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Decision Notice for the Hellgate Civilian Shooters Association West Riverside Range, Missoula, Montana

September 16, 2009

A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared by FWP for the proposed purpose of granting $4,325 in Shooting Range Grant funds to the Hellgate Civilian Shooters Association for the partial funding of construction of a saftey berm on their West Riverside Range (East Missoula), which has an indoor and outdoor small bore range, located off of Highway 200 east of Missoula.

A Draft EA was circulated for public comment between August 7, 2009 and September 7, 2009. During this time period, notices announcing the comment period and the draft EA were placed on FWP's website and as legal ads published once each in the *Independent Record* (Helena; August 12) and *Missoulian* (August 11) newspapers.

FWP did not receive objections to the proposed project. We did receive a comment from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) recommending that it is SHPO's position that *any structure over fifty years of age is considered historic and is potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. If any structures are to be altered and are over fifty years old we would recommend that they be recorded and a determination of their eligibility be made.*

As long as there will be no disturbance or alteration to structures over fifty years of age we feel that there is a low likelihood cultural properties will be impacted. We, therefore, feel that a recommendation for a cultural resource inventory is unwarranted at this time. However, should structures need to be altered or if cultural materials be inadvertently discovered during this project we would ask that our office be contacted and the site investigated.

FWP's response: there are no structures over 50 years old that will be impacted by this project. The department will pass along SHPOs comments to the club.

Based on the analysis in the environmental assessment and public comment, Alternative A is preferred and FWP will provide $4325 in partial funding to construct a dirt safety berm. There were no changes to the draft EA; therefore the draft becomes the final EA.

Kurt Cunningham
Shooting Range Coordinator