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**Decision Notice for the
Mission Valley Shooting Club
Ronan**

November 3, 2009

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) has released a Decision Notice to grant funds to the Mission Valley Shooting Club, Inc. for a shooting range improvement grant. The shooting range is located on property leased from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Flathead Nation. The site is located near Ronan, MT, in the E1/2SE1/4NE1/4, and the South 800 feet of the E1/2NE1/4NE1/4, of Section 33, T21N, R20W, P.M.M.

This project will provide \$32,360 in partial funding towards construction of a new .22 Rimfire Range and Range House; handicap bathroom; handicap parking area and handicap accessible ramp; improve road and parking to all weather; archery range with backstops and shooting lanes; and construction of a drainage berm above the ditch

A Draft EA was circulated for public comment between September 29, and October 29, 2009. During this time period, FWP announced the comment period by placing the draft EA on FWP's website and by distributing a news release. A legal ad was placed in the *Lake County Leader* newspaper.

FWP received a comment from the State Historic Preservation Office SHPO: "... According to our records there have been no previously recorded sites within the designated search locales. The absence of cultural properties in the area does not mean that they do not exist but rather may reflect the absence of any previous cultural resource inventory in the area, as our records indicated none. Because this project will occur on CSKT land we would ask that you contact the CSKT Preservation Department for any concerns that they may have regarding this project...

FWP Response: a copy of the EA and SHPO letter was mailed to the CSKT Preservation Department.

FWP also received the following comment: the "Flathead Wildlife, Inc., a sportsman's organization with 150 members based in the Flathead Valley, supports this EA"

Based on the analysis in the environmental assessment and public comment, Alternative A is preferred and FWP will provide \$32,360 in partial funding towards construction of a new .22 Rimfire Range and Range House; handicap bathroom; handicap parking area and handicap accessible ramp; improve road and parking to all weather; archery range with backstops and shooting lanes; and construction of a drainage berm above the ditch.

There were no changes to the draft EA; therefore the draft becomes the final EA.

Kurt Cunningham
Shooting Range Coordinator