

Public Administration Committee

From: Nicola Elton ·
Sent: Friday, 21 March 2014 8:04 AM
To: Public Administration Committee
Subject: No to recreational shooting

Dear Ms Mesiti,

To whom it may concern,

There is no case to support the introduction of shooting animals for a sport:

1. Often hunters are inexperienced and will injure animals which will die a slow and agonising death.
2. There is little or no scientific evidence to suggest recreational hunting reduces numbers of impact of introduced animals.
3. There are more humane solutions to the problem. These should be the first option.
4. There is no guarantee that shooters will only kill introduced species. It is highly likely that non-target species will be shot also.
5. It is a sad indictment on Australian society that we would even consider supporting a violent "sport" such as hunting. This is 2014 after all... are we not supposed to be more ethically enlightened these days?
6. How can the safety of the public in reserves and public lands be assured? For those with properties within or near parks and reserves, does this mean their quality of life will be affected? Often we buy in bush areas for the peace. With hunting being allowed this peace will be shattered. To hear guns going off is psychologically disturbing.

It appears that supporting the recreational shooting of animals is simply pandering to those with a blood lust without considering the ethical questions raised in terms of animal welfare. Shooters have other options such as rifle ranges and gun clubs.

Under no circumstances should recreational shooting of introduced species be allowed.

Sincerely,

Nicola Elton