



HILARY S. FRANZ
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

Target Shooting Safety and Environmental Cleanup on DNR Lands

Target shooting on DNR lands is popular and in need of improvements to preserve access and protect the landscape.



Target shooting is a common recreational activity on Department of Natural Resources lands. Responsible shooters have few safe options that meet all current target shooting rules (WAC 332-52-145) due to increased recreational use and rural residential development. This has resulted in public safety concerns and lead pollution.

In 2023 two DNR rock pits frequently used for shooting – **North Fork Pit** and **Boggs Pit** – were closed because of lead contamination and public safety issues. Both are now included on Department of Ecology’s list of Toxic Clean Up Sites. Concentrated target shooting happens at more than 100 sites statewide, requiring testing, planning, and funding for cleanup efforts.

Designate Ranges in Clallam and Stevens Counties Immediately

DNR is seeking **\$1,800,000 in capital funding** to permit and construct two pilot target shooting locations – one in Stevens County (NE Region) and another in either Clallam or Jefferson County (Olympic Region). By designating two locations, DNR can provide safe recreation opportunities for responsible target shooters while ensuring public and environmental safety.

Identify Future Range Locations and Clean Up Lead

DNR also requests **\$1,222,200 in operating funding** for staffing support during the pilot designation process and ongoing outreach, with the goal of designating more shooting ranges. Funding will also allow DNR to address lead pollution statewide by hiring an environmental engineer to test known target shooting locations for lead contamination and begin the cleanup process where needed. This funding is a crucial step in addressing the environmental damage caused by unmanaged target shooting across DNR lands.

DNR-managed lands provide unique and valuable recreation opportunities to people across Washington. By funding these requests, the Legislature can help DNR ensure responsible target shooters have access to safe and properly managed sites, while also ensuring public safety and managing environmental impacts.

\$1.8M FY2025 (Capital)

Funds two pilot target shooting facilities:

- Stevens County
- Clallam or Jefferson County

\$1.22M (GF-S)

Funds DNR’s efforts to clean up lead pollution caused by concentrated target shooting and research into siting future safe shooting locations.

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