

Submission  
No 176

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date received:** 31/07/2012

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Partially Confidential

Dear Committee,

Firstly I would like to commend the government holding this enquiry and the and the members of the committee for their time on the committee.

Firstly I would like to say that I am strongly opposed to recreational hunting or the use of non professional shooters for pest control on any public land in NSW. I cannot agree with permitting one user group undertake an activity that either excludes or endangers other users on public land. Ad hoc hunting exerts no significant pressure on feral animal populations and contrary to some beliefs the use of volunteer hunters is not free once the cost of taxpayer dollars put towards the Game Council and supervision of hunters is counted. Vertebrate pest control should only be carried out by highly trained, professional staff from organisations such as NPWS, LHPA etc as part of a scientