

Good Day:

I have been asked why the club has not put out a newsletter.

We have not put out a club newsletter, as it was felt with the cancellation of all our matches this year, there was not much to report on. Therefore, I will endeavor to give an update to the membership with a President's Report.

Once we received the two long term agreements from Forestry, we then had to apply for permission to remove the trees necessary to begin our improvements. This had to be done in consultation with the Kamloops Indian Band, as they hold a Woodlot Licence to our range area. One of the requirements was to have the KIB do an Archeological Survey. The KIB then contracted out the logging for removal of the trees.

The removal of trees to allow the building of a 1,000 yard rifle range has been completed, as has the removal of trees to allow building of shooting bays and eventually a club house and caretaker's residence.

The logging contractor then did initial clean up of debris left from the logging. There remains about a dozen burn piles, which will be burnt this fall, hopefully at first snowfall. The remaining debris will need to be raked/piled for burning as well. This burning will be under direction of the KIB. Then we need to seed the logged area, as per our Agricultural Land Commission agreements. In discussion with several contractors, regarding the cleanup of debris, all stated that with the present fire situation no one would bring in equipment at this time. So for now, it is not a very pretty sight! We also had a contractor send his surveyor to take areal photos in order to make a grid graft of the area we wish to make shooting bays. Once this is complete, we will be able to entertain the best way to construct those shooting bays. These bays will be bermed on each side, with a backstop. This will allow each bay to function independently, allowing shooting to be active in all the bays at the same time.

As you can appreciate, this is a long term undertaking. In the meantime, Cowboy Town props have been re-located to the Pistol Range area. This allows the membership to use these props with 7 day access, not the once a month as before. The metal targets provided are designed for lead bullets, with maximum velocity of 1,400 feet per second. They will not safely take higher velocity nor metal core, military ammunition. For everyone's safety and the preservation of the targets, please use appropriate ammunition on these targets. If we find misuse of the targets, unfortunately we would be forced to remove the targets and store them in one of the containers. So please be responsible and enjoy having the opportunity to shoot metal targets.

In consultation with our local Firearms Officer, who will be tasked with doing the final inspection for approvals, I was informed there is now about a two year backlog on inspections. Once all our improvements are complete, we will ask for approvals. In the meantime, our existing approvals will continue. Fortunately, our improvements are mainly behind existing firing lines, so there is no conflict with work on proposed upgrades.

Once work begins we will focus first on building a new rifle shed, which will be located south and east of the present shed, approximately 150 yards. This new location will allow shooters to have a much wider arch of fire than present, which means the opportunity of more targets. It will allow most of the present area, and include the addition of the new range area, which will allow targets up to 1,000 yards.

Part of this construction will include a fairly large earth berm to the east of the new shed. This should allow access to the Black Powder Trails, and camping area.

Then it would be building of bays. Eventually, the present rifle shed would be removed, and the props at the Pistol Range would be moved to the new bays. Shotgun tower would remain as is.

The relocation of our storage containers is another item we will need to address. Presently there is a suggestion to move them to an area to the south of the present pistol range.

Looking further into the future, planning will be undertaken to fund a caretaker residence, then a clubhouse.

I know some of you are not pleased with how the range looks at present, however we cannot get to where we want to be unless we can endure some discomfort in the meantime.

In discussing our club's plans for upgrades with other clubs, I have received many envious and encouraging remarks on our plans. Let's keep a positive outlook and work toward a range we can be proud of!

Take care, be safe and introduce a friend to your shooting sport this year!

Regards,



Jim

August 23, 2021