

Mesiti, Lauren

From: Remus
Sent: Saturday, 22 March 2014 5:53 PM
To: Mesiti, Lauren
Subject: Inquiry into the potential environmental contribution of recreational hunting systems

22 March 2014

Public Administration Committee
Legislative Council Parliament House
GPO Box A11
Perth WA 6837

To whom it may concern,

I personally wish to make a submission regarding the current inquiry into the potential environmental contribution of recreational hunting systems for Western Australia. I will address the terms of reference as numbered points below.

That the Council –

1. acknowledge the use in other States of regulated, licensed recreation hunting systems and the potential environmental contribution made in controlling pest animals on public lands, together with the possible economic, cultural and recreational benefits to the community.

Public access to government sanctioned conservation hunting provides the opportunity for a sense of camaraderie amongst hunters as they enjoy a legitimate sport, it also adds money to government which can be used for other wildlife/national parks/conservation initiatives. Conservation hunting also benefits the presence of native wildlife. A reduction in feral animals (such as foxes and cats) has an immediate flow on effect leading to returning natural levels of native lizards and mammals to the Australian bush.

Recreational conservation hunting under the guidance of governing bodies in Victoria and New South Wales have documented very good safety records while allowing licensed hunters that hold the correct permits to control pest "feral" animals on public lands in both their states. The benefits of allowing hunting on public land under an organisation such as Parks and Wildlife is primarily the reduction in pest "feral" animal numbers. One of the bigger secondary benefits is that controlled hunting can be designed to generate monetary gain thus offsetting any overheads needed from a government standpoint.

State Governments across Australia have been seen to utilise professional hunting for high cost and little effectiveness on many occasions. The ability to use recreational hunters in the same capacity while they pay to do it seems like a much better plan as far as I can see. At present all legal recreational hunting within Western Australia is carried out on private property and requires permission from farmers to access their land. I am a firm believer that when/if recreational hunting becomes a reality in WA, all legal hunters would have no issue with a mandatory 'game license' system being put into place.

(ii) Hon Rick Mazza be co-opted as a member to the Public Administration Committee for the purposes of the foregoing inquiry.

I most whole heartly agree that the placement of Hon Rick Mazza as a member to the Public Administration Committee for this inquiry makes perfect sense as his views and background can be utilised to get a clearer perspective through a hunters eyes.

I speak on behalf of all WA hunters in saying that I am very pleased that recreational hunting on public land may soon be a reality in Western Australia.

Yours Sincerely,

Remus Parish