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STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

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JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907-465-3800

May, 1986

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS date base CM 14. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Jeanie Henry

SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE, 4/12/85, 1:30

Alaska State Legislature

ARLISS STURGULEWSKI, Chairman
BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Vice Chairman
JACK COGHILL
DICK ELIASON
VIC FISCHER
RICK HALFORD
FRED ZHAROFF



POUGH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA. 99811
(907) 465-4907

Senate Committee on Resources

MEMORANDUM

April 11, 1985

TO: Senate Resources Committee Members

FROM: Senate Resources Committee Staff *MZ*

RE: SB 170
"An Act making a special appropriation to the Department of Fish and Game for payment as a grant to the Fish and Game Advisory Committee on Hunting and Firearm Safety for statewide construction of rifle range; and providing for an effective date."

This is a one million dollar grant to build rifle ranges. The Fish and Game Advisory Committee on Hunting and Firearm Safety has built a number of ranges throughout the state using similar grants. The Committee proposes to use this appropriation to construct a number of small, low cost ranges in smaller communities.

In this packet, is a position paper from the Department of Fish and Game, a fiscal note, and a letter to Senator Rodey from Joe Nava on behalf of the committee. A directory of ranges built through this program will be available at the meeting.



**STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
BILL ANALYSIS**

DEPARTMENT Fish and Game	DIVISION Game	BILL NUMBER SB 170	SPONSOR Rodev/Bennett/Faiks/Kerttula
DEPARTMENT POSITION Favor			
PREPARED BY Phil Koehl	DATE 4/11/85	COMMISSIONER'S SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i>	DATE 4-11-85

SUMMARY

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED BY BILL None	CONSTITUENT GROUP(S) AFFECTED BY BILL Sportsmen School students
ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL Sportsmen's groups Gun clubs	ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL Unknown

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE FISCAL NOTE ATTACHED

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE INTENT

To provide shooting facilities for hunter safety training and public recreational shooting.

ANALYSIS OF BILL/PROGRAM EFFECTS

This bill would allow the department to implement/continue the program to provide a broad range of safe shooting facilities in the state. The bill would have little impact on the department's budget because administrative costs are low (ranging from 3 to 5 percent) and personnel who would be responsible for administration are both familiar with the program and already partially funded.

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR ANALYSIS.

STATE OF ALASKA 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 170
 Title: Special appropriation for
construction of rifle ranges
 Sponsor: Rodev/Bennett/Faiks/Kerttula
 Requestor: _____
 Date of Request: _____

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Department of Fish & Game
 Program Category Affected: Game
Resource Conservation
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected:
Game

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		15.5				
200 TRAVEL		8.6				
300 CONTRACTUAL		3.5				
400 SUPPLIES		0.5				
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES		971.9				
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	1000.0	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
GENERAL FUND	-0-	1000.0	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
FULL-TIME		6.0				
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

Total administrative expenses for a \$1 million appropriation would be approximately 3 percent. Because some costs are fixed, expenses could reach 5 percent at lower funding levels.

Prepared By: Phil Koehl Phone: 465-4190
 Division: Game Date: 4/11/85

Approved by Commissioner: James R. Meyer Date: 4/11/85
 Agency: _____

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

7/1/84

APR 02 1985

28 March 1985

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski, Chairman
14th Alaska Legislature, 1985
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Sturgulewski,

I write in support of SB170, a bill to provide money for construction of shooting ranges for fire arms safety training.

I have appeared before your Committee in support of the same Program in prior years.

This is an ongoing program to provide facilities throughout the State. The Advisory Committee originally identified Statewide needs costing ten million dollars. In the first 4 years of the Program about 3 1/2 million was spent, mostly on the larger population centers. Now the smaller communities still need to be done.

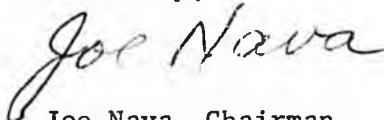
For the last 2 years the Legislature has made an appropriation, but Governor Sheffield has vetoed it. We need an appropriation desperately this year in order to keep the Program going and to be fair to the smaller communities of the State.

These are one-time capital expenditures with no associated on-going costs to the State. This Program provides the facilities where our State's people will be recreationally and educationally shooting for many years into the future.

Without these facilities, inadequate training will be done, and recreational shooting will be dispersed along the roadsides.

Please support SB170 and help it along, all the way past the Governor's Office, as much as you can. Future generations of safe shooters will thank you for it.

Sincerely,



Joe Nava, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Hunting & Firearm Safety
469 NRA Lane
Fairbanks, AK 99701

FIREARMS SAFETY MAKE NO
DEPENDS ON YOU MISTAKE
ABOUT IT!

5 February 1985

Senator Patrick Rodey
State Capitol Room 504
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Rodey:

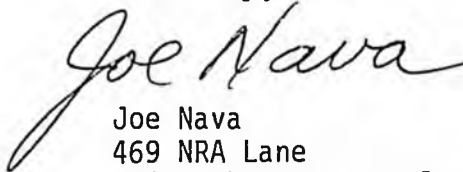
The Fish & Game Advisory Committee on Hunting and Firearm Safety met on 1 February. We agreed that we would like you to put some money through the Legislature for Range Construction this year. We realize that money is scarce, but we believe we have a good chance of getting the appropriation through the Governor's Office for two reasons:

1) This money is to build facilities that will be for the long-term benefit of the People without incurring any additional cost to the State in the future.

→ (2) The need now is for many small, low-cost ranges in the smaller communities throughout the State.

Therefore, will you please give this program whatever help you can, and keep me informed if we need to help in any specific area. We don't know if a separate bill is the way to go, but we are ready to help see it through if you think this is best.

Sincerely,



Joe Nava
469 NRA Lane
Fairbanks, AK 99701

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
HUNTING AND FIREARM SAFETY

March 3 and 4, 1983

Chairman Joe Nava called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Members present were Pete Hallgren, Paul Weller, Ted Nelson, Sam McDowell, and Dolores Scott support staff.

The Committee discussed the need for continued funding of the program, and legislators most likely to help.

Joe Nava reported that initial information has been sent to Senators Bennett and Rodey and Representatives Bettisworth, Ringstad and Malone. Malone has already introduced House Bill 233 requesting the \$4,500,000 for rifle range construction in FY 84.

