

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2017

The Chief Executive Officer  
Toowoomba Regional Council  
PO Box 3021  
**TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350**

**Attention:** Ms Mary Partridge

Dear Mary,

**RESPONSE TO OUTSTANDING ISSUES LETTER – DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION – MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE – OUTDOOR SPORT AND RECREATION – DARLING DOWNS RIFLE CLUB INC – BOWENVILLE-ACLAND ROAD, MALU – LOT 28 ON RP24709 (Council Ref: MCUC/2016/5486)**

I act for the applicant, Darling Downs Rifle Club in the above matter.

I refer to Council's "outstanding issues" correspondence dated 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017 noted as follows:

**"Issue**

*Further information is required to clearly demonstrate that the proposed use will not affect the current and future viability of surrounding agricultural land uses (i.e. grazing, dairy farming, cattle breeding and other intensive animal industries)*

**Further Information Required**

*The applicant is requested to provide a detailed research report, prepared by a suitably qualified person, demonstrating that noise impacts from the proposed use will not affect the existing or future viability of surrounding agricultural land uses."*

We note that Council's request for further information on the impact of the proposed rifle range on the viability of agricultural uses, with particular regard to acoustic impacts on farm animals.

It appears Council have requested more information on this issue, in part at least due to content of certain submissions which allege the proposed rifle range will:

- (a) have an adverse acoustic impact on surrounding farm animals, most notably beef, dairy and breeding cattle; and
- (b) will adversely displace good quality agricultural land from otherwise productive use.

One of the submissions, which we have reviewed which appears to be from the adjoining property to the east, includes a critique of the Noise Impact Assessment submitted with the development application (with the critique having been prepared by Noise Management

Services). In responding to Council's outstanding issues request we have purposefully tailored our response to address the applicable issues raised in that submission among others. In responding to the acoustic issues we have consulted with the acoustic consultant engaged by the applicant (Ask Acoustics & Air Quality) to prepare the Noise Impact Assessment that accompanied the application, and I have also liaised with Jay Carter of CRG Acoustic Consultants to further obtain his professional and independent view on key aspects of this issue.

In responding to the outstanding issue raised by Council, we have structured our response to address the following issues which are fundamental and go to the core of the matter raised:

1. The applicable regulatory framework in assessing acoustic impact, and its relevance or otherwise to the assessment of alleged impacts on farm animals;
2. The concept of "Amenity" and its applicability or otherwise to the consideration of alleged acoustic impacts on farm animals;
3. A review of available research on acoustic impacts on farm animals with particular reference to research referenced by submitters; and
4. The broader consideration of whether the proposed use will displace, permanently alienate or otherwise diminish the viability or agricultural uses on the subject land or on surrounding land.

#### **1.0 REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS**

- The regulatory framework for the assessment of acoustic impacts is established under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* ("the Act") and the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2008* ("EPP Noise");
- The EPP Noise deals primarily with matters of acoustic impacts on human health and wellbeing (EPP Noise 7(b)&(c) );
- Outside of matters of human health and wellbeing the EPP Noise relates in a more limited way to "protecting the health and biodiversity of ecosystems" (EPP Noise 7(a) );
- EPP Noise policy objectives are required to be achieved through the application of acoustic quality objectives within the EPP Noise;
- Acoustic Quality Objectives dealing with matters of "health and biodiversity of ecosystems" relate only to protected areas under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* or a Marine Park under *Marine Parks Act 2004*;
- Acoustic issues under the *Toowoomba Regional Planning Scheme 2012* (the "TRPS") are dealt with primarily under the Environmental Standards Code. This deals with mitigating acoustic impacts on human health and wellbeing in particularly through mitigating impacts on sensitive receptors/places;

- None of the applicable statutory or regulatory standards dealing with acoustic impact relate to or deal with impacts on farm animals;
- There is no regulatory basis (either referenced under the Planning Scheme or otherwise) to support the assertion that a proposed development must establish its suitability having regard to alleged impact on farm animals, nor is there any conclusive or codified basis on which this can be assessed.
- Having regard to the those matters of relevance which pertain to matters of human health and wellbeing, the Acoustic Engineering Assessment undertaken as part of the development application concludes the proposed use complies with the provisions of *Environmental Protection Act 1994* and the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2008* for five (5) days or more operation per week.

## 2.0 AMENITY

- A number of submission imply incorrectly that the alleged impact of the proposal on adjacent agricultural uses, (most notably on farm animals), is a relevant consideration in assessing the amenity related merits of the proposed rifle range.
- We have previously established, that such alleged impacts (if they in fact exist) are not a relevant consideration in addressing the statutory and regulatory requirements applicable to mitigation of acoustic impact.
- It is relevant to note that issues of "Amenity" and how that is assess in a town planning context relates to the impact of a development proposal on the reasonable amenity expectations of people insofar as it impacts on the pleasantness and attractiveness of the environment **not** animals. (case law)
- This view is supported by case law in the Planning & Environment Court with a few recent examples being reproduced as follows:

### ***Gillion Pty Ltd v Scenic Rim Regional Council and Ors [2013] QPEC 15: -***

“[159] ...Amenity includes both tangible and intangible notions but intangible **impacts on amenity are to be assessed by reference to the reasonable expectations of residents** affected by the proposed use, which are in turn informed by reference to the planning controls in the Planning Scheme.”

### ***Acland Pastoral Co Pty Ltd v Rosalie Shire Council [2007] QPEC 112:-***

...  
 [40] **A person's right to put their land to any lawful use they wish is in these more enlightened times, tempered by town planning considerations, one of which is amenity.** Consideration of amenity in a town planning context is not in the abstract. **It is informed by the planning controls applying in the area under consideration and the notion of reasonableness.** Bell v Noosa Shire Council [1983] QPLR 311; Feldham v Esk Shire Council [1989] QPLR 91. Proposed development will often affect existing amenity.

What is unacceptable is a detrimental effect to an unreasonable extent **according to the reasonable expectation of other landholders** in the vicinity given the sorts of uses permitted under current town planning controls. **While the subjective views of those whose amenity may be affected by a proposed development are not to be ignored, in the final analysis the question must be answered “according to the standards of comfort and enjoyment which are to be expected by ordinary people of plain, sober and simple notion not effected by some special sensitivity or eccentricity”.**

- By the submitters own admission:

*“...amenity values are based on how people feel about an area, its pleasantness or some other value that makes it a desirable place to live” (p.17)*

- The proponent agrees with those sentiments, as amenity is related to pleasantness and attractiveness of a place as perceived by people.
- As previously noted, the submitted Noise impact assessment has established the suitability of the proposed use relative to both the correct notion of “amenity” and the applicable regulatory framework for acoustic impact assessment and mitigation. This relates to the impact on the amenity on the perception of people and their reasonable expectations, not animals.

### 3.0 ACOUSTIC IMPACTS ON ANIMALS

- The Noise Management Services critique of the submitted Acoustic Impact Assessment relevantly notes;

*“There is very little researched literature discussing the effects of noise on animals.”*

- Notwithstanding that admission the critique has sought to rely on selectively quoting the limited reference material on the subject, which could be construed, in isolation to support their subsequent claims of a proven link between noise emissions and animal welfare.
- A broader assessment of available literature on the topic including a more comprehensive review of some of the literature referenced in the critique has been undertaken by Dr J Robert McMaster BVSc MANZCVS - Veterinary Surgeon, the findings of which are summarised as follows:
  - Effect of noise on cattle has actually been more widely researched and the general consensus is that cattle and other ungulates (animals with hooves), as well as wildlife, habituate to noise quickly and may actually benefit from noisy environments through a perceived lack of danger from predation (ie cattle, sheep, horses and kangaroos frequently seen near rifle ranges, roads and airports).

- Literature review by J Broucek from Slovak Republic in Slovak J Animal Science 2014- in this article ..."found cattle habituated to sounds of cars and trucks... will readily graze along highways and seldom react (*Grandin, 1997*)..."
- ..."majority of studies reviewed suggests that there is little or no effect of aircraft noise on cattle (*Manci*)..."
- ..." a number of studies investigated the effects of aircraft noise and sonic booms on the milk production of dairy cows. Milk yields were not affected... Cows exposed to recorded jet noise just before milking showed no behavioural or productivity responses during 21d treatment periods (*Head*)..."
- Ames established in 1978 that sheep acclimatise to sound.
- *Hemsworth 2003* paper found on farm sound, especially directional noise such as shouting at cattle is particularly stressful to cattle. Non directional noise, such as passing jets and traffic, is less stressful than directional noise, such as shouting, as animals habituate and acclimatise to noise not associated with a harmful or painful experience.
- *Manci and Gladwin* papers demonstrated no adverse effects on the thyroid or adrenal gland condition of pigs subjected to observed aircraft noise.
- The Slovak paper concludes with..." the majority of the literature suggests that farming animals and wildlife species exhibit adaptation after repeated exposure to noise..."
- *Brown et al (July 2012)* from Colorado State University in Plos one: The Effect of human activities and their associated noise on ungulate behaviour:-  
  

