,000,000	May 2018
4	Deer Creek WLA Shooting Range	Fayette/ Madison/ Pickaway	\$1,200,000	July 2019
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>			<b>\$4,700,000</b>	