Legislators to be personally contacted were discussed and assigned.

The Committee voiced the desire to concentrate on ranges for bush communities in FY 84, and to make sure ground is dedicated for future ranges in all communities throughout the State. The program will continue emphasis on both construction of safe facilities and hunting and firearm safety programs. There is a stated need for trained instructors throughout the smaller communities. Jack Alexander is currently conducting training programs for hunter safety instructors.

Joe distributed a mailout from the Committee and the Alaska State Rifle and Pistol Association which had been sent to the National Rifle Association for them to mail to all their members in Alaska. (attached)

Bob Hinman talked with the committee about financing. He reported that Rifle Range funding had been cut out of the ADF&G FY 84 budget submission. The Committee discussed how to get money earmarked from the Legislature for the Rifle Range program. The pros and cons of having it in a Capital Improvements Project or the ADF&G Operational Budget were discussed.

Distribution of the remaining \$29,700 of FY 83 funds was discussed. Moved and seconded to hold the money over until the next meeting, which will be held May 20 in either Anchorage or Fairbanks.

Other business, Pete Hallgren discussed acquisition of an old building from the Mt. Edgecomb school for a Sitka Pistol Club facility. He will pursue several alternatives and keep the Committee posted on developments

Joe reported that NRA Range Facilities Specialist Dick Whiting will be coming to Alaska in June. He will see ranges in Barrow, Delta, Tok, and Nenana (at least), and will inspect others as necessary.

NAME: Juneau Gun Club

LOCATION: 1 Mile Montana Creek Road

OPERATED BY: Juneau Gun Club

CONTACT: Jim White, President 907-789-9844 (H)
P.O. Box 2444
Juneau, Alaska 99803

HOURS OF OPERATION: Sunday: 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Wednesday: 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

FEES CHARGED: \$3.00 per 25 targets

FACILITIES AVAILABLE: 5 trap ranges
Clubhouse/shelter; restroom facilities
4 point, small bore range

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED: Hunter Safety Courses for shotgun certification
(required for under 16 years for duck hunting)
Boy Scout shotgun safety program
Shotgun class for the University of Alaska
Public turkey shoot under club supervision
Registered trap shoots - open to the public.

NAME: Homer Rifle & Pistol Club

LOCATION: Homer Campground (indoor range)
10 miles west of Homer (outdoor range)

OPERATED BY: Homer Rifle & Pistol Club

CONTACT: Scott Kyle, President
Box 1454
Homer, Alaska 99603

HOURS OF OPERATION: Indoor Range - Continuous for members
Outdoor Range - Continuous for members and general public

FEES CHARGED: Indoor Range - \$2.00 per evening
Outdoor Range - None

FACILITIES AVAILABLE: Indoor Range: 4 point, 50 ft range; club room separated from
shooting points by windowed wall
Outdoor Range: 4 covered shooting points; 100 yd range; 50 yd
pistol range; warm-up building

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED: Hunter Safety courses
High School Wilderness Survival course work
Junior Club - now being formed to shoot competition
.22 cal. courses
Homer Police Qualification courses
U.S. Coast Guard Qualification courses

NAME: Rabbit Creek Rifle Range

LOCATION: Mile 10 Seward Highway, Anchorage, Alaska

OPERATED BY: State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game

CONTACT: Lee Glenn, Department of Fish and Game, 333 Raspberry Road,
Anchorage, Alaska 99502. Phone 907-344-0541
Range Master - Phone 907-345-2502

HOURS OF OPERATION: 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Saturday through Wednesday

FEES CHARGED: None

FACILITIES AVAILABLE: 100 meter largebore rifle range
100 meter handgun range
100 meter 22 cal. range
50 meter instructional range (reserved for group events)
Shotgun range

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED: Hunter Safety Classes. The instruction range will be open to such groups as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Y.M.C.A., Boys Club, highschool rifle teams, state and local law enforcement agencies, etc. Groups must provide their own certified instructor or range master in order to use the facility.

NOTE: This range is currently being renovated and completion is anticipated prior to June 30, 1983. The above programs will go into effect once the range has been completed.

NAME: Wrangell Public Firearms Range

LOCATION: 3/4 Mile Spur Road
Wrangell, Alaska

OPERATED BY: Wrangell Police Department

CONTACT: William G. Klein, Chief of Police 907-874-3304 (W)
P.O. Box 531
Wrangell, Alaska 99929

HOURS OF OPERATION: Summer months: 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Winter months: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

FEES CHARGED: None

FACILITIES AVAILABLE: 200 yard rifle range with 5 covered shooting benches
60 yard pistol range
Skeet range

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED: Skeet training program
Hunter Safety courses
Small Bore rifle instruction

NAME: Fairbanks Trap Club

LOCATION: 6.5 Mile Old Steese Highway
Fairbanks, Alaska

P.O. Box 1447
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

OPERATED BY: Fairbanks Trap Club

CONTACT: Mr. Larry Thacker, Manager
P.O. Box 80614
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

HOURS OF OPERATION: May - September:
Wed. & Thurs. Evenings 6:00-9:00 PM: Sun. Noon - 5:00 PM
Registered Shoot Dates: 9:00AM - 6:00 PM

FEES CHARGED: Practice: \$3.25/25 targets
Registered Shoots: \$20/100 targets + fees

FACILITIES AVAILABLE: 4 Trap layout for Trapshooting
Clubhouse with luncheonette, restrooms, etc.

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED: Team Shoots
Registered Shoots
Hunter Safety Courses

NAME: Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Rifle & Pistol Range
Indoor Range

LOCATION: Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Club
Sportsmen's Way
Fairbanks, Alaska

OPERATED BY: Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Club

CONTACT: Oliver E. Burris, Secretary 907-452-3109 (H)
2301 Talkeetna
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

HOURS OF OPERATION: 24 hours/day

FEES CHARGED: Regular Club Membership - \$25.00/year; Spouse - \$3.00/year
Junior (16-19) - \$6.00/year; Junior (under 16) - \$2.00/year
No charge for special programs (Hunter Safety, police qualification,
scholastic shooting, etc.)

