



RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA'S RANGE EVALUATION REPORT FOR THE KOKO HEAD SHOOTING COMPLEX.

WHEREAS, the Koko Head Shooting Complex, the City's only public shooting range, is owned and operated by the City and County of Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, upon request by the Hawaii Rifle Association and the City's Department of Parks and Recreation, the National Rifle Association of America (NRA) Range Technical Team evaluated the safety, design, and operational procedures of the Koko Head Shooting Complex in February 2014; and

WHEREAS, the NRA Range Technical Team is a nationwide network of volunteer advisors trained in the field of shooting range development, design, and operations, and NRA Range Technical Team Advisors process 80 to 100 range cases annually nationwide; and

WHEREAS, recommendations of the NRA Range Technical Team for the Koko Head Shooting Complex are provided in a Range Evaluation Report dated February 24, 2014, which is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the recommendations provided by the NRA Range Technical Team's Range Evaluation Report will improve safety at the Koko Head Shooting Complex; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the Department of Parks and Recreation is urged to implement the recommendations of the NRA Range Technical Team's Range Evaluation Report dated February 24, 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council expresses its gratitude to the NRA Range Technical Team for preparing the Range Evaluation Report and helping to improve the safety of the Koko Head Shooting Complex; and



RESOLUTION

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, and the Director of Parks and Recreation.

INTRODUCED BY:

Shirley Pene

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

MAY 14 2014
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

MAY 14 10:38 AM
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 14-112

Introduced: 05/14/14 By: KYMBERLY PINE

Committee: PARKS AND CUSTOMER SERVICES

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA'S RANGE EVALUATION REPORT FOR THE KOKO HEAD SHOOTING COMPLEX.

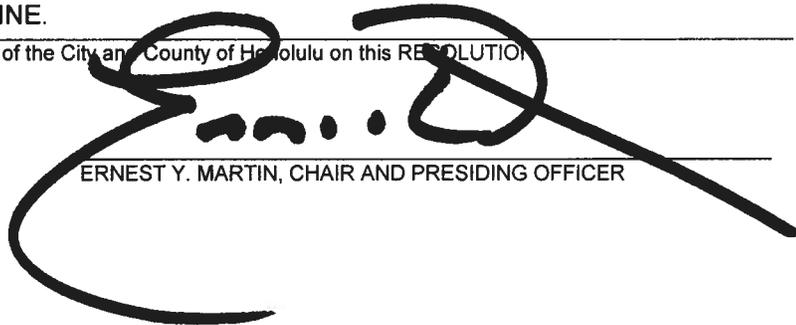
Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

05/20/14 PARKS AND CUSTOMER SERVICES CR-154 - RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION.

06/04/14 COUNCIL CR-154 AND RESOLUTION 14-112 WERE ADOPTED.
9 AYES: ANDERSON, CHANG, FUKUNAGA, HARIMOTO, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MARTIN, MENOR, PINE.

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.


For BERNICE K. N. MAU, CITY CLERK


ERNEST Y. MARTIN, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER

**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
RANGE TECHNICAL TEAM
RANGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
EDUCATION AND TRAINING DIVISION**

Final Report

Range Evaluation Report

Case #: HI-2012-14

Subject: Koko Head Shooting Complex

Date: February 24th, 2014

STATEMENT REGARDING INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT

Nothing in the information that follows should be considered "requirements" of the NRA. The informational items are "suggestions". The range operator may or may not choose to act upon any or all of these suggestions. It should not be interpreted by anyone that a failure on any part of the range operator to accept and/or implement any of the suggestions set forth herein as evidence of a "cavalier attitude" regarding health and/or safety. A range operator may otherwise be very safety and health conscious without having to resort to any or all of these suggestions.

Report prepared by
Range Technical Team
National Rifle Association

THIS DOCUMENT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE
NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
RANGE TECHNICAL TEAM
RANGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
EDUCATION AND TRAINING DIVISION

Range Evaluation Report

Case #: HI-2012-14
Date: February 24th, 2014
Subject: Koko Head Shooting Complex

Opening Statement:

On February 15th, 2014 the Range Technical Team (RTT) met with the leadership of the Hawaii Rifle Association at the Koko Head Shooting Complex which is owned and operated by the Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation.

Present were:

Harvey Gerwig - President, Hawaii Rifle Association
Max Cooper - Legislative Liason, Hawaii Rifle Association
Mike Muramoto - Range Master

The Range Technical Team also met with Honolulu Parks and Recreation Director Toni P. Robinson on February 18th, 2014 to discuss the observations and suggestions of the Range Evaluation.

Summary:

The Range Technical Team was requested to evaluate the safety, design and operational procedures of the Koko Head Shooting Complex. The primary focus was to be on the rifle range and the metallic silhouette range.

