

Date: 15 February 2014 2:04:45 am AWST

Subject: public areas are breeding grounds

Hi Liz,

Just a quick letter, on this latest "hunting in public land" inquiry.

I to arrived in Australia in 1966, so we have that in common, kind of. I am 48 years old and have been killing ferrels from the age of 10. Still hunting 38 years later, from down south, out west and up north.

I have literally destroyed 1000's of ferrels. At first it was to feed the farm dogs, and i never really put any thought in to i where they all kept coming from,

As i would hunt on a farmer property until i found nothing. But come the next year, ferrels all back again.

Then one day it all made sense, when i nearly walked onto gov / land / bush, And was informed that i could not shoot in there.

The penny dropped, breeding ground, protected breeding grounds all over the state. Its hard to keep a farm clean of ferrels, when ferrel animals have protected areas.

But it's not just the public land, a lot of farms have large and small lots of native bush.

Most of which are never even looked at, but by the hunter and odd farmer.

I think you get my point.

My second point is, my frustration.

So i have hunted for 38 years now, on and off lately as i'm getting on, and mostly only

Shoot from hides. Which isn't very effective, why ?

Because hunting with a bolt action rifle, is a bit like throwing i spear, you get one shot.

I am lucky to get 2 or 3 before the rest are out of sight.

I've taken out thousands of ferrels all over the state, i use my own car, i pay for the fuel,

the ammunition and all equipment needed to complete the jobs.

As i see what these monsters are doing to the native wildlife and that rev's me rite up.

Profesional shooter seem to get any gun they want, but all they seem to do,

(wel one ones i have come across over the years), is kill kangaroos for pet feed.

I never shoot natives of any kind ever!

Yet out of my own pocket and to a great service that i and hundreds of other hunters of ferrels.

Have given to the state and we are stuck with spears, (bolt actions).

Why cant i or some of us hunters have semi auto firearms like the eastern states has, look at all the land in

Western Australia, we can not rely on farmers to keep these areas free. It's a massive area

and i need help.

Let me have a semi auto firearm, let me have a pump action shot gun.

so i can keep going at a better rate.

Let me go on to public land. i will pay a fee out of my own pocket, again, and others will and

then we may start to see a difference in the population of al types of ferrels.

And i would just like to say strict gun laws, is a type of prohibition, which is only creating a black market.

Giving bad guys what they want. This black market is going to grow under the current laws.

And us good guys cleaning up the place get stuck with super strict laws and a firearms department,

still trying to recover from the previous management. With totally wrong advice, and differing information between officers.

I shoot an automatic Ruger semi automatic 10 / . 22 at my gun club all the time, but i cant take it ti to the farms, crazy!.

Maybe let only long term gun members. Ones that are reliable and all ready have the equipment, like me, should have access to these weapons and to these areas of public space / government land.

Even better if any of you do care, help me and other hunters do the job with better equipment and access to public land with out the need to have to start a business or company to do so, then having even more cost..

Maybe a, semi pro or ferrel licence, to the right people

Thank you Liz, i will keep it brief , please help.

Sincerely Adam Thorn