

Public Administration Committee

From: Marty Wenham
Sent: Monday, 24 March 2014 10:33 AM
To: Public Administration Committee
Subject: Recreational hunting 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 am strongly in favour of recreational hunting of any animals, introduced or otherwise.

I am in favour of it because hunting is a valuable and effective method of controlling feral pests and if done properly, does NOT cause undue suffering to the animal in question.

I have been personally involved in both recreational hunting and feral pest control in several countries and under different circumstances.

Myself and those I have witnessed are all extremely careful to correctly identify the correct targets and to only shoot when we have a clear shot and the animal can be dispatched instantly and humanely.

Those writing in with opposing ideas to mine are writing from a purely emotional response and do not have actual facts or experience behind their arguments.

What someone else has told them or what they saw on Youtube does not count.

Shooting does NOT unduely endanger public safety, as most shooters are actually highly careful about how and when they shoot and would NEVER shoot anywhere near other people.

The feral animal controls proposed by those opposed to recreational hunting are fanciful, incredibly expensive and frankly just wouldn't work the way they imagine. Some of their proposed methods would likely cause more animal suffering than the practically instantaneous and painless death brought by a well placed bullet.

Based on the many people I know, work with or have had conversations about this topic, far more of the public are either in favour of recreational hunting - or are at worst neutral on the subject- than the anti hunting brigade would have you believe.

In many countries around the world, recreational hunting is carried out without any significant negative impact on members of the public and can help to effectively and humanely control wild animal populations and at the same time inject millions of dollars into local economies.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,

Marty Wenham