

Public Administration Committee

From: jimbozs
Sent: Friday, 28 March 2014 8:24 PM
To: Public Administration Committee
Subject: Shooting in our state forests

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

As a WA resident, I am strongly for recreational hunting of introduced animals, pests that are competing with the existence and survival of our native animals

Killing animals for fun is not what recreational shooters are about, we simply want to reduce / control the numbers of vermin in our state forests. In other states such Victoria sporting shooters and recreational shooters have been allowed in state forests and have contributed greatly to the control of feral animals. At the same time recreational shooting injects funds / revenue into the state forest protection programs with shooter paying for hunting licences etc.

Opening up WA to recreational shooting will reduce native animal suffering from feral animals such as foxes and feral cats that prey on our fragile native animals.

At present baiting and poisoning feral animals unfortunately does not just target the pest but also harms our native animals. Shooting feral animals is the most effective way of destroying fast and effectively without a lingering death otherwise caused from baiting.

I also believe that WA public lands should be kept safe for all members of the community. Shooting in public lands and state forests has co existed in many other states for decades and is a safe sport and an effective way of controlling feral animals at the same time.

Finally, I do support recreation <<image001.jpg>> al shooting as a positive 'solution' for 'management' of introduced species. It's backed up as an effective approach by the results of other states were recreational shooting has been adopted.

Population management of introduced species is necessary, it should be done professionally and humanely, with the assistance of recreational shooters..

Thank you for considering my submission.

James Mitchell