

## CASE STUDY:

BUILDING / ENHANCING SHOOTING RANGES WITH PR EXCISE TAX FUNDS



### Georgia: Richmond Hill Shooting Range



State Agency: Georgia Department of Natural Resources - Wildlife Resources Division

Project/Range Name: Richmond Hill Shooting Range (RHSR).

Location: 803 Kilkenny Road, Richmond Hill GA 31324

Contact information: Jennifer Davison: [Jennifer.Davison@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Davison@dnr.ga.gov) (404) 294-8167

RHSR Website: [Richmond Hill Shooting Range | Department Of Natural Resources Division \(georgiawildlife.com\)](http://RichmondHillShootingRange|DepartmentOfNaturalResourcesDivision.georgiawildlife.com)

Project Type: This project was an expansion and rehabilitation of an existing range.

Total Project Cost: \$700,000

Project Cost Breakdown: PR \$ 630,000. DNR Match \$70,000

Range Usage: The Richmond Hill Shooting Range is designed to accommodate rifle, handgun, shotgun patterning and archery.

Number of Shooting Lanes/Fields: The RHSR features a total of 48 shooting lanes. 26 100-yard lanes which are primarily used for long guns. 20 50-yard lanes which are used by both long guns and handguns. Specifically for shotgun shooters, the RHSR offers two lanes for shotgun patterning. For archery shooters, the RHSR offers 29 shooting lanes. Four static lanes. Five youth lanes with static and 3D targets. 20 lanes with 3D walk back.

Intended Users: The RHSR is designed to support hunters, target shooters and to facilitate hunter education classes.

How is the Range Staffed: The RHSR is staffed by both full and part-time GA DNR agency personnel.

Funding Services: The RHSR is funded through PR funding.

Biggest Obstacles: The biggest obstacles for the RHSR's completion came from nature. These challenges included poor soil, correct slope ratios, poor vegetation and fires.

How Were Those Obstacles Overcome? The Richmond Hills Shooting Range team overcame the above obstacles by changing the slop mixture, by a vigorous planting / seeding programs in areas that were prone to flooding and erosion and by adding sprinklers to the range berms. RHSR also instituted a proactive fire prevention/wilderness maintenance protocol design to reduce the threat of fires.

What portion of the project took more time than expected? The largest delays consisted of dealing with the changing inclement weather. The unpredictability of the weather during the duration of the project dramatically impacted project timelines forcing the RSHR's team to continually adjust their planning and timelines.

What Range Development Resources Were Most Helpful? The team in charge of the expansion/renovation referenced the [NRA Range Source Book](#) frequently They were also supported by legendary range designer, Clark Vargas. The team was further guided and mentored by Bill Cline of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

What Information/Knowledge Do You Know Now That You Wish Knew Earlier? The management and development team at RSHS had wished they had taken more time to study the importance of understanding the slope and the soil composition of the proposed renovation and expansion. Further they wished they had taken the time to better understand which targets work best for the shooting that they had in mind when planning the project. They also would have like to have taken more time to understand the impact that the size of their proposed bays would have on the final design and performance of the range.

What Additional Resources Would Have Made the Task Easier/Cheaper/Quicker? The RHSR team would have like to have a short book on the do's and especially the don'ts to outdoor range development.

For additional information on Georgia shooting ranges, visit: [SHOOTING RANGES | Department of Natural Resources Division \(georgiawildlife.com\)](#)

