

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/7/2021 8:16:51 PM

First name: Sam

Last name: Edgar

Organization:

Title:

Comments: My concern is these ranges would be used by at least three types of shooters. Some would be serious and compliant with rules. Some would be well intended but could likely use some supervision. And the third are just simply inconsiderate stupid folks.

In the survey I completed, there was recognition that possibly these new ranges would need to be supervised by a paid range officer. I believe this is essential. This range officer could also ensure only proper targets are used. Serious shooters have no problem using paper and metal plate targets. If stupid people just want to see things (TVs, Appliances, Computers, etc.) destroyed, they can do this in their basements. While some shooters would be safe and clean up, any unsupervised range will soon be destroyed by the stupid folks, thus soon causing the range to close and be denied to the other types of shooters. I see no issue with a nominal fee to use these ranges.

These ranges would need to be frequently patrolled by law enforcement for after-hours use with stiff penalties applied to trespassers. I have absolutely no compassion for the stupid people. They are dangerous and inspire closure policies at the expense of responsible shooters.

I suggest range design considerations that I have not detected in these proposals.

One is the use of baffles (please see photos). These wooden and sometimes dirt filled devices mitigate noise and keep bullets from arcing through the sky. Again, a safe, serious shooter will have no problem accepting these devices. I have seen accepted ranges in German commercial and residential areas dating back to the 18th century.

The second suggestion providing some standard means of mounting a target to avoid too much creativity and trash. While standard, individual, target holders can be provided by the range, simple posts with spans of chicken wire between them also works very well. The targets can be mounted with wire hooks.

The last consideration is having a single firing line but with multiple berms. This enables shooters to be safely shoulder-to-shoulder but firing at targets perhaps 15, 25 50 or 100 yards distant. More distant berms will be necessary on other parts of the range, but even these could be multi-distant berms., but you will find that a 15 - 100-yard range will accommodate a large percent of shooter.

My summary for this response is to locate and build ranges for safe serious shooters and work to keep the stupid folks away. I appreciate this will not be easy (for example see the shot-up ranges signs at the new Como, Park County range) but if these ranges are going to last, there must be supervision and enforcement efforts plus harsh penalties for misbehavior.