FACILITIES AVAILABLE:

10 point, 50 ft. Range with turning targets (60 ft. capability
for Canadian style shooting)
Combination statistical & locker room; restrooms
10 meter international air rifle, air pistol, and running boar range
Camping spaces available in season

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED:

Alaska Hunter Education Courses
Junior Rifle & Pistol Instruction (Lathrop & West Valley High Schools)
NRA Rifle & Pistol competitions
Practical Pistol courses and competition
Security and Police qualification courses
Adult rifle and pistol instruction and training
Postal matches
Unsupervised recreational shooting for members and guests
(insurance and liability is covered for non-members only during
scheduled shooting programs)



NAME: University of Alaska-Fairbanks Outdoor Range

LOCATION: University Campus
Fairbanks, Alaska

OPERATED BY: UAF Department of Campus Recreation

CONTACT: William L. Smith, Rifle Coach Phone: 907-474-7205
Patty Building, University of Alaska
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

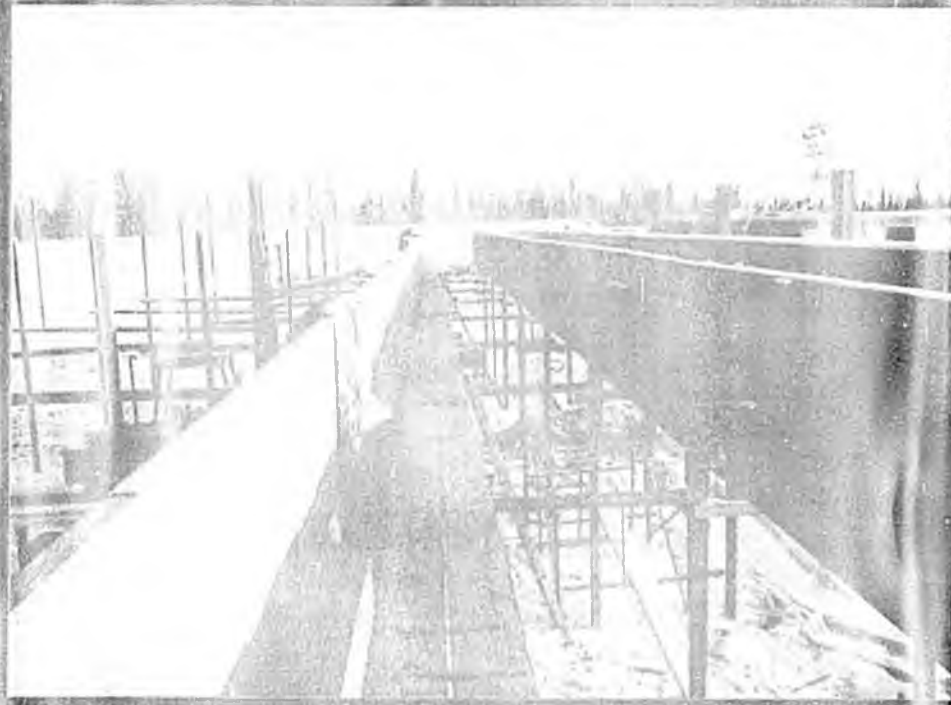
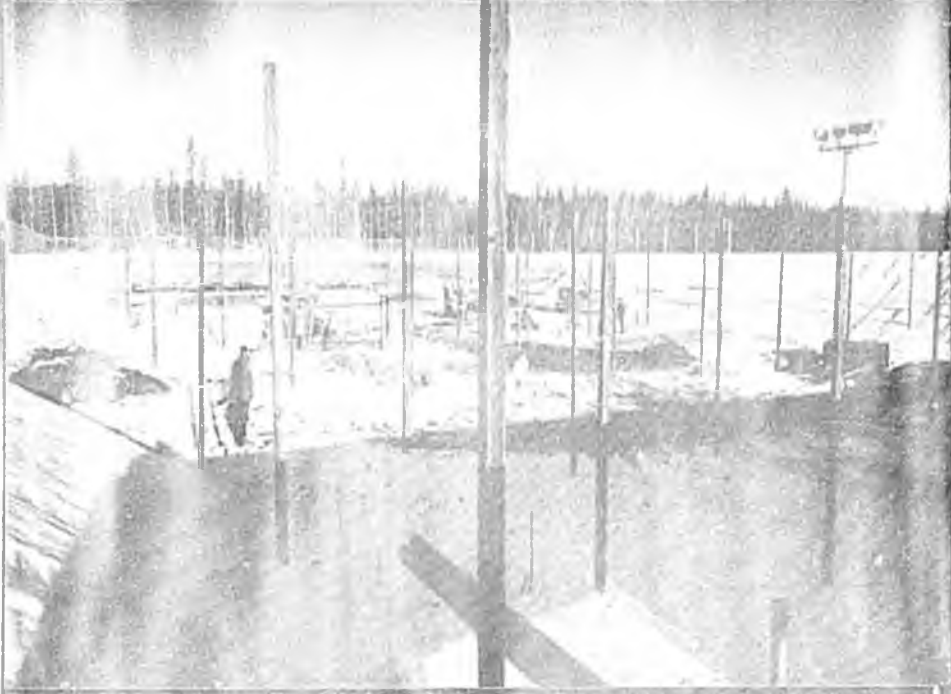
HOURS OF OPERATION: As scheduled by the season

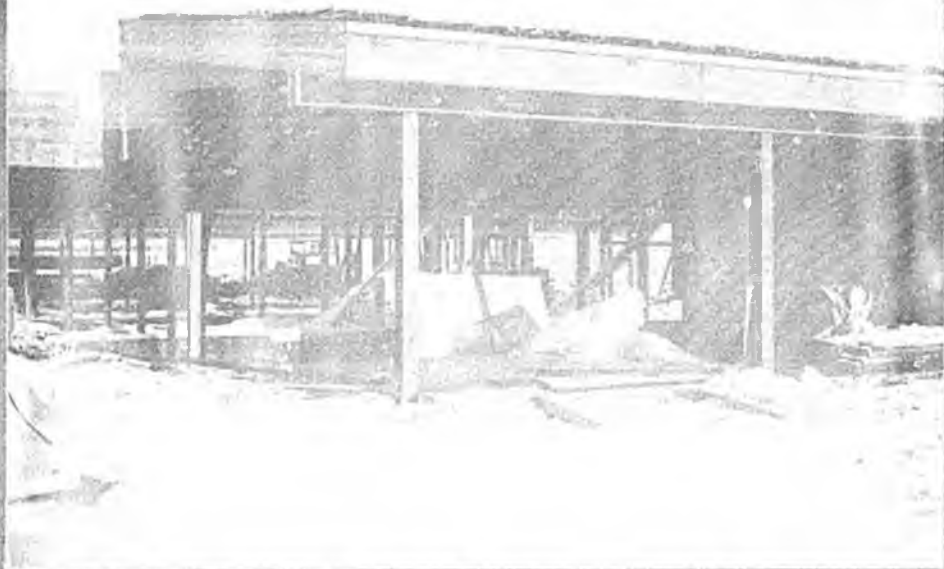
FEES CHARGED: None except for target costs

