**ANNUAL OPERATIONS REPORT - 2024**

Distribution:

* Rupert City Mayor – Tammy Jones
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    - File Copy – Rupert Range, Inc

Date: February 18, 2025

Location: City of Rupert Council Chambers

This report summarizes the activities, events, accomplishments, attendance, and operations at the Rupert Range over the past year. As the volunteer group that operates the range for the city, we present our accomplishments over the past year.

In 2024, the Rupert Range focused on growth, engagement, and success. With an emphasis on safety, education, and community involvement, the range provided training, hosted events, and made necessary improvements. Volunteers dedicated many hours to maintain a well-kept environment for visitors.

**OVERVIEW**

**RSO & Board Member volunteerism:** The total recorded RSO hours were 1,041. This does not include unrecorded the hundreds of hours put in by three of the board members outside of their required board duty hours. The total number of registered patrons was 1,390. This number does not include non-shooting family members, friends, and/or curious visitors; nor all the training/classes, and event shoots. The *Tactical Games*, we believe, had an estimated 280 + competitors.

We have not had any incidents/situations of concern over the past year. It is significant to note that one of our RSO’s, Rick Gobel (certified trainer) from Black Pine Training, volunteers his time to teach the *Stop the Bleed Class* along with *AHA CPR/AED* and First *Aid* as part of our safety training.

**2024 Highlights:**

**Freedom Hall:** In 2024, various groups utilized Freedom Hall on a weekly or monthly basis for meetings and training. These groups included the local *4-H Shooting Club*, *Minidoka Mountain Makers*, *Armed Women of America*, and the *Mini-Cassia Republicans*. These users also had access to the range when necessary. Additionally, numerous Idaho *Fish & Game Hunter’s Education* classes were conducted here, certifying many young hunters and adults. The live-fire sessions held at this facility are not mandatory as not all IF&G instructors have had access to a firing range like ours It is a privilege to access the shooting/firing lanes here.

***Side Note:*** Idaho Fish & Game has also expressed an interest in Rupert Range establishing an archery range at our facility, which would enable a certification class for archery hunters.

**Other patrons:** We also had firearm training companies, including *Independence Training, LLC* and

*Victory Tactical*, that used the range for training. The range also hosted USCCA classes for free to the public. We have had a great turnout for all classes and introduced the range to many new individuals who did not know we were here. The *Minidoka Sheriff’s Department, Rupert City Police, and the Idaho State Police* routinely use Freedom Hall and range for their training throughout the year. Private events and groups have held company and family shoots at the range and used Freedom Hall for catering their meals. Freedom Hall is a prized addition to the range.

RR, Inc hosted leadership outings for the Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce, where both adult and teen groups enjoyed a demonstration by the Sheriff's Department K9 unit and time at the cowboy range shooting firearms. The month of May featured *The Tactical Games*, showcasing their marksmanship and athletic skills. While it required significant effort, we look forward to this event again in June. We appreciate the city's recruitment, support and collaboration with our board in the planning and execution of this event.

**Events Highlights**: Our shoots for the year 2024 were as follows: *4-H Family Shoot, another 4-H, shoot, Idaho Fish &; Game Zeroing Class,* Top Shot competition, and our *Zombie Shoot*. We hope to add more shoots this year; the ISU/BSU competition shoot will likely occur again this year.

We made this year's Zombie Shoot more challenging, offering prizes including firearms. We held a raffle for one firearm, and another was awarded through a shooting competition. A coffin with nine keys, one of which worked, was used as part of the contest for top shooters. It was a great event! The new competition was successful, and we have already scheduled the 2025 Zombie Shoot. We are also refining other shooting challenges for 2025.

Improvements have been made to the range over the past year wherever necessary. Sidewalks and gutters have been installed. The Youth Range is currently in the planning stage and is scheduled for completion in 2025. An Idaho Fish & Game grant for additional concrete work and a storage container is under review by IF&G.

**Scheduled Training:** This past season, twenty RSO's attended one of our two training courses. We aim to increase this number next year. The 2025 training dates are February 15th, March 26th, and April 7th. Additionally, we offer new RSO onboarding programs year-round as needed.

We are excited about our season opening. Our RSO Training covers SOP updates, new range features, First Aid, and RSO questions. The goal is to ensure consistency, introduce new RSOs, and review past achievements, changes, and future plans for 2025 events. We also discuss incidents, safety outcomes, and improvement ideas. Key focuses include range safety procedures, incident reporting, and supporting Rupert city personnel as needed.

**Range Improvements**: We have plans to enhance accessibility by adding more sidewalks throughout the range to ensure it is fully ADA compliant. Additionally, we intend to improve lighting around the bathroom area and replace the sign on Meridian Road. We are also aiming to install and operate security cameras to ensure the safety of the range.

**The Youth Range:** We are heavily planning the Youth Range project for this year. We aim to level the grounds, mow the area, and improve berms. Our IF&G grant request includes purchasing a shipping container for storing targets, target stands, range tools, equipment, and possibly archery materials. We will add shooting lanes for young marksmen. The 4-H youth who use the range have competed at state and higher levels, representing our facility and the Minidoka area.

**Looking ahead to 2025**: We plan to expand our programs, improve infrastructure, and increase outreach to attract more people. We're especially eager about the Youth Range, which will offer safe learning and competition opportunities for future generations.

We highly appreciate the support from Rupert City leadership, law enforcement, and community partners. With continued collaboration, we anticipate another successful year at the Rupert Range.

Respectfully submitted:

**Rupert Range Board of Directors**

Jeffery Heines - Chairman

Melvin Snyder Vice Chair, Quartermaster

Tina Morris Secretary

Milt Banner -Treasurer

Elliot Owen – Member at Large