*"... noise may not have lasting negative effects if animals habituate to the disturbance, that is exhibit reduced responsiveness over time after repeated exposure without consequence. in some cases animals may even be attracted to and benefit from noisy disturbed areas, for example if they provide shelter from predators (Berger 07, Fahrig 09, Leighton 10, Muhly 08)..."*
- The study concludes that ungulates habituated to noise and other non-lethal human activities. Noise levels themselves did not have a strong effect on ungulate behaviour.
- A paper from Penn State University (2016) found conception rates and offspring survival in farm animals did not appear to be influenced by aircraft noise which included overhead sonic boom, jet aircraft and helicopter flight. The Penn State paper

concludes with ... there is no proven cause-and-effect link between startling cattle from overflights and abortion rates or lower milk production..."

- In a 1992 report to congress, the US Forest Service research review concluded that the evidence shows that when aircraft approach at 50 to 100m had minimal impact on animal behaviour.
- It is generally accepted aircraft, helicopters, motorbikes, trucks, chain saws and tractors generate noise over 100Db. All these noises would be expected to occur in the Werths Road area. The edge of range gunshot noise was found to be within the 95Db EPA limits at noise testing and would be less than these other sources of noise prevalent in this area.
- Research relating to acoustic impacts on animals is limited. Notwithstanding this, a broader review of available study findings does not provide any conclusive evidence of adverse impacts on animal health and welfare from more intrusive sources of acoustic impact. To the contrary, a collective appraisal of available literature demonstrates a pattern of habituation and acclimatisation by exposed animals.
- Irrespective of the validity and existence of such impacts (which have not been widely studied or conclusively established), we reiterate that there is no statutory or regulatory basis upon which these matters can or should be considered in the assessment of the application.
- Section 4.0 below provides more detail on the extent to which farm animals in particular are able to co-exist with rifle ranges.

#### **4.0 ALIENATION OF VIABLE AGRICULTURAL USES**

- Submitters have alleged that the approval of the proposed rifle range would adverse impacts on the on-going and viable use of surrounding land for agricultural uses (primarily related to matters of farm animal welfare and productivity).
- Far from being at odds with the on-going and viable use of land for animal related agricultural purposes, there is ample evidence that rifle ranges happily co-exist with rural animal husbandry including grazing and dairy cattle and the agistment of horses.
- Attached as **Appendix A** is correspondence from a number of rifle clubs, many in the local area which attest to the co-existence of livestock and recreational shooting activities. Correspondence in letter or email form has been provided by the following clubs/representatives:
  - Gatton Glenore Grove Rifle Club Inc.;
  - Beaudesert Rifle Club Inc.;
  - Crow's Nest Goombungee & Districts Rifle Club;
  - Crow's Nest Rifle Range;