FACILITIES AVAILABLE: Baffled range with smallbore rifle capabilities
to 100 meters
12 firing points
Covered firing line

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED: Arctic Winter Games Biathlon
Community Sighting-in Day
Regular match and practice schedule for smallbore
silhouette during summer
Instruction programs for TVCC and local shooting clubs
UAF Varsity Rifle Team practice

11 - 14 - Fairbanks
Kupuk Car - 7/21





RIFLING IN—Dr. Ian Scarborough, a West Valley High School senior and member of the Arctic Winter Games showshoe biathlon team tries out the new University of Alaska-Fairbanks outdoor rifle range. The new \$325,000 facility will get its first workout during the Arctic Winter Games in March.

UAF photos by Sandra McCracken

New UAF rifle range set for Winter Games

The new University of Alaska-Fairbanks outdoor rifle range has been constructed on university property near Ballaine Lake.

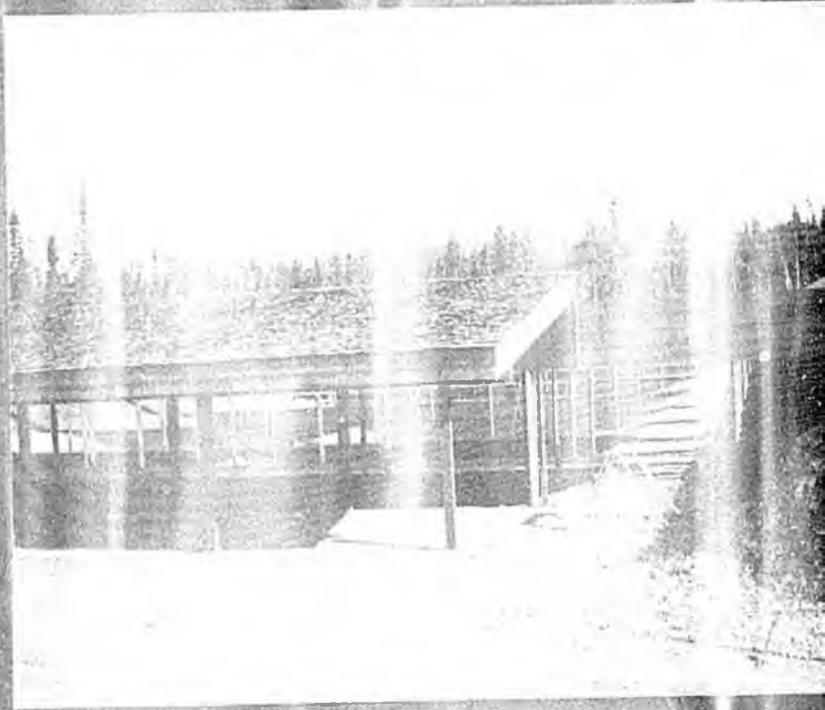
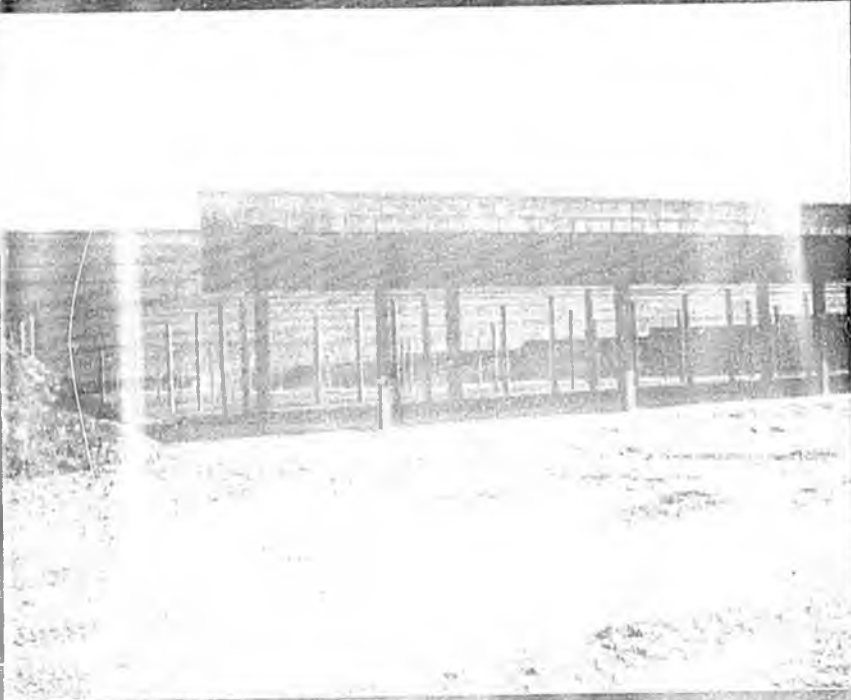
Built by Coastal Construction at a cost of \$325,000, the rifle range will get its first official use during the Arctic Winter Games in March.

The showshoe biathlon competition is scheduled for March 16 and 17 at 10 a.m. and a closing ceremony will be held March 16 at noon at the range.

Joe Nava, who sits on the Fish and Game Advisory Board, and Bill Smith, UAF coach and grant writer for the range, were responsible for obtaining the funds from the State Department of Fish and Game.

The new biathlon range was authorized by the Legislature last year and will for use by university and other area participants.

Completed Range



RANGE DIRECTORY QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME OF RANGE: SNOW SHOE GUN CLUB

LOCATION: MILE 6 KENAI SPUR ROAD - KENAI, ALASKA

OPERATED BY: SNOW SHOE GUN CLUB

HOURS OF OPERATION: ON RANGE MASTER AVAILABILITY

FEES CHARGED (IF ANY): Family Membership \$50.00 per year with key to gate.
No fees charged to public on open days.

