



Office
of Sport

Southern Highlands Regional Shooting Complex

Interim Operational Management Plan

Updated 31 July 2017 (subject to approval Secretary Department
of Planning & Environment)

31 July 2017

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1. Introduction

1.1. General Overview

The Southern Highlands Regional Shooting Complex, Wattle Ridge Road, Hill Top was approved on 01/03/2010 under the determination of Major Project Number 06-0232. The Operational Environmental Management Plan will become operational with the completion of the new shooting ranges planned for 2018.

This Interim Operational Management Plan allows the operation of the existing 800m multi-purpose range, and management of Lot 100, DP 1088254 in line with the planning approval. An Operational Environmental Management Plan will be prepared in consultation with the Environment Protection Authority (NSW) and approved by the Secretary of the Department of Planning & Environment, before the new ranges open.

1.2. Background

The Complex was established to provide a home base for recreational and target shooters in the Illawarra, Western Sydney and Southern Highlands Areas, and to consolidate a number of Shooting Clubs in one location. The Complex will initially provide access to three outdoor ranges including:

- The existing 800m multi-purpose range
- A new 500m multi-purpose range
- A new 50m multi-purpose range.

The Planning Consent allows the development of three future new ranges in Stage 2 as listed below when funds are available:

- A new 200m multi-purpose range
- A new indoor air range and a clubhouse
- A new shotgun range

A plan of the Shooting Complex is included at Appendix A showing the site boundaries, Firearms Registry approved range danger templates and conservation zone as defined in the Conservation Agreement with the Minister for National Parks and Wildlife.

2. Management of the Complex

2.1. Management by Office of Sport

The Complex will be managed under the auspice of the Sydney International Shooting Centre as part of the Office of Sport. The Office of Sport manages the 800m range and will manage the new 50m and 500m ranges when completed.

2.2. Location and Contact Details

The Complex is located approximately 5kms north-west of Hill Top village at 430 Wattle Ridge Road.

The Office of Sport is responsible for the day to day management of the Complex and enquiries can be directed to the Sydney International Shooting Centre, Range Road, Cecil Park NSW 2178 or phone 13 13 02. Enquiries can be made via the website here:

<https://shootingcentre.nsw.gov.au/SHRSC>

2.3. Objectives of the Complex

The objectives of the Complex are:

- a. Provide well managed shooting ranges catering for rifle, pistol, shotgun and air-pistol disciplines meeting the needs of recreational shooters in the Illawarra, Western Sydney and Southern Highlands regions.
- b. Ensure that all operational activities at the ranges are conducted in a manner consistent with the licence terms, consent conditions and land management plans.
- c. Ensure that access to/from and use of the site is conducted in a manner that does not unduly impact on the amenity of Hill Top and surrounding communities.

2.4. Site Visitor and Access Arrangements

- a. All shooters (including club members) must report to the 'Allocated Control Point' on arrival, sign in and pay fees. A current Firearms Licence and club or state affiliation card must be presented when signing in.
- b. All Range Officers (including club members) must report to the 'Allocated Control Point' on arrival and present their current Firearms Licence when signing in.
- c. All other entrants, including visitors and trades persons, must report to the 'Allocated Control Point' on arrival and present their current and approved form of photo ID (e.g. driving licence) when signing in.
- d. When signing in, personal details will be collected for the purposes of complying with law enforcement requirements. Information will be held and disclosed in accordance with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*.

2.5. Range Conditions

The Complex is operated in compliance with the following authorised documents:

- Firearms Registry (NSW Police) range licence
- Major Project Planning Consent and the
- Conservation Agreement with the National Parks and Wildlife dated October 2010.

The NSW Firearms Registry has licensed the 800 metre multi-purpose range to the Office of Sport. The Range Approval cannot be transferred without the consent of the NSW Firearms Registry. The NSW Firearms Registry (NSW Police) may inspect the range and its operations at any time.

3. Compliance with Planning Consent

3.1. Interim Operational Management Plan

This Interim Operational Management Plan (IOMP) is required by Condition A6 (Major Project 02-0232) to permit the use of the 800m multi-purpose range for up to four days per week.

3.2. Operational Days and Estimated Number of Shooters

The Complex has approval to operate for four days in any week from Monday to Sunday. The hours of use of the outdoor range will be between 10am and 5pm each day. No shooting is permitted after 5pm. No shooting is permitted on public holidays except when a Special Event is approved in line with Condition A10 (Major Project 02-0232). There are up to three special events allowed per year (subject to approval).