- Ipswich & District Rifle Club Inc.;
  - Pheasant Creek Rifle Club;
  - Darling Downs Rifle Club; and
  - Jandowae Rifle Club.
- The above correspondence not only demonstrates that the co-existence of livestock with operating rifle ranges is possible, it illustrates that it is commonplace at such facilities.
  - The proposed Werths Rd rifle range will not displace any agricultural land as the property will continue to be leased for the purposes of grazing. Most ranges work in harmony with farming/ agistment operations as a means of controlling weeds and excess grass which obviates the need to use a slasher when grass and weeds may obstruct the view of targets. On most rifle ranges cattle and horses often need to be moved away from the mound prior to, and sometimes during shooting. This is of course all closely monitored by a range officer so that no animal or person is placed in a dangerous situation.
  - The main range in Sydney (Malabar) has horses grazing on the range on agistment and often has riding schools being conducted at the same time as shooting.
  - The former Mt Lofty range was also used for agisting horses and also had a riding school operator working in harmony with shooting activities.
  - Gatton, Crow's Nest and Dalby ranges, (being the closest neighbouring ranges) also have cattle frequently grazing on or near the ranges which are clearly unaffected by the shooting taking place.
  - Wildlife is also allowed to happily co-exist on all rifle ranges as it is forbidden to shoot them on rifle ranges. Wildlife, as well as farm animals, have been shown in multiple research papers to habituate to loud noise and this is clearly evident on rifle ranges (see picture from Nowra Rifle Club web page) with kangaroos and wallabies frequently observed grazing on or near ranges- even when shooting is taking place.
  - Risdon shooting complex at Ipswich has established an important koala corridor and waterbird habitat on their range, which is situated just meters from shooters in action.
  - Almost an identical situation regarding neighbours objecting to possible animal related noise problems arising from establishing a rifle range occurred recently with the Rocksberg SSAA establishing a range west of Caboolture. Ultimately the establishment of the range proceeded as the concerns were found to be unfounded.
  - We have attached as **Appendix B** a series of photographs from a variety of rifle ranges demonstrating the successful coexistence of recreational shooting with livestock and native animals.

- As can be seen by driving past any rifle range of the type proposed to be developed in this case, neighbours and their animals will be hard pressed to notice any change to the appearance or operation of both the range and its surrounds. In fact, most people will drive past and not realise any range exists there at all with livestock and native wildlife happily co-existing.
- Finally it is necessary to briefly touch on the issue of alienation of good quality agricultural land as is relevant in a town planning context. State Planning Policies dealing with the protection of Good Quality Agricultural Land (GQAL), seek to preclude the use or development of land physically suitable for agriculture from being permanently alienated from productive use.
- The Planning Guidelines which supported the original SPP 1/92 – Development and the Conservation of Good Quality Agricultural Land, noted relevantly that in applying the provisions of the then State Planning Policy that:

*“...4.8 A proposed use which would not permanently alienate the land from agriculture would not be contrary to the Policy. Such a use would not involve the significant loss of soil either by removal, earthworks or building coverage. (For example, a riding school could fulfil this requirement)...”*

- While we appreciate, and hasten to add that the referenced guidelines above have now been replaced by the *State Planning Policy – State Interest Guideline for Agriculture (2016)*. The policy principles relating to avoiding fragmentation, alienation and diminished productivity of agricultural areas remain constant.
- The proposed development of the Werth's Road Rifle Range will not lead to the fragmentation, alienation and diminished productivity of agricultural areas. Rather, and as has been demonstrated, the rifle range can co-exist with livestock based activities and the continued productive use of the subject land and surrounding rural lands for such purposes.

Should you require any additional information or clarification please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on (07) 4632 2535.

Yours sincerely



**Andrew Bullen**  
**Precinct Urban Planning**

**APPENDIX A – CORRESPONDENCE – RIFLE CLUBS**

**APPENDIX B – PHOTOGRAPHS – RIFLE RANGE & LIVESTOCK/NATIVE ANIMAL CO-EXISTENCE**



## **Gatton Glenore Grove Rifle Club Inc.**

**All Correspondence to:-**  
Ray Perry, Secretary/Treasurer  
16 Fleur Cres, Lockyer Waters, 4311  
E-mail: barhhray@skymsh.com.au

**Gatton Rifle Range**  
Patron Mr. Ted Stubbersfield  
402 Woodlands Road, Gatton,  
4343.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Colin Greenwood and I am the Club Captain for the Gatton Glenore Grove rifle club (GGGRC). I have been a member of GGGRC for (around) 15 years and have been the Club Captain since 2008.

The Gatton rifle range is situated about 7 kilometers from the centre of Gatton situated on private property owned by Jack and Beryl Tillick. The Club has been shooting there since 1994.

Jack and Beryl are cattle farmers, their cattle are free to graze every day of the week over the whole property. They even graze in the area where and when we conduct our Saturday afternoon shooting fixture.

GGGRC shoot every Saturday afternoon, shooting ranges from 300yds to 900yds. Historically there has not been a shooting incident concerning the Tillick's cattle. If at any time when GGGRC shoot the lower ranges and the cattle wander across the gallery shooting is immediately halted and a party of shooters will go out and move them along to their desired destination. At the long range the cattle just wander across the gallery oblivious to the sharp supersonic cracks forty feet above their heads.

