

Public Administration Committee

From: Tristan Barker
Sent: Thursday, 27 March 2014 1:42 PM
To: Public Administration Committee
Subject: Inquiry in to Recreational Hunting on WA Land

Lauren Mesiti,
Committee Clerk,
Standing Committee on Public Administration
Legislative Council, Parliament House, Perth WA 6000

RE: Inquiry in to Recreational Hunting on WA Lands

Dear Ms Mesiti

Please except my submission to the Committee holding an inquiry into allowing recreational hunting on public lands in Western Australia.

I am strongly in favour of the use of recreational hunting of all introduced animals (non-native species) as a method of population control.

I am in favour of recreational hunting because it is a cost effective control method to reduce the population numbers and the ongoing environmental damage caused by these introduced species. Taking game for the table is still highly valued as a productive use of a readily available resource, no different to fishing or other recreational pursuits aimed towards being more self-sufficient.

Opening up WA to recreational shooting/hunting may also generate funds to assist in the repopulation of native flora and fauna species in the affected areas when these areas become void of the targeted introduced species.

I believe that WA public lands will be kept safe for all members of the community as responsible shooting has been proven to be an effective management tool in other Australian States and is done safely under strict guidelines ensuring public safety. In fact it may increase public safety in some of these areas as currently, illegal shooters use these areas with no restrictions or controls placed on them at all.

Finally, I support recreational shooting as a solution for the management of introduced species. It's backed up as an effective approach by scientific evidence when used in conjunction to other control methods. More importantly trained, licensed and approved shooters are a cost effective resource who provide their time, equipment, ammunition and resources without charge thus freeing up much needed funds that can be used elsewhere. Again also if these trained, licensed and approved shooters are given access to WA public lands it may help control those who do so currently, illegally.

Most Western Australians enjoy the outdoors and nature, there are hundreds of thousands who regularly fish. So why not allow them to hunt so please allow this cost effective and result driven proposal to succeed

Thank you for considering my submission.

Kind regards