CONTACT (NAME, ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER): DON FELTMAN
P.O. BOX 429
KENAI, ALASKA 99611
Phone: 907-283-7373

DESCRIPTION OF RANGE FACILITIES AVAILABLE:

20 covered firing points - High Power Rifle 100 to 600 yards
- Smallbore Rifle 50 yards and 100 yards

10 covered bench rest tables - 100 yards to 600 yards

5 position police combat pistol range - 7 yards to 50 yards

4 position high power pistol silhouette range - 50 meters to 200 meters
1 trap house

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED:

TRAP

SMALLBORE RIFLE SILHOUETTE

HIGH POWER RIFLE SILHOUETTE

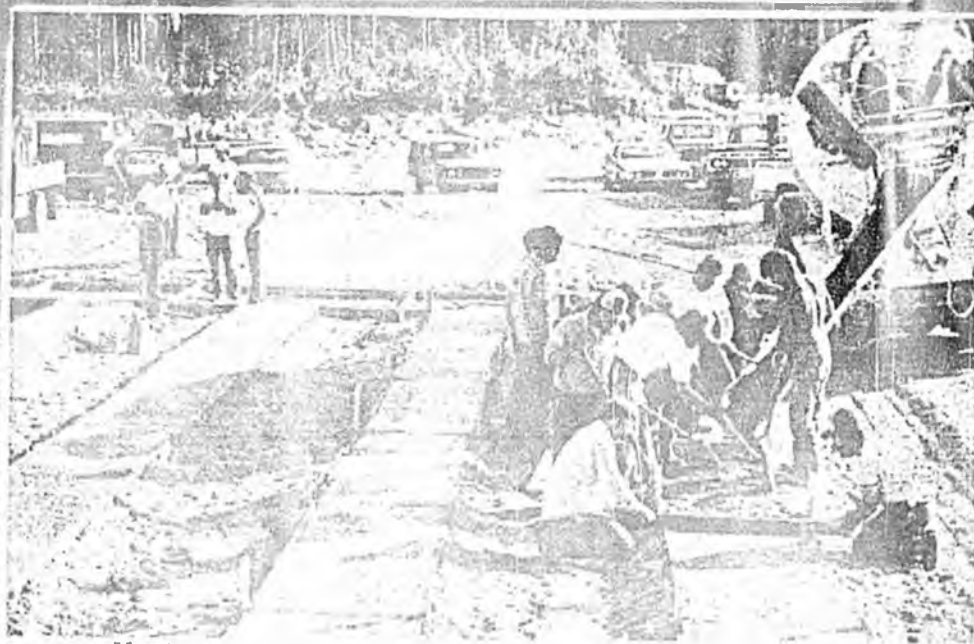
HIGH POWER PISTOL SILHOUETTE

BENCH REST RIFLE - HUNTER RIFLE - HEAVY VARMINT - SPORTING RIFLE

HIGH POWER RIFLE

SMALLBORE RIFLE

Hunter Safety Courses



Members of the Kenai Peninsula Peace Officers Association and the Snow Shoe Gun Club work together to build a combat pistol range at the gun club.

Pistol range in the making

Volunteers from the Kenai Peninsula Peace Officers Association and the Snow Shoe Gun Club pitched in to begin construction of a combat pistol range at the gun club grounds last week.

The gun club received a \$10,000 grant from the state during the 1981 session to build the pistol range, which will be primarily used by area law enforcement agencies.

Alaska State Trooper Fran Moore said most law officers "must qualify periodically" in practical pistol shooting. The troopers must qualify three times per year, he said.

In the past, temporary shooting ranges were set up for the pistol exercises. "We had to do it in the mud and blowing sand and had to haul all the equipment. With this facility, we'll be able to store the equipment here."

The peace officers association also plans to arrange competition events with other associations around the state. Moore said the Snow Shoe range will be the best in the state "bar none," when completed.

Dan Hadden, president of the local gun club, said club members will be able to use the range when it's not being used by police forces.

"Depending on the enthusiasm," he said, the gun club may arrange National Rifle Association-sanctioned pistol shooting matches.

Moore said the range is standard police combat layout. The range is 50 yards long with five concrete walkways extending to the targets. A shooting station at the 50-yard mark will be covered and a concrete storage building will be constructed nearby.

The state grant was used to purchase gravel, concrete forms and cement. Hadden said Ma'n Equipment Rental and Ron's Rent all donated equipment.

NAME: Ketchikan Rod and Gun Club

LOCATION: Mile 10 1/2 North Tongass Highway
Ketchikan, Alaska

OPERATED BY: Ketchikan Rod and Gun Club

CONTACT: Don Newman, Director
Box 6391
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

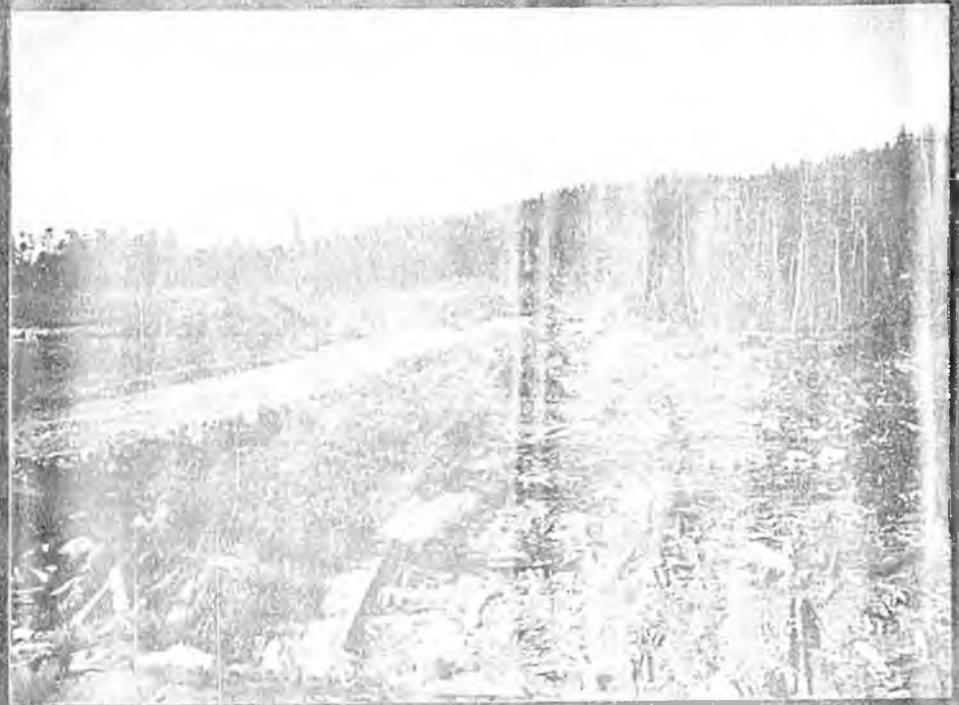
HOURS OF OPERATION: Rifle Range - 8:00 AM until Dark (Daily)
Trap Fields - 6:00 PM until Dark, Wednesday
10:00 AM until Dark, Sunday

