

Public Administration Committee

From: David Thornton
Sent: Friday, 28 March 2014 1:47 PM
To: Public Administration Committee
Subject: Submission to support the potential environmental contribution of recreational hunting systems
Attachments: image001.jpg

Dear Madam/Sir,

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

As a WA resident and avid hunter, I totally support the recreational hunting of introduced feral animals and look at this as an excellent opportunity to manage the feral animal population similar to NSW and Victoria. I have been shooting some 19 years which includes representing both Australia and Western Australia for pistol shooting, assisted professional Kangaroo shooters and have hunted on private property all of Western Australia. It is excellent to see that state government is now looking at implementing what is a logical step to allow recreational shooters access to Public Land.

Currently various government agencies use poisoning as a method of control along with professional shooters at a cost. By allowing recreational shooters in a controlled manner to gain access to this land it would enable a cost neutral and target specific method of reducing the feral animal issues .

As I have previously mentioned there are a couple of systems working in NSW and Victoria which are extremely successful. These style of licensed and controlled permit shooting would be an excellent system to implement in WA especially with you consider the vast areas requiring vermin control.

I believe that WA public lands should be opened up for responsible recreational shooting and that sporting shooters can work with agencies to the benefit of our natural species and reduce also the burden on tax payers.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Dave Thornton