3.3. Military Use of the 800m Range

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) will be restricted to using the 800m range for two days per week. The ADF will be subject to the approved noise limit and daily shooting time periods as set out in Major Project 02-0232 Planning Consent.

If the national interest requires more than two days for military access, then the Office of Sport will adjust the usual shooting program to ensure that the range does not operate for more than the approved four days in any one week.

3.4. Attended Noise Monitoring & Compliance Results

All the ranges at the Complex must comply with the approved noise level of **LZpeak 75 dB**. Noise tests will be measured at the south end of Rocky Waterholes Road and at Nattai Road adjacent to Wattle Ridge Farm to confirm compliance with the approved noise level. Previous noise compliance test results are summarised in the table below and published on the Office of Sport website here:

<https://sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/about/SHRSC/modifications>

Summary of Noise Compliance 800m Range SHRSC							
	24/11/2010	8/02/2011	28/02/2011		16/05/2012		4/12/2015
Max Peak Hold	80	87	82	PAC 2012	87	Noise Works	73
Max Average	74	76	71		72		65
Min Peak Hold	52	57	61		50		46
Min Average	59	63	69		65		61
Distance tested	300m	100m	800m		300m		800m
	100m	500m					

3.5. Bushfire Sub-Plan and Emergency/Evacuation Procedures

A Bushfire Management Plan and Emergency Management Procedures are in place and the Office of Sport consulted with the Rural Fire Service (RFS) in the preparation of the Bushfire Management Plan.

Copies of the Plans are lodged with the Wingecarribee Shire Council, the Rural Fire Service, Mittagong, and the National Parks and Wildlife Group, Nattai Area. Copies are kept on site at the Southern Highlands Regional Shooting Complex, at the Sydney International Shooting Centre and are attached at Appendix B.

A Fire Danger Rating Meter is installed on Wattle Ridge Road and is maintained by the RFS. The range is closed when there is a Fire Danger Rating of Severe, Extreme or Catastrophic, or on days when there is a Total Fire Ban as set by the RFS on their website.

3.6. Use of non-lead based Ammunition

The only non-lead ammunition currently available is made from solid copper and is designed for high impact hunting with rifles and is not appropriate for target shooting use. When a non-lead target load is developed and made commercially available for target shooters, the Office of Sport will evaluate its use for target shooting on the ranges. If the non-lead target ammunition is found to be suitable and would not cause any other environmental impacts on the range, it will be encouraged for use by members.

3.7. Warning Signage for Bushwalkers on Site Boundary

Warning signs have been erected along the eastern boundary of Lot 100, DP 1088254 for a distance of approximately 2.5 kilometres at 100m intervals.

Future Management

3.8. Operational Environmental Management Plan

On completion of the new 50m and 500m shooting ranges, the Interim Operational Management Plan will be replaced by the Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP). The OEMP is subject to approval by the Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment. The OEMP will include specialist management plans to define the standards and procedures to manage the environment of the Complex as shown in the table below.

Operational Environmental Management Plan for the SHRSC

Managed by the **Sydney International Shooting Centre**

No.	Title of Plan	Purpose of Plan
1	Conservation Agreement	Sets out the responsibilities for managing the conservation area of the Precinct.
2	Operational Environmental Management Plan	Outlines how Office of Sport will manage, maintain and mitigate any impacts of the operation on the environment.
3a	Water Cycle Management Plan	Sets out how we test and mitigate water quality control standards on site.
3b	Soil & Water Management Plan	Part of the above plan explaining how erosion and sediment will be controlled on site.
4	Weed Management Plan	How we will manage, remove and contain weeds including regeneration of bush as required.
5	Ecological Management Plan	How we will survey and protect the flora and fauna in the conservation area.
6	Construction Environmental Management Plan	How to protect the environment during the construction phases.
7	Pesticide Management Plan	How to apply, monitor and manage use of pesticides.
8	Bush Fire Management Plan	How we manage bush fire hazards.
9	Noise Management Plan	How we will monitor compliance with the approved noise limit and mitigation processes.

Reference Documents

- Conservation Agreement dated October 2010 for Lot 100/DP 1088254
- Ecological Management Plan (SHRSC)
- Sporting Venues Authorities Act 2008 and Regulations
- Firearms Act & Firearms Regulation 1996
- Planning Approval (Major Project No MP06-0232 dated 1/03/2010)
- Range User Guide, NSW Firearms Registry