FEES CHARGED: \$20.00/year club membership
Non-members may use range at no cost other than fees for
ammunition and targets

FACILITIES AVAILABLE: 100 Meter range with covered firing line
4 trap fields
Clubhouse/sanitary facilities

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED: A.T.A. Trapshooting Tournaments
Hunter Safety Courses
Boy Scout Merit Badge Qualification
Instruction programs for rifle and
trap shooting
Black Powder and Silhouette Shooting
programs now being organized





NAME: Kodiak Island Sportsman's Association Shooting Range

LOCATION: Adjacent to the V.F.W. Hall, Monashaka Bay, Kodiak, Alaska.
Seven miles east of town.

OPERATED BY: Kodiak Island Sportsman's Association

CONTACT: Joseph J. Koczur, Jr., President 907-487-2246 (H)
P.O. Box 538 Base 907-486-3298 (W)
Kodiak, Alaska 99619

HOURS OF OPERATION: Weekdays - 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Weekends - 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM
By Appointment at other hours

FEES CHARGED: \$2.00 per day for walk-ins
\$50.00 per year for unlimited access memberships

FACILITIES AVAILABLE:

Indoor Range - 10 lane, 7 position, Detroit Bullet Trap range
Outdoor - Anticipated 5 to 10 lane, 300 yard range
Meeting/instructional area separate from the indoor range

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED:

Hunter Safety Courses (quarterly), Home Firearms Safety,
NRA Junior Program, NRA Sanctioned Competitions, Recreational
"Turkey" Shoots, League Competition Shooting (Police, Schools,
Local Organizations, etc.)

NOTE: This range is currently under construction. All information is tentative pending completion and opening of the range. Completion is anticipated prior to June 30, 1983.

V.F.D. Sheet Protector NY-10

V.F.D. Sheet Protector NY-10

V.F.D. Sheet Protector NY-11

10



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2



NAME: Kotzebue Shooting Range

LOCATION: Kotzebue, Alaska

OPERATED BY: City of Kotzebue

CONTACT: Donald E. Buehler, Chief of Police Phone: 907-4 -3351 (W)
P.O. Box 46
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752

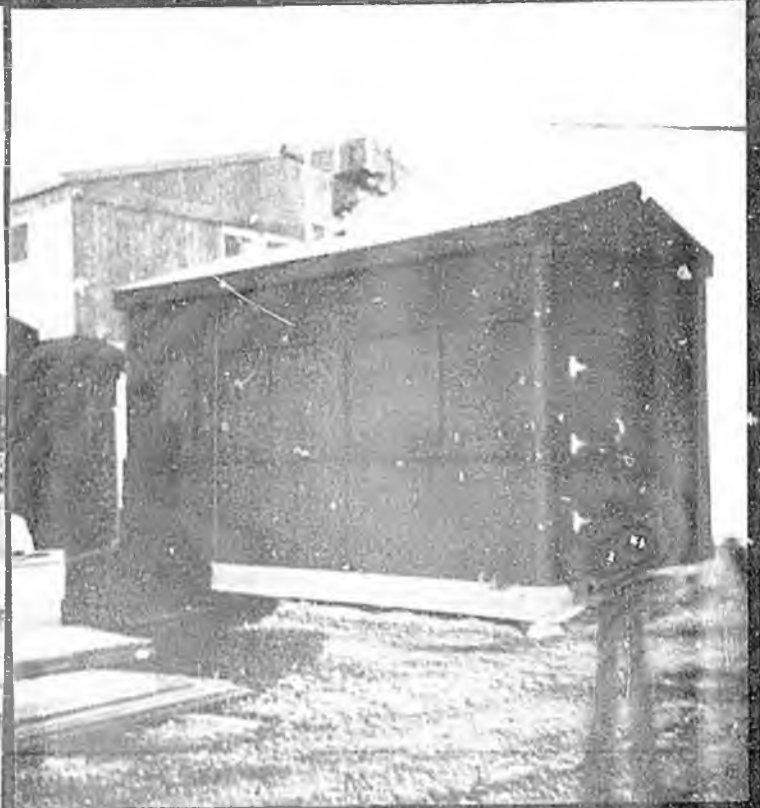
HOURS OF OPERATION: Not established as yet

FEES CHARGED: None

FACILITIES AVAILABLE: 2 heated 10' x 20' shooting sheds with 5 positions
for rifle/pistol shooting (100 yard range), and
2 positions for trap/skeet shooting

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED: Hunter Safety Courses
Junior and adult shooting teams being organized
Police and National Guard Qualification Programs
Instruction in rifle, pistol and shotgun use

NOTE: The shooting sheds are a unique facility constructed to allow year around shooting in the Kotzebue area. The sheds will be moved to the range site in Spring 1983. They are on skids to allow for easy movement when snow removal is necessary during the winter.





