

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Foundation, Inc.****Federal Tax ID: 26-183248****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Foundation, Inc. - Completion of the TVSA Classrooms, Shooting Range and Ventilation System

State Funding Requested: \$200,000
One-Time Need**House District: Fairbanks Areawide (1-5)****Brief Project Description:**

The Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association needs to complete construction of its classroom and shooting range facility with an air ventilation system to replace the original building that was lost to fire in 2007. The construction must be completed in time to potentially host the 2015 NCAA National Collegiate Championship shooting tournament in Fairbanks.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$3,500,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$1,709,468)
FY2015 State Funding Request:	(\$200,000)
Project Deficit:	\$1,590,532

*Funding Details:**2010 State grant, \$100,000***2011 State grant, \$15,000**** These figures are included in the amounts below:**\$927,834 received in grants, donations, insurance**\$781,634 land sales***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

TVSA requests state financial assistance to complete the ventilation system for the second half of our indoor shooting range in Fairbanks. The University of Alaska championship rifle team, coached by Dan Jordan, has bid on Fairbanks hosting the 2015 NCAA National Collegiate Championship Shooting Tournament. TVSA would be used for the smallbore competition, but we currently only have one half of our facility equipped with a state of the art air ventilation system.

Right now we have three high school rifle teams practicing both air rifle and smallbore daily at our range, as well as holding matches between local high schools and those in Interior Alaska (North Pole, Tok, Delta Junction). We will also likely have one or more private and charter schools using the range this spring for biathlon training in addition to shooting practices. And we are offering both gun safety courses to Interior youth on Saturdays and Personal Protection classes to adults in evenings.

A few years ago, the State helped us partially fund the existing ventilation system in the south range bay. In order to accommodate national and international matches, we need to complete the ventilation system in the north range bay.

The economic advantage to the Interior should the NCAA tournament be held in Fairbanks in 2015 is huge! Over 900 people "packed the Patty" when Fairbanks hosted the tournament a few years ago, with teams from all over the country traveling here to compete. This NCAA shooting tournament was the only such sporting event ever held in Alaska. It would be difficult to hold the event entirely at the University range as we did in 2010, due to the fact that there is a limited number of firing points at their range, causing multiple relays to be held. The best case scenario would be to split the tournament between the University and TVSA, but only if we can get the complete ventilation system finished.

The ventilation system is a "state of the air" air handling and filtration system. It has been designed by a local mechanical engineering and heating/ventilation contractor to meet current standards for the facility. Air is directed past each shooting position in such volume that all lead and propellant residue is carried down range. Air is collected at the target area and carried through ducts to a system of filters and vents in the mezzanine area. Air is filtered and mixed with fresh preheated outside air in this area and redirected past the shooting positions. Mechanical features consist of air diffusers, duct work, several fans, filtration units consisting of at least three grades of air filters, mixing chambers for fresh air make-up, heating coils and boilers. In summer, air can be cleaned and recirculated with minimal heating, but winter air requires substantial heating of the fresh air prior to mixing with cleaned air from inside the building.

The project is ongoing. We began new construction within months of the fire and have a facility currently usable for most of our programs. In addition to use of the range by high schools, the UAF Rifle Team has used our facility when theirs is unavailable. Use of TVSA's range has taken some of the pressure off the State's Hunter Education Range, which for the last four years, has struggled to make adequate practice time available for local junior programs.

Funding for our project has come from many sources during the last few years. We have sold all remaining land belonging to TVSA, held various fundraisers, solicited grants and donations from organizations and individuals Statewide, as well as requested State grants. We are spending every dime we receive on completing and maintaining our facility and do not have financial resources to construct the second half of the ventilation system on our own. Much of the work to date has been done by volunteer members of the Club and others who have just wanted to give a helping hand. Where necessary due to lack of skills and expertise, or to comply with regulations, we have engaged local contractors. In this way we have been able to keep costs down and move the project along to its current state. The ventilation system is beyond our volunteers' expertise, but the contractor has agreed to work with us so that some of the "grunt work" can be done with volunteer efforts, thus getting the most for the dollars.

While the rebuilding of TVSA has not been required to be reviewed through a public process, the community has been extremely supportive and the Fairbanks North Star Borough issued Resolution No. 2012-44 commending TVSA on its 75+ years of public service. Parts of the resolution read as follows: "...TVSA has actively engaged in promoting conservation of Alaska's fish, wildlife and habitats throughout its history; and...promoted firearms safety, proficiency and competitive marksmanship, and (has) for decades supported the University of Alaska Nanooks Rifle Team through its shooting facilities, youth shooting education, and semi-annual gun shows; and...in the wake of a disastrous 2007 fire which destroyed the historic TVSA lodge and shooting range, TVSA volunteers commenced rebuilding both facilities and public service programs, relying largely on TVSA's own resources, assisted by state and private donations; and...TVSA's community service and self-reliance in response to misfortune exemplifies the spirit of Alaskans."

Project Timeline:

New construction began immediately after the 2007 fire. We completed the ventilation system in the south range bay this year and are offering smallbore practice and competition there for the first time. Final construction of the ventilation system in the north range bay must be completed in time for the proposed 2015 NCAA tournament in spring.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

TVSA

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Grant Lewis
Title: TVSA President
Address: PO Box 70669
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707
Phone Number: (907)488-2884
Email: grantandpamlewis@alaska.net

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No