

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF BASALT, COLORADO,  
MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE  
REGARDING OPERATION OF THE LAKE CHRISTINE SHOOTING RANGE**

**Town of Basalt, Colorado  
Resolution No. 20  
Series of 2018**

RECITALS

- A. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (“CPW”) operates and maintains the Lake Christine Shooting Range (the “Shooting Range”) in Eagle County, Colorado, near the Town of Basalt municipal boundary.
- B. The Shooting Range has been located in its present location for over 40 years, with trap and skeet shooting operations on a portion of the range overseen by the Roaring Fork Valley Sportsman’s Association (“RFVSA”) and unsupervised shooting on the remainder of the Shooting Range.
- C. The Town previously made recommendations to Colorado Division of Wildlife (predecessor to CPW) pursuant to Resolution Nos. 10 and 15, Series of 2010.
- D. On July 3, 2018, during a period when Stage II Fire Restrictions were in place, a human-caused wildfire allegedly resulting from the firing of “tracer rounds” at the Shooting Range started in the vicinity of the Shooting Range and the Lake Christine Wildlife Area in and around the Town of Basalt (the “Lake Christine Fire”).
- E. As of the date of this Resolution, the Lake Christine Fire has burned nearly 13,000 acres, destroyed 3 residences, caused ongoing unhealthy air, and resulted in increased flash flooding for the Town of Basalt. At its peak, the Lake Christine Fire threatened widespread or severe damage, injury, and loss of life or property, including but not limited to the Town’s utility infrastructure, Town residences, commercial buildings, and virtually all of the Old Town, Aspen Junction, and El Jebel areas in Town.
- F. The Lake Christine Fire and its cause have heightened and refocused concerns related to the operations of the Shooting Range, including the threat of wildfire resulting from misuse of the Shooting Range, noise and safety concerns, environmental contamination from lead, opportunities for improved management, and appropriateness of its location.
- G. CPW held public meetings on August 21 and August 27, 2018 to discuss the issues and seek solutions concerning the Shooting Range location and

operations, and the Town has participated in those meetings and conducted other discussions with CPW.

- H. As a result of the public meetings and as discussions with CPW continue, Town Council wishes to make recommendations to CPW regarding the ongoing operation, management, and location of the Shooting Range.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Basalt, Colorado, that:

1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as findings of the Town Council.
2. Short-Term Recommendations. Town Council recommends that the Shooting Range remain closed until Stage II Fire Restrictions are lifted. Upon such restrictions being lifted, Town Council recommends that the Shooting Range only be re-opened on a temporary basis while a long-term solution is investigated (not more than 6 months), and that such temporary re-opening occur only upon the following conditions being met:
  - a. *Operating Days*. Operating days are limited to 5 days per week, with the Shooting Range closed on Sundays.
  - b. *Stage II Fire Restrictions*. The Shooting Range shall be closed when Stage II Fire Restrictions are in effect.
  - c. *Staffing*. When open, the Shooting Range must be staffed by at least 1 CPW employee trained in gun and fire safety.
  - d. *Property Maintenance*.
    - i. CPW Rules concerning use of the Shooting Range must be clearly posted at the Shooting Range.
    - ii. CPW must mitigate any property conditions at or in the immediate vicinity of the Shooting Range that pose a fire danger.
  - e. *Noise and Environmental Assessment*.
    - i. Complete appropriate testing and assessment for noise and possible environmental contamination emanating from the Shooting Range.
3. Long-Term Recommendations. Town Council recommends that CPW form a working group to investigate and evaluate the following alternatives regarding the long-term operations, management, and location of the Shooting Range and that CPW then take action on the selected alternative:

- a. *Alternative A (Preferred Alternative)*. Investigate alternative locations for the Shooting Range, including the cost of land, improvements, and staffing, and relocate the Shooting Range to a new location.
- b. *Alternative B*. Make improvements to the Shooting Range that focus on increased safety, reduced noise, and mitigation for environmental hazards. Such improvements may include the specific solutions identified during CPW's public input meetings. Short-term recommendations shall continue to apply to the operation of the Shooting Range.

**READ AND ADOPTED** by a vote of  5  to  0  this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.

TOWN OF BASALT, COLORADO

By:   
Gary Tennenbaum, Mayor Pro tem

ATTEST:

By:   
Pamela K. Schilling, Town Clerk

