

Public Administration Committee

From: Brian Tuffin
Sent: Sunday, 23 March 2014 10:17 PM
To: Public Administration Committee
Subject: Support recreational Shooting in WA

Dear Ms Mesiti,

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 strongly support recreational hunting, particularly the hunting of introduced or vermin/feral species.

I support it because the destruction to native species, domestic stock and crops caused by vermin is costing farmers and the community huge amounts of time, money and resources.

Opening up WA to recreational shooting will allow the numbers of various introduced vermin to be reduced. Animals such as foxes, rabbits, pigs, goats, feral cats and wild dogs kill our native wildlife and drive some species to the brink of extinction.

I also believe that WA public lands should be opened up to responsible members of the hunting community. At present feral animals use the safety of public lands as safe breeding areas.

Finally, I support recreational shooting as part of the 'solution' for 'management' of introduced species.

Most importantly, other methods such as baiting and the introduction of virus such as myxomatosis and rabbit haemorrhagic disease (RHD), also known as rabbit calicivirus disease are by no means more humane or effective solutions. Anyone who has seen a rabbit suffering from the slow death caused by myxomatosis will never forget the cruel agonising death it causes.

Responsible Western Australians enjoy the outdoors and nature, unfortunately the introduction of feral animals puts our natural plants and animals at risk.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,

Brian Tuffin