Background:

The Range Technical Team was requested to evaluate the Koko Head Shooting Complex due to reports of errant projectiles and to make any suggestions that would enhance the safety of the facility. In the year 2013 there were four reports of errant projectiles. Three were to homes and one was to an automobile at a public beach nearby. Of the four reports only one projectile has been viewed by concerned parties other than the Honolulu Police Department. All other evidence has been denied to viewing due to an ongoing investigation. Calibers and the conditions of the projectiles are unknown at this point. There were also reports of errant projectiles in 1992, 1993, 2000 and 2009.

The Hawaii Rifle Association and the Honolulu Parks and Recreation Department decided jointly to request that the Range Technical Team provide an onsite evaluation and report.

Observations

100 yard Rifle Range:

There are 50 shooting points on the 100 yard rifle range. The 100 yard Target Line has a Backstop that varies in heights from 12-15 feet at any given point and is located directly behind the 100 yard Target Line. There are large exposed rocks in the Backstop. Target frames on the 100 yard rifle range are generally required to be constructed out of soft wood. Range users can construct their own frames to fit into the target frame holders. There is a swinging metallic target and frames located at firing point 25.

There is a 50 yard Target Line. Due to the downward direction of fire from the Firing Line there is a tendency for projectiles to strike the ground behind the 50 yard targets. Sand has been added to absorb shots to the ground. Targets and frames are of the same construction as those on the 100 yard line.

The Firing Line is controlled by a Range Master or a Range Safety Officer. Live fire is sustained for 20 minutes until a cease fire is called for the purpose of changing targets and/or frames. The Firing Line is inspected to ensure firearms are unloaded with clear and open chambers before shooters can proceed downrange. No firearm handling or approaching shooting benches is allowed during the cease fire.

Safety signs are sparsely placed on the Firing Line. Eye and ear protection is emphasized. There is one well maintained sign stating the Range Rules at the center point and one very sun faded and unreadable older sign nearby. There were no signs emphasizing firearm handling rules at any other locations on the Firing Line.

There are two informal 200 yard targets located on the hill behind the Backstop. There are rocks located in the impact area. It was unclear at the time of the evaluation as to the current use of these targets. It was stated that 200 yard targets are desired for proper hunter safety marksmanship and training.

The direction of fire is to the North. Koko Head is an inactive volcano that is located directly behind the Backstop. The Honolulu Parks and Recreation Department operates a climbing trail on the western most side of the volcano. Hikers are visible from the Firing Line. There are no known reports of projectiles impacting on the hiking trail.

Roosters and chickens roam freely on the Firing Line and appear to be unaffected by the rifle range activity.

Metallic Silhouette Range:

The Metallic Silhouette Range is located directly East of the rifle range and maintains the same direction of fire. Metallic Silhouette targets are randomly dispersed at different distances throughout the range. Targets are constructed of multiple types of metal and multiple gauges of thickness. Target frames are constructed of various types of metal including pipes and steel rebar. All targets appear to be locally made and none are from professional metallic silhouette manufacturers.

The Backstop is not continuous for the entire width of the range and is inconsistent with the placement of targets. The projectiles are unlikely to impact into a Backstop. Bullet impact marks appear on both the targets as well as the target frames. Due to the inconsistency of target and frame design it is difficult to determine impact areas and ricochet directions from the metallic targets. Multiple impact areas and multiple ricochet directions are likely. There are bullets located on the ground in areas before and beyond the targets. Distances of ricochets would depend on the firearm and ammunition fired.

Eye and ear protection are emphasized on the Firing Line. There was a lack of Safety signage on the Firing Line. The Firing Line is controlled by the Range Master or a Range Safety Officer. Both pistol and rifle cartridges are fired on the metallic silhouette range.

Turning Target Pistol Range:

The Turning Target Pistol Range consists of 40 firing points firing in the same Northern direction as the Rifle and Metallic Silhouette Ranges. There is one fixed Target Line at 25 yards consisting of two separate independent target turning systems. The Backstop is of sufficient height. The Side Walls are of sufficient height. The Firing Line is controlled by a Range Master or a Range Safety Officer. There are very few safety signs visible on the Firing Line.

Roosters and chickens roam freely on the firing line and appear to be unaffected by the pistol range activity.

Suggestions

100 yard Rifle Range:

In an effort to eliminate errant projectiles it is suggested that the rifle range be completely Baffled. The fixed Firing Line allows for a more cost effective method of Baffling that has less overhead structures as the distance is increased away from the Firing Line and towards the Backstop. A proper Baffling System creates a "no blue sky" scenario and should not allow projectiles to enter and then exit the Baffle material. Example drawings of Baffles are located in the NRA Range Source Book. It is also recommended that the professional services of a range architect be acquired.