The GGGRC have many visitors, local and interstate shoot at our range and many have commented on how calm and relaxed the cattle when shots are fired, even the young at hoof.

Stock is agisted at many rifle ranges throughout Australia, they are curious in the onset then once the curiosity is sated they wander off and do what they do best, eat.

Colin Greenwood  
Club Captain  
Gatton Glenore Grove Rifle Club

11 Feb 17.



Beaudesert Rifle  
Club inc.  
PO Box 672  
Beaudesert 4285  
Ph: [0412 338 345](tel:0412338345)

Dear Rob McMaster,

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**Cattle on the range.**

The Beaudesert Rifle Club has been surrounded by farms for the last 50 years, specifically cattle farmers. Over this period of time we have never had any concerns arise from having cattle in close proximity to a live rifle range.

From all observation the cattle don't seem to mind the noise and often can be seen grazing along the boundary of the rifle range and sometimes even need to be chased off the range.

In accordance with legislation a range officer is always present while the range is operational to ensure that both participants and cattle remain safe through the duration of the activity. There has never been an incident concerning the health or wellbeing of cattle at the Beaudesert Rifle Club.

If you have any questions in relation to this please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Lee Robinson  
Club Captain  
Beaudesert Rifle Club Inc

[0417 619 990](tel:0417619990)

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*"Get an aim in  
life"*

16 February 2017

To Whom It May Concern

The Crows Nest Goombungee & Districts Rifle Club operates on a private property at Crows Nest. The club has a lease agreement with the land owner & neighbouring property owner to conduct long range target shooting on Saturday afternoons. Both owner & neighbour have herds of Black Angus cattle. The property has 3 paddocks where the rifle range is located, the cattle frequently graze nearby whilst shooting is in progress undisturbed. The range officer will call a cease fire if the cattle become too close to the line of firing & then the cattle are moved on before shooting can recommence. This practice has been ongoing for over 25 years without incident and harm to animals. Having shot on many rifle ranges around Australia I have personally not seen any animals affected by noise from target shooting from cattle, horses, kangaroos, emu's & birdlife.

Regards

Ashley Bidgood  
Crows Nest Goombungee & Districts Rifle Club

David & Melissa Brown  
25 Railway Terrace  
Crow's Nest 4355  
16/02/2017

To Whom It May Concern,

Crow's Nest/Goombungee Rifle Club have been operating since 1985 at the Bill Dukes Rifle Range, at Crow's Nest. This range is owned by the Dukes family which was a dairy farm but now a beef farm, running Angus Cows & Calves, heifers and steers.

Ever since the Range has been operating on the Dukes Property there has been NO loss of stock or wildlife from any Rifle Club Activities.

The cattle have come accustomed to the noise and the flags and vehicle moving around the range, happily grazing in the other paddock, next to the range. The cattle are unfazed by the shooting.

The Owner of the property (Mr Dukes) shut the cattle out of the paddocks when the range is operating, on a Saturday Afternoon.

In the event of cattle getting into these paddocks, the Crow's Nest/ Goombungee Rifle Club and Land Owner have procedures in place.

We have also seen kangaroos happily grazing in the gully, on a Saturday afternoon during practice.

Over the last ten years that I have been associated with the Crow's Nest/Goombungee Rifle Range, there has been NO livestock or wildlife injured.

Yours sincerely,  
David Brown  
Captain of Crow's Nest Rifle Range

**From:** "IDRC ." <[jdrc@live.com.au](mailto:jdrc@live.com.au)>  
**Date:** 15 February 2017 at 12:09:13 am AEST  
**To:** Robert McMaster <[robstar99@hotmail.com](mailto:robstar99@hotmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Email of Support for Range Development Werths Road, Jondaryan

Hi Robert

With reference to the pending Range Development at Werths Road and the concerns raised from neighbouring property regarding agricultural activities.

The Ipswich and District Rifle Club is currently located on the "Stewartdale" Property at 1494 Ripley Road, South Ripley QLD. The property is wholly owned by the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (QLD) Inc. The Ipswich Rifle Club operates the Full-Bore Range and is one of a number of site users on this 1200 hectare property 40 minutes South of Brisbane.

