

## Public Administration Committee

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**From:** Leon  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 26 March 2014 8:09 AM  
**To:** Public Administration Committee  
**Subject:** Strongly against recreational hunting: Invasive Species Management Consultant

Lauren Mesiti,  
Committee Clerk,  
Standing Committee on Public Administration  
Legislative Council, Parliament House, Perth WA 6000

RE: Inquiry in to Recreational Hunting on WA Lands

Dear Ms Mesiti,

I would like to make my views known to the Committee holding an inquiry into allowing recreational hunting on public lands in Western Australia.

I work professionally in invasive species management (this includes feral animal control) and I am strongly against the introduction of recreational hunting into state forest and public land for the following reasons:

1. Ground shooting is not recognised as an effective broadscale control method for feral animals (refer to state and federal codes of practice and standard operating procedures, threat abatement plans for cat, fox and rabbit), so no matter how much it costs if it doesn't work it is not cost effective
2. Ground shooting by recreational hunters is likely to make more effective methods of control such as baiting and trapping more difficult by making animals weary and trap shy
3. Recreational hunters are not subject to the same training as professionals so inhumane kills are more likely
4. Permits are not likely to generate any significant amount of funding (see NSW game council figures) and government subsidy would be better used on well planned multifaceted management projects undertaken by professionals
5. Increased access to public lands will increase rate of spread of weeds and dieback
6. There is increased potential for illegal hunting of native species

Thanks you for considering my submission.

Kind Regards

Leon Rakai