If a Baffling System is not installed then the Backstop should be raised to a height of 20 feet that is consistent for the entire width of the range. Rocks should be eliminated from the impact areas of the Backstop and there should be 18-24 inches of debris free earth on the face of the Backstop. Side berms need to be raised and maintained to a consistent height of 8 feet from the Firing Line to the Backstop with 12 inches of debris free earth facing the floor of the range.

Due to the impact of projectiles onto the ground behind the targets located at 50 yards it is suggested that Intermediate Backstops be added behind the targets. This will help ensure all shots fired to this distance will impact on a Backstop and not skip off the ground. Intermediate Backstops should be at least 2 feet higher than the target they are behind.

If the 200 yard firing is desired it should be ensured that the impact area behind each target is free of rocks and debris. The current hill being fired into is a natural Backstop.

Safety signage should be increased to help enhance the education and training of range users. Signs should be placed at numerous points on the Firing Line emphasizing firearm handling safety and rules. Examples of signs can be viewed and/or purchased at:

http://materials.nrahq.org/go/products.aspx?cat=Range_flags/signs/posters

Metallic Silhouette Range:

Due to the inconsistency of metallic targets it was difficult to determine where projectiles are landing. It is likely, based on experience and general ballistic principles, that many projectiles are leaving the range. It is suggested that the Metallic Silhouette Range be completely redesigned to help ensure the safety of the range users and the general public. It is also suggested that professional services be obtained for this process. Vendors of metallic silhouette targets and other lightweight reactive targets can be found in the NRA Range Source Book. Another source for professional resources is the International Metallic Silhouette Shooters Union which can be contacted at <http://www.imssu.org/>.

Safety signage should be increased to enhance the education and training of range users. Signs should be placed at numerous points on the Firing Line emphasizing firearm handling safety and rules. Examples of signs can be viewed and/or purchased at:

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Turning Target Pistol Range:

Safety signage should be increased to enhance the education and training of range users. Signs should be placed at numerous points on the Firing Line emphasizing firearm handling safety and rules. Examples of signs can be viewed and/or purchased at:

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Trap Range:

There are no reported problems on the Trap Range. There is a buildup of spent shot on the hill directly downrange that could be reclaimed.

Safety signage should be increased to enhance the education and training of range users. Signs should be placed at numerous points on the Firing Line emphasizing firearm handling safety and rules. Examples of signs can be viewed and/or purchased at:

http://materials.nrahq.org/go/products.aspx?cat=Range_flags/signs/posters

Skeet Range, Large Action Pistol Bay, and Small Action Pistol Bay:

These ranges were briefly reviewed and do not appear to be the subject of any reported safety concerns. These ranges are facing South and have a hill in excess of 180 feet downrange as a Backstop.

Safety signage should be increased to enhance the education and training of range users. Signs should be placed at numerous points on the Firing Line emphasizing firearm handling safety and rules. Examples of signs can be viewed and/or purchased at:

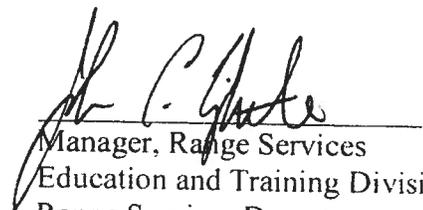
http://materials.nrahq.org/go/products.aspx?cat=Range_flags/signs/posters

All ranges that are side by side should have an 8 foot Side Berm extending from the Firing Lines down to the Backstop. Access between ranges should not be obtainable from a downrange position near the Backstop.

Conclusion:

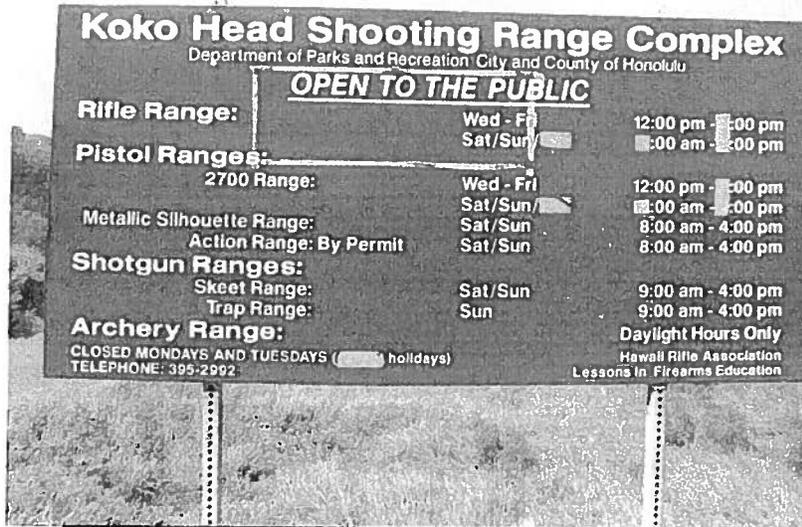
In conclusion, the leadership of this range is definitely working to maintain a safe and healthy shooting environment. Recent reports of escaped projectiles have not been properly determined but Koko Head Shooting Complex's leadership has been proactive to enhance the safety of range users and the general public. It is reminded that it is up to the Koko Head Shooting Complex to implement any or all of the suggestions contained in this report.

