Submission No 356

INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Keep Shooters out of National Parks

I see with considerable alarm that there is now a move to turn our National Parks into killing fields for the Shooters and Fishers party.

It is shameful enough that our Marine Parks have been so drastically reduced in size, against respected scientific advice. But when it comes to conservation and maintaining fish nurseries, who cares?

Let's face it, the shouters are just thrill-seekers with enough political clout to control any weak government. They have already received 1000 ha of public reserve at Hilltop to play in. Now they're after living targets, whether stationary or moving, to satisfy their lust.

Already there are rumours that they are breeding pigs to populate the National Parks for future targets, when all other animal life has been eliminated. They probably breed cats for the same purpose.

What's worse is that now children are being encouraged to shoot as well. So now shooters will have lovely quality-time family days of killing things in their own natural environments. The kids can practise by shooting birds and koala out of trees. So much more fun than shooting at artificial targets, isn't it?

When they win this one, they will move to rebadge all National Parks as Private Hunting Reserves, with No Trespassing signs outside. And this government will be glad to oblige.