Given its proximity to Brisbane, the combined site users of Stewartdale would boast well over 3000 members, which no doubt would equate to one of the better frequented range facilities within South East Queensland. As a working property Cattle have always and do continue to graze the property and in particular those lots adjacent to the firing ranges. In the case of Stewartdale, or in fact on any Rifle Range that I have travelled to in my 22 years of Competitive Rifle Shooting, it is my observation that cattle do not seem deterred by shooting activity.

As a fourth Generation member of the club I am also well-informed to the fact that there has been no incidents involving livestock in the history of the Rifle Club.

In the unlikely event that livestock did enter within a direct line of fire then the Range Officer on Duty, acting in accordance with both the Range Standing Orders and relevant Shooting Rules applicable to the match, would immediately call a cease fire and close the range in order to safely move the cattle on or allow to them to pass through, as appropriate to the site.

I trust this is of assistance to you and the endeavours of the Darling Downs Rifle Club and QLD Rifle Association with the Werths Road Development. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further information.

Regards  
Glenn Rush  
Club Captain IDRC



**Ipswich & District Rifle Club Inc.**  
A PART OF IPSWICH SINCE 1859

**From:** Kerod Lindley <[lindleyk@cqnet.com.au](mailto:lindleyk@cqnet.com.au)>  
**Date:** 14 February 2017 at 9:42:38 AM AEST  
**To:** Robert McMaster <[robstar99@hotmail.com](mailto:robstar99@hotmail.com)>  
**Subject: Cattle and Rifle Ranges**

Rob

In response to your email regarding my experience with cattle on a Rifle Range allow me to submit the following in support of your endeavours.

Pheasant Creek Rifle Club conducts its activities on Olsson Rifle Range, Olsson's Road, four kilometres from the village of Wowan in Central Queensland.

Shooting competitions include Full Bore events to 1100metres, Small Bore events to 100metres and Clay Target Shoots.

The Range, including the danger zone is contained within Portions 60 and 63 in the Parish of Dundee, County of Raglan in the Locality of Wowan. This land is owned by Olsson Farming Company with the Director in Chief being William James Thomas (Jim) Olsson. Also it is worthwhile mentioning that six of Jim's family are shooting members of the Club.

The Range area and surrounding country forms the major breeding block for the aforesaid Company's cattle enterprise.

Since (and including) Pheasant Creek Rifle Club's first shoot on Olsson Range in March 2003 there has been no accident to any cattle on the Range caused by the Club's activities.

I am in regular contact with Jim (WJT) Olsson. We do discuss from time to time any issues relating to the Club's shooting in general and the noise effects on his Bos Indicus Cross breeding herd.

Nothing negative in regards fertility can be attributed to the rifle fire. On a positive note and quite probably an outcome produced by the firearms reports is the increased docility of the herd, both in the paddock and in the stockyard.

A further positive is the benefit to be gained by the rifle fire keeping the Dingoes on the move.

Cheers

Kerod Lindley  
Captain Pheasant Creek Rifle Club

**From:** Chris Meibusch <[chrismeibusch@gmail.com](mailto:chrismeibusch@gmail.com)>

**Date:** 13 February 2017 at 8:06:12 pm AEST

**To:** Robert McMaster <[robstar99@hotmail.com](mailto:robstar99@hotmail.com)>

**Subject:** Darling Downs Rifle Club (DDRC)

To Whom It May Concern

We have lived at 4 Rifle Range Road, Mt Lofty, Toowoomba since 1987 - opposite the DDRC clubhouse on the Toowoomba Rifle Range.

Most Saturdays, the DDRC operated shooting afternoons on the Toowoomba Rifle Range from the mound opposite our home.

To the uninitiated, the noise was disconcerting but I can honestly say you learnt not to notice the shooting operations. I often couldn't remember whether or not there had been a shoot on a particular weekend.

The many horses agisted on the Rifle Range land were oblivious to the shooting - being neither spooked or deterred from their continual grazing.

Of course, for 95% of the time each week there was no shooting - just a peaceful vista of the Rifle Range land.

Please feel free to call if you need any further information on our experiences.

Regards

Chris Meibusch

Mobile 0419765078

Jandowae Rifle Club  
c/o 512 Reedy Creek Road,  
Kingaroy, Qld. 4610  
9/2/2017

Robert McMaster,  
Captain,  
Darling Downs Rifle Club.

