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Dear Madam,

I am writing to express my opposition to allowing recreational hunters to control pest animals on public lands.

If pest animals need to be controlled on public lands this should be done by professional hunters, not some trigger happy recreational shooter who cannot be guaranteed to kill animals humanely. I feel that there is a risk to public safety and the wellbeing of native fauna if recreational hunters are freely allowed to use firearms. To subject animals to inhumane deaths by amateur hunters is inexcusable.

The ad hoc hunting of feral animals by recreational shooters does not necessarily control the spread of pest animals. If paths and roads are newly cut on public land to allow access by hunters this may in fact increase the spread of pest animals.

I ask you to not allow recreational hunters on public lands. To do so is a backward step in animal welfare and poses a risk to public safety.

Yours faithfully,

T Atkinson.