Exhibit A: Pages (6) to (9) is all inclusive for the completion of this Final Report.

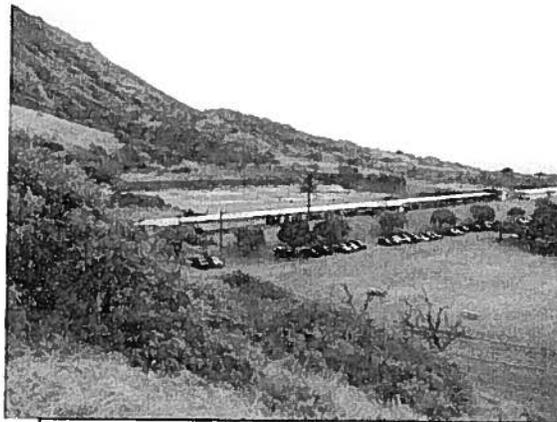


Manager, Range Services
Education and Training Division
Range Services Department

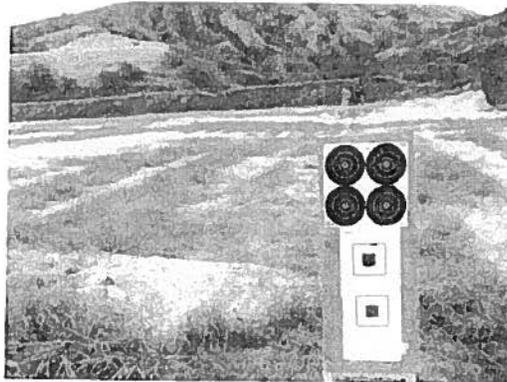
Exhibit A



Entrance sign to the Koko Head Shooting Complex



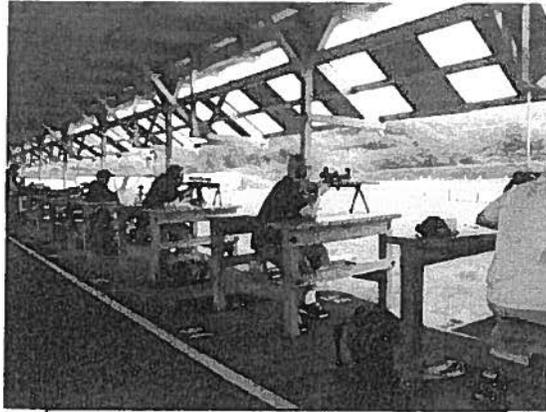
Elevated view of the Rifle Range



Targets located at the 50 yard line on the Rifle Range are generally fired on in a downward direction and have impacts into the ground and not the Backstop



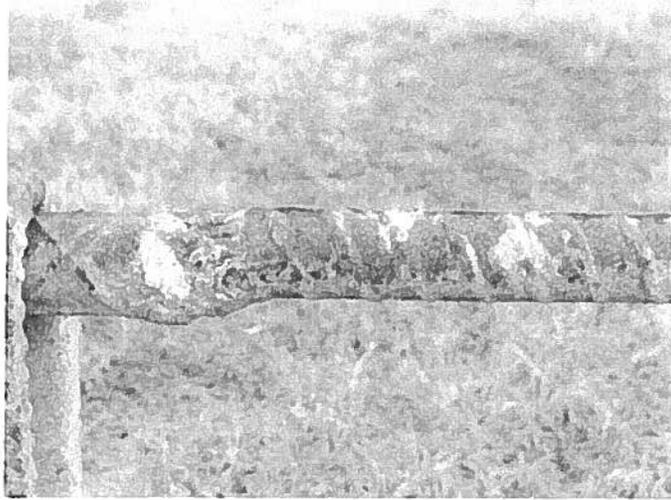
The Backstop on the rifle range is less than 20 feet in height. A fully Baffled range would require a height to the top height of the Baffles.



The Firing Line on the Rifle Range is well run.



The targets on the Metallic Silhouette Range are constructed of various types of metals and frames.



Bullet marks in the steel rebar frames indicate redirected and possible escaping projectiles.