

Public Administration Committee

From: Neil Purser
Sent: Monday, 24 March 2014 5:39 AM
To: Public Administration Committee
Subject: recreational shooting in Western Australia

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 strongly agree to recreational hunting of any animals, introduced or otherwise considered a pest in that area.

Opening up WA to recreational shooting will lead to a reduction of pest species that flourish in a protected area. The flora and native fauna will benefit and return to balance. Shooting is a humane way to dispatch an animal. Should a second shot be required the death of the creature is far quicker than other prescribed and apparently humane methods. such as baiting and the introduction of biological controls that can take many days for the creature to die.

It has proved effective in controlling pest species in NSW.

Policing has proved to be very effective with appropriate penalties. It encourages responsible firearm use. The police have have a positive presence and deal with irresponsible use. They have also identified firearms that are not registered and applied the penalties prescribed. Native wildlife and other animals will also be able to flourish to near previous population levels.

I also believe that WA public lands should be kept safe for all members of the community. Hunting in a controlled environment is a safe and enjoyable recreational activity and the Police should play an active role in association with the DEC. Specific areas can be opened and permits obtained (like the system used for collecting firewood). Public safety and the safety of the hunters is very important.

I dot support recreational shooting as a 'solution' for 'management' of introduced species. It has proved very effective approach in NSW.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,

Neil Purser