

Public Administration Committee

From: Nigel Lees
Sent: Monday, 24 March 2014 7:48 AM
To: Public Administration Committee
Subject: 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 favor of recreational hunting of any animals, introduced or otherwise.

I am not opposed to it because killing feral animals for food or the protection of stock is required to assist our farming community.

Opening up WA to recreational shooting will not lead to unacceptable animal suffering as the vast majority of hunters are professional in their quest for their chosen sport. It is quite feasible to effectively police amateur shooters, so there are guarantees that animals will not suffer prolonged deaths, or be left behind injured. Wildlife and other animals will not be put at greater risk of injury and death by this plan.

I also believe that WA public lands should be for all members of the community. Shooting will not endanger public safety as hunters are very serious about their sport and will positively identify a target before shooting.

Finally, I support recreational shooting as a 'solution' for 'management' of introduced species. Most importantly, there are very few other, more humane and effective solutions available to address this issue. If population management of introduced species is necessary, it should be done professionally and humanely, by professional shooters.

Most Western Australians enjoy the outdoors and nature and should be allowed to hunt if they wish. Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,

Nigel Lees