



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# Recreational Shooting Sports Project

Frequently Asked Questions—Phoenix District Office, Arizona

## **What is the Recreational Shooting Sports Project?**

In January 2020, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approved the construction and operation of five recreational shooting sports sites within the Phoenix District. Construction of the Baldy Mountain site began in the fall of 2020 followed by the Box Canyon, Church Camp, and Saddleback Mountain sites. Narramore Road has been planned, but construction has not started.

## **Where are the sites?**

Three sites in the Hassayampa Field Office—Baldy Mountain, Church Camp Road, and Saddleback Mountain—are north of Phoenix off State Route 74 (Carefree Highway). Box Canyon is in Pinal County west of Maricopa. The planned Narramore Road site is in Maricopa County west of Arlington.

## **When will the sites open?**

The BLM is in the final stages of construction at four of the sites and we anticipate they will be open by Autumn 2022.

## **What work remains to be done?**

Much of the major construction work is nearly complete at Baldy Mountain, Church Camp Road, and Saddleback Mountain. Remaining tasks include fence line construction, installing targets, posting signs, making maps, and planning operations. In the Lower Sonoran Field Office, some additional safety features are needed at the Box Canyon site. Narramore Road has been planned, but construction has not started.

## **What hours will the sites be open?**

Once operational, the sites will be open for day-use only. Sites will open daily at 7 am. Closing time will vary throughout the year depending on the time of sunset. The sites will also be closed on alternating Wednesday mornings for maintenance and cleaning.

## **Will the sites close every year during fire season?**

Phoenix District staff will analyze conditions each year to determine if the developed shooting sites can stay open during fire season.

## **Will I need to reserve a time to visit?**

No, the sites are first-come, first-served. If a site is full, you may have to come back at another time.

### **Will there be a fee for the sites?**

The sites are intended to initially operate without fees. Should the BLM determine in the future that fees are needed to best manage the sites, we would develop a recreation business plan and engage the public for input before implementing any fees.

### **Are the sites going to be staffed?**

Staff and volunteers may be present on occasion, though the sites are not planned to be staffed during all open hours.

### **What facilities will be at the sites?**

Sites will have varying levels of development.

- **Baldy Mountain**

There will be 100-, 200-, 300-, 400-, and 500-yard shooting lanes with fixed steel targets for long-range rifle shooting.

- **Box Canyon**

There will be 25-, 50-, 100-, 200-, and 300-yard shooting lanes with three steel targets. There is also an area for sporting clay/skeet shooting. The site will also have toilets.

- **Church Camp Road**

There will be 50-, 100-, and 200-yard shooting lanes for rifle and pistol shooting. The 100- and 200-yard lanes have fixed steel targets. The site will also have toilets and picnic tables.

- **Saddleback Mountain**

There will be 200-, 300-, 400-, 500-, and 700-yard shooting lanes with fixed steel targets for long-range rifle shooting.

### **What rules will apply?**

Supplementary rules were published in the *Federal Register* on March 12, 2021. [View the full Federal Register notice here.](#)

### **What safety tips do you recommend?**

You are responsible for your own safety and the safety of others at the site. Shooting sites are self-service sites. [Check out these tips for responsible target shooting from Tread Lightly!](#)

### **Where can I get more information?**

Learn about the BLM's planning efforts for the Recreational Shooting Sports Project at the [National NEPA Register](#). You can also contact the Phoenix District Office by phone at 623-580-5500 or via email at [blm\\_az\\_pdoweb@blm.gov](mailto:blm_az_pdoweb@blm.gov).