



STAFF REPORT

TO: Jennifer Hayden, Environmental Health Supervisor

FROM: Arend Meijer, Environmental Health Specialist

DATE: January 3, 2024

RE: CUSTER SPORTSMENS CLUB INC
3000 BIRCH BAY LYNDEN RD
CUSTER WA 98240-9506

On December 13, 2023, I accompanied Bill Angel (Whatcom County Health and Community Services) to meet with Mr. Gregory Kendall. Mr. Kendall owns the property at 3040 Birch Bay Lynden Rd, just west of the Custer Sportsman's Club. Mr. Kendall has expressed concerns regarding what he believes to be ricochet, errant or off target rounds fired from the Custer Sportsman's Club falling on his property. Bill and I spent approximately 45 minutes at Mr. Kendall's property while shooting was underway at Custer Sportsman's Club. While there we found bullet fragments on the northwest corner of Mr. Kendall's property (see attached diagram). The copper jackets on two of the bullet fragments were not oxidized and appear to have been fired very recently.

Based on Mr. Kendall's description and what Bill and I could observe from Mr. Kendall's property, there appears to be a fixed target gun range near the northeast corner of the property. That particular range is identified in the attached diagram and shows that shooting is likely oriented towards Mr. Kendall's property. There is an impact berm that surrounds this range, but I did not observe and am not aware of any additional engineered controls to prevent ricochets and/or off target rounds from escaping the intended impact area and landing on Mr. Kendall's property. There is approximately 150 feet between the top of the impact berm and the location where we found bullet fragments on Mr. Kendall's property. Mr. Kendall would like the appropriate authority to review the range design and either adjust the orientation of the range identified in the diagram, so that gunfire is directed away from his property, or add additional controls to prevent ricochets and/or off target rounds from impact on his property.

This is a safety concern that is likely outside the authority of my role with Whatcom County Health and Community Services. I am writing this report out of concern that if what we observed at Mr. Kendall's property is accurate, and remains unaddressed, it has the potential to lead to serious injury or death.

Please forward to the appropriate authority.

Sincerely,

Arend Meijer, REHS
Whatcom County Health and Community Services
ameijer@whatcomcounty.us

Custer Sportsman's Club

Found what appear to be recent ricochet bullets and bullet fragments. (12/13/23)

Bullet impact berm

Suspected direction of gunfire

Approx. 150 feet

400123 355036
3440 BIRCH BAY LYNDEN RD

400123 407040
3000 BIRCH BAY LYNDEN RD

