

From:
To: [Public Administration Committee](#)
Subject: Inquiry into Recreational Hunting Systems (Public Land)
Date: Wednesday, 5 February 2014 12:51:11 PM

Dear Committee,

I have been a lifelong member of sporting shooting clubs and have also been involved in Feral pest destruction to some degree for most of my life.

Currently, the only way I can engage in any sort of hunting in WA is on privately owned farms / stations with permission of the land owner or lease holder.

In my experience, landowners are very appreciative of assistance to rid their properties of feral pests, which cause them huge financial losses one way or another.

One of the problems I, and many others see, is that there is a vast amount of Crown land in WA that simply cannot be hunted on by good law abiding, safe and helpful shooters.

Many Farms and Stations in WA are surrounded by Crown land, which acts as a poorly controlled breeding ground for the same feral pests that invade the surrounding pastoral properties. The question has to be asked as to how we are to control these pests when only a very small percentage of land they roam and breed on is accessible to shooting activities?

We, as responsible hunters offer our services to carry this out, free of charge, because we enjoy hunting, which is about the oldest activity known to mankind. However in WA currently we are completely locked out of the vast majority of our country to pursue this activity.

I personally see this as a ridiculous situation in such a huge state with boundless hectares, severely affected by Feral pests. Currently we are unable to do what is needed, to save our native Fauna and much of our land becoming even more arid, because of well over a century or more of ravaging numbers of introduced feral species whom have no rightful place on our land.

I see a simple solution to this by our elected Government taking a serious look at a sensible approach to managing this problem, allowing registered private firearm owning citizens access to their own country to enjoy this great past time, while also helping our land, native Flora and Fauna, by reducing numbers of these out of control feral pests.

I trust that a sensible discussion can occur on this important topic, for the good of all of us who live in this great state.

Best Regards,

Trevor Ruwoldt