

Public Administration Committee

From: Nev
Sent: Tuesday, 25 March 2014 9:25 AM
To: Public Administration Committee
Subject: RECREATIONAL HUNTING

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

As a WA resident, I strongly support recreational hunting of introduced feral animals on WA Public land.

I support this because these feral animal are killing native animals and destroying habitats and should be seen as a necessary process to protect our native animals and their habitat before it's too late. Opening up WA Public lands to recreational shooting will lead to a better control of these feral animals.

I don't believe that WA public lands will be any less safe for other users if the feral animal shooter are allowed to shoot.

Finally, I fully support recreational shooting as a 'solution' for 'management' of introduced species. It is a very effective approach and is a very cost effective and appropriate method to help control these pests which the Governments do not have the monies to fund this program.

We do not want to wait until we have the same problems as we do with camels, donkeys, wild pigs, wild dogs etc where they have multiplied so much that they have created dust bowls of the habitat. Foxes, pigs and cats kill millions of native animals weekly, we have to stop it now! How many farmers have had to restock their farms because they cannot combat feral animals. When I was a youngster one would hardly see a fox even over a 6 month period. With farmers having to get bigger to survive the fox population is out of control. It is not uncommon to shoot up to 16 foxes in one night and that is a bad night. If you were to see the work of foxes on sheep and lambs you would understand just what a pest these animals are.

As I mentioned earlier the shooters fund feral control out of their own pockets. This saves the Western Australian Government and the community many hundred of thousands of dollars every year.

If we can eradicate or at least control these feral animals in Western Australia Public Lands then there will be natural bush and native animals for future West Australians to enjoy tomorrow and my grand children to enjoy in the years to come, otherwise it will be gone, or very depleted.

Thank you for reading my submission

Nev Kent



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