Dear Rob,

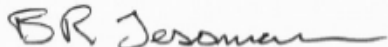
In reply to your question via an email received on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017, as to whether a rifle range can co-exist with a commercial cattle operation, the answer is yes.

The Jandowae Rifle Range would be an example of this situation as it is located within an enclosed grazing paddock. The land owners, J & R Haselwood, have in recent years given their consent to build a pistol range, which is now up and running. The range's Safety Template also was expanded to accommodate this facility, with no objection from all three land owners covered by the template.

Cattle have been observed grazing right along-side the firing line during many of our club shoots. They can be so calm about the shooting as to graze right up to firing line. The acting Range Officer needs to keep an eye out and be ready to call a cease fire should any wish to cross the line. Such interactions are rare, and in the clubs many decades' history, an accident involving stock or property cannot be recalled.

I hope this reply has answered your inquiry. I would be happy to answer any further questions you may have at any time.

Yours sincerely,

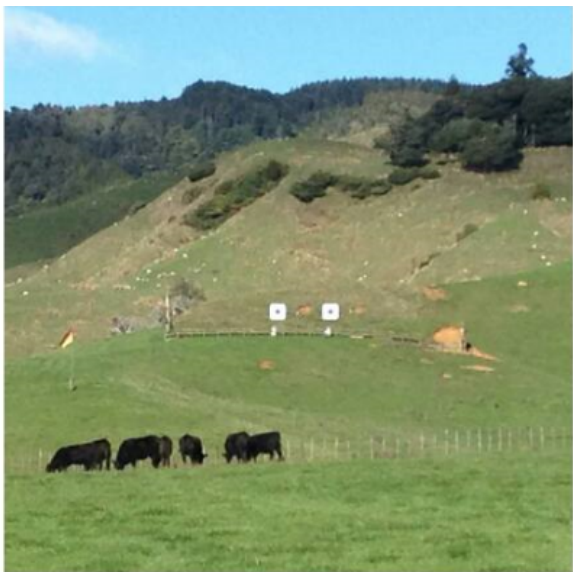


Blair Tessmann,  
Captain,  
Jandowae Rifle Club.

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Akarana City Rifle Club – Cashmore Range – Auckland New Zealand



Lyndhurst Rifle Range -N.S.W - Cattle on the Range.



Olsson Rifle Range – Pheasant Creek Rifle Club







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## Overview

Nowra Rifle Club Inc is one of the oldest rifle clubs in the country. It was formed in 1888, as part of the Volunteer Rifle Corps of the Defence Forces of the Colony of N.S.W. prior to Federation. After Federation, the Club was affiliated into the N.S.W. Rifle Association and its members empowered by the Defence Act.

The rifle range was first located almost in the middle of what is now Nowra. In 1988 it relocated to its present site just south of Nowra.

From inception until 1990 Nowra Rifle Club Inc was a 'pure' Fullbore Club. In 1990 we decided to open the club to all forms of shooting sports. Black powder shooting was introduced in 1990 followed by Small Bore in 1991. In 1993, the Club resolved to introduce Pistol Shooting and by April 1994 the Nowra Rifemans Pistol Club Inc. was established.

We now have 6 ranges operational, a new clubhouse incorporating an indoor air pistol and air rifle range, composting toilet block and an all weather road.



Club House & Indoor range

The club is professionally run by an executive committee of 23. A works coordinator and sub committee attend to new and on going maintenance around the range. Other sub committees are formed when the need arises to undertake a particular task.

Great pride is taken in our grounds and environment. Wallaby, Kangaroo and duck are just 3 of the many species of animals and birds that choose to live and breed in the surrounds of the range. As one can see from our header image, the wild life do not seem too mind the occasional noise of the bullets, in fact wallaby often come onto the range in the afternoon to graze when a shoot is still in progress. No native animal has been accidentally or otherwise shot or injured at Nowra Rifle Range.

No town water or electricity is connected to the range; we use tank water and have a composting toilet block, bucket showers are available to members and visitors camping on the range during a prize shoot.



A section of the Indoor range.

With regard to rubbish, no garbage bins are provided, our policy is "You bring it you take it home" (this includes cigarette butts) this way we keep a tidy litter free range. Used bullet cases are collected and either recycled or sold as scrap metal.



View of Nowra Rifle Range from 600m.

Nowra Rifle Club Inc has provided over 100 years of service to the Shoalhaven.