

## **Inquiry into the potential environmental contribution of recreational hunting systems**

To Whom It May Concern

I would just like to submit a brief letter in referral to your Inquiry into looking for the benefits of hunting on public land here in WA with rifles and bows

Opening up Public Land here in WA would be an extremely positive outcome for this state.

The eradication of feral animals can be a very expensive exercise. This has been proven in every state, in every country. Opening this task up to the public, will aid in this dramatically at next to no cost to the government. Not only can this be done with limited cost, it can also be used to raise revenue. Funds can be collected by each hunter purchasing a licence as per other states in Australia using this method, and these states are using this method very successfully.

The general public don't want feral animals to take days dying of an agonizing death from 1080, cyanide or strychnine poison. All of these poisons have horrendous environment impacts in their production, use and disposal. Hunting provides the only economical 'Proposal' that will handle the magnitude of Western Australia's feral/public land problems.

Hunting is a specie selective way of dispatching an animal. It can then be used for meat. Unlike poisoning, which takes out Native animal and birds with it?

Hunting should be looked at as a means of families and friends socializing together. I have grown up with a family that has been hunting for many generations and I will continue to pass it on down to my children, the same way I teach them to fish.

Not only does it teach us to work together as a team, we can also bring some of the best quality meat home to butcher up and eat. This practice has been happening since the start of mankind, it is nothing new and should not be frowned upon.

There is no reason we can't have a safety booklet written up and an assessment sheet. Each person wanting to purchase a licence to hunt on public land must follow through with this assessment and pass. Upon passing the assessment and paying the fees due, then should be able to hunt vermin. We then know that this can be done safely.

Options could also include, all hunters must pass a proficiency course.

Wearing articles of Blaze Orange clothing are mandatory in other states. This ensures that each person walking through the bush has a much higher chance of being seen by fellow bush users.

I hunt all over Australia and also worldwide with a rifle or using a Bow and Arrow. I have many private property owners that have requested that I only hunt with a bow. This is their choice as they live close to towns and have neighbour's close by. Bow hunting is a great way to dispatch vermin. For one, it can be carried out with far less noise and you are able to take more vermin at once without them leaving the scene as quick and in fright.

Bow hunting is very selective and challenging way and should also be considered as a means of dispatching vermin along with rifles.

Thankyou for your time to read my submission into Hunting In Western Australia on Public Land.  
I look forward to the day where I can go in and pay my fee's and know I hunt and do my part of  
saving WA native Flora and Fauna and have the chance of eradicating the vermin that roam in the  
Public Land areas of WA

Kind regards  
Jarrad Heritage.