

## Public Administration Committee

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**From:** Beatrice Laufer  
**Sent:** Sunday, 23 March 2014 2:04 PM  
**To:** Public Administration Committee  
**Subject:** Submission to

Dear Ms Mesiti,

Beatrice Laufer

Dear Sir/Madam

As a WA resident living in a rural region, I would like to provide my input to the Committee holding an inquiry into allowing recreational shooting in Western Australia.

I am strongly opposed to recreational hunting of any animals, introduced or otherwise. Killing animals for fun does not reflect the values that we aspire for our community in 2014.

I am convinced that opening up WA to recreational shooting will lead to unacceptable animal suffering.

Living in country WA, I only know too well what suffering amateur shooters can cause to animals. Allowing this at the scale proposed by this plan will see animals dying slow and horrendous deaths at the hands of inexperienced shooters in large numbers. And not only non-native animals but native wildlife and other animals will also be put at greater risk of injury and death by this plan.

Such killing can never be humane, is unnecessary and unethical. Young animals orphaned by shooting are left vulnerable and likely to die of starvation or be killed by predators. No creatures deserve to die like this.

It is unrealistic to think that amateur shooters can be regulated effectively.

Once recreational shooting is allowed in WA, our public lands will no longer be safe to use by members of the community. Shooting endangers public safety, especially because it will not be possible to provide adequate resources to police shooting practices and enforcing laws in often remote areas.

Finally, I don't support recreational shooting as a 'solution' for 'management' of introduced species. It's not backed up as an effective approach by scientific evidence.

There are other - more humane and effective alternatives available to address this issue. If population management of introduced species is necessary, it should be done professionally and humanely, not by amateur shooters.

Most Western Australians enjoy the outdoors and nature, without ever wanting to shoot animals. Please don't put people and animals unnecessarily at risk for this unpopular plan.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,

Beatrice Laufer