

Ms Lauren Mesiti  
Committee Clerk  
Standing Committee on Public Administration  
Legislative Council  
Parliament House  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Mesiti

**Submission - Inquiry into the potential environmental contribution of recreational hunting systems**

I wish to advise that I oppose recreational hunting in Western Australia.

This inquiry has only been created as a result of the election of "the Hon. Rick Mazza" representing the Shooters and Fishers Party. Let's not forget that this person has the support of less than 1.78% of WA voters and was elected only because of the convoluted preference deals between minor parties, which have in effect stifled democracy. Most voters wouldn't even realise that their vote contributed to his election and would be very unhappy if they knew!

Recreational hunting in national parks and other Crown land:

- is not based on any scientific research;
- will encourage more gun ownership, thereby creating other problems in society;
- will create unsafe conditions for other users of public land, such as walkers, cyclists etc;
- will encourage the breeding and then smuggling of pest animals into reserves, so that they can be shot "to control pests" – this is already happening;
- will strengthen the gun lobby and send us on the despicable, desperate path of the US.

In NSW the recreational hunting legislation only came about because of the legendary corruption of politicians and the (now defunct) Game Council there. Not a very good example to follow!

Leave the control of pest animals on Crown land to DPaW and professional shooters and please don't spend any public funds on any further inquiries into this subject.

Please send me the report of your inquiry when available.

Yours sincerely

Danielle Courtin