NAME: Petersburg Range

LOCATION: Mile 13, Mitkof Highway, Petersburg, Alaska

OPERATED BY: Petersburg Rod & Gun Club

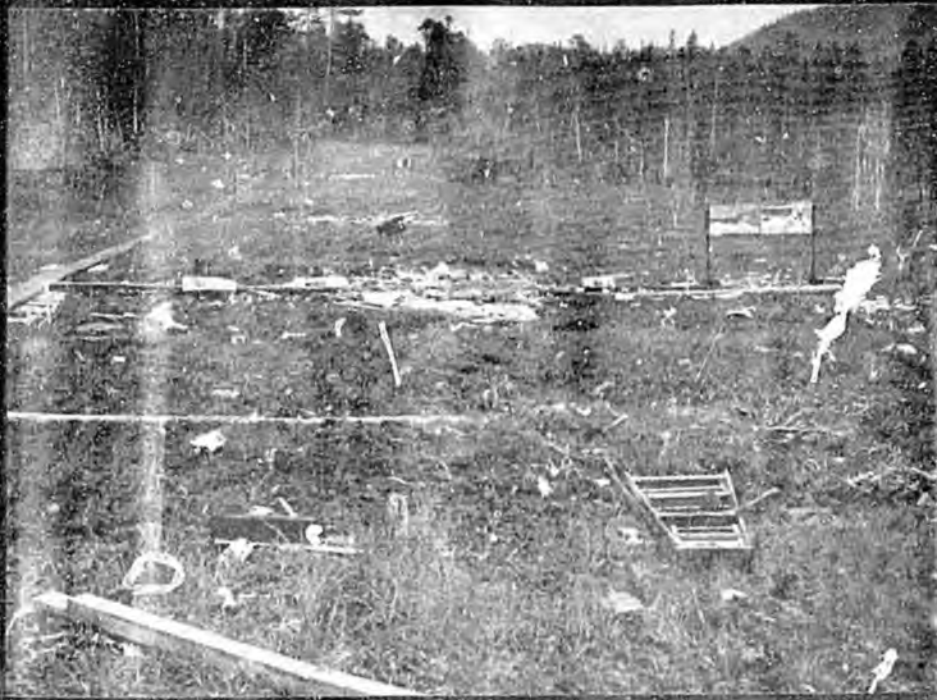
CONTACT: Ken Herrick, President 907-772-4447 (H)
Box 193 907-772-3797 (W)
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

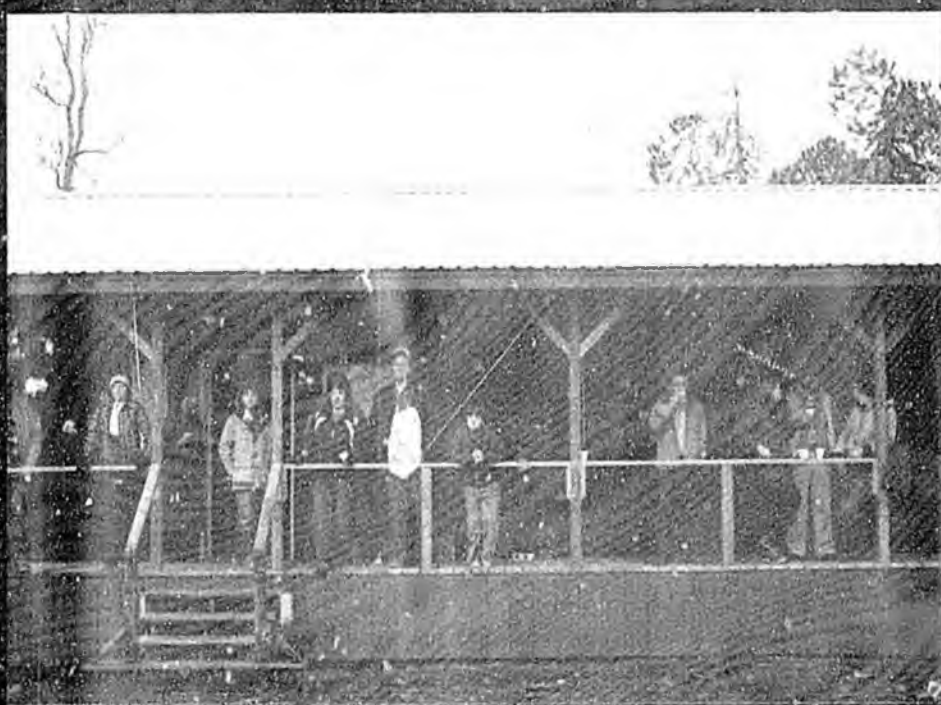
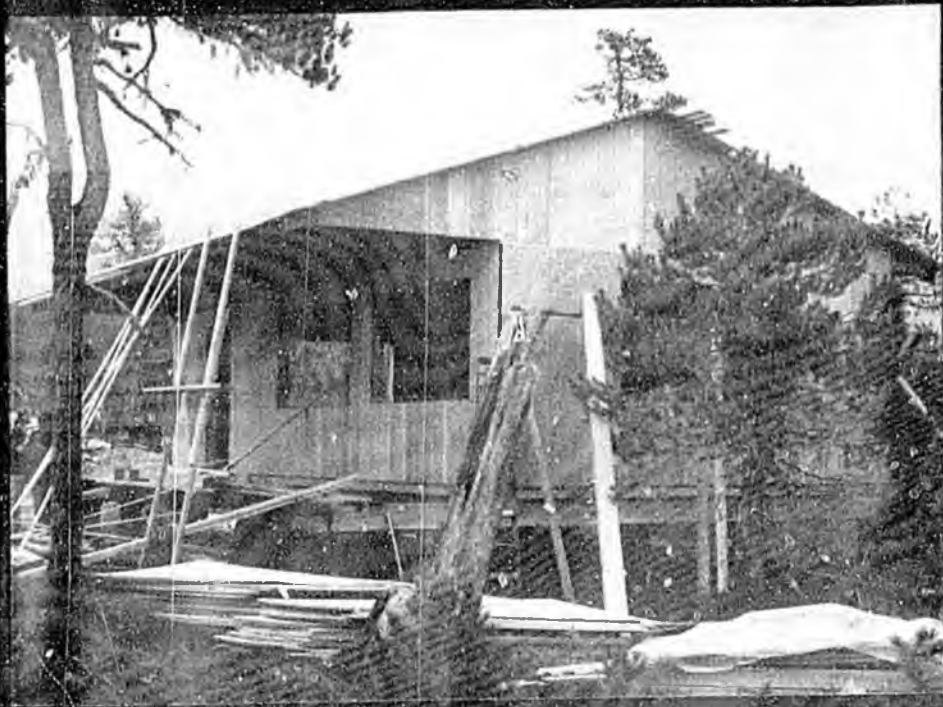
HOURS OF OPERATION: Open to public during daylight hours all days
Regular club sponsored activities on Sunday

FEES CHARGED: Trap - \$2:00 per round
Running deer and silhouettes - \$.25
Cost of targets if purchased from club

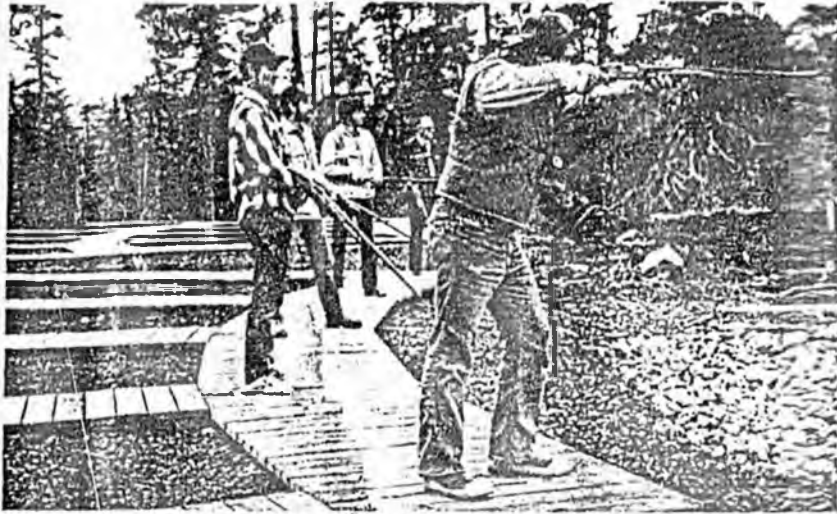
FACILITIES AVAILABLE: Regulation trap fields; Police combat course;
Rifle range - 25, 50, 100, 200 yards
Running deer target - 100 yards--high power rifle
Metal Silhouettes 1/5 scale - 22 rimfire rifle or pistol
Warming house open on club supervised days; restroom facilities

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED: Hunter Safety Courses
DCM Jr. Rifle Program (begins Spring 1983)
Police Officer Qualification
Coast Guard Boarding Party Qualification
U.S. Forest Service 375 H&H Handling & Safety Course









Renovated shooting range opens

By Sharon Kale

Gone are the scattered pallets that used to mark the shooting range. When the renovated Petersburg Shooting Range was opened to the public Oct. 31, it was crisscrossed with boardwalks and sported a shed, an announcer's booth and a shelter at the rifle range.

The improvements were made with a \$100,000 grant administered through the Department of Fish and Game, and will allow the Petersburg Rod and Gun Club to hold registered shoots. Hunter safety courses will also use the new facility.

The new trap shooting range includes a wooden boardwalk leading to the shooting area, two electric trap releases and concrete trap houses. "A police shooting range, next to the trap area, will permit more regimented practice for officers. Previously policemen were practicing in a gravel pit."

A shelter at the rifle range has space for five persons to shoot at the same time. Because it is raised off the ground, the range will also be usable when there is snow on the ground.

The new range was financed through a \$3.2 million appropriation from the 1980 legislature. The money was distributed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for development of community shooting ranges so hunting and firearm safety courses could be held. Petersburg was one of the last Southeast communities to receive a grant, following construction of ranges at Haines, Juneau, Ketchikan, Sitka and Wrangell.

A shooting course offered through the Youth Center will have an end-of-the-class competition at the range this weekend. Chief of Police Bob Oszman said a hunting safety course sponsored by the Police Department and the Rod and Gun Club will be held in January.

But youngsters won't be the only ones using the range. The Rod and Gun Club is planning to hold competitive shoots with Wrangell

and Juneau, although the matches may have to be via the U.S. mail to cut costs. The trap releases are owned by the club and will only be available when the club is shooting, but all other ranges at the new facility will be open everyday.

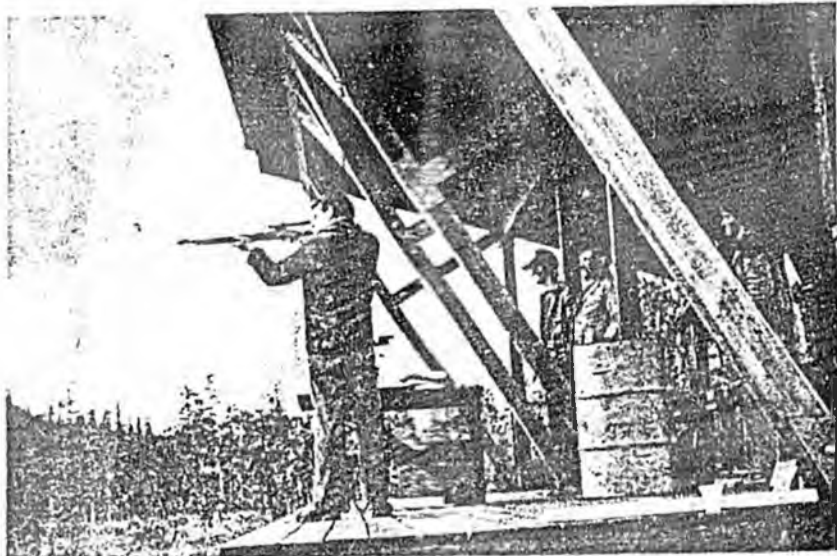
A large shelter provides a dry place for observers or firing shooters.

"We're really pleased" with the new facility, said Rod and Gun Club President Ken Herrick. "Before we

were really just scrounging."

Diana Bennet, administrative assistant for the ADFG Division of Game, said the improvements at the Petersburg range were well planned and constructed.

"When they first started working on it, \$100,000 sounded like a lot of money, but I think this will make up the whole amount," Ms. Bennet said. Construction cost about \$85,000 and she expects the rest will go toward design costs.



Petersburg's renovated shooting range is now open to the public. Sharon Kale Photos

NAME: Tony Harbor Memorial Range

LOCATION: Sitka

OPERATED BY: City & Borough of Sitka and Baranof Pistol & Rifle Club

CONTACT: Mike Schmidt, Planning Director, City & Borough of Sitka
Box 79, Sitka, Alaska

HOURS OF OPERATION: Daylight all year

FEES CHARGED: None

FACILITIES AVAILABLE: 200 meter 8 point rifle range - covered barracks
100 meter 5 point rifle range - covered barracks
25 meter pistol range - covered shooting area

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED: Open to general public

Tony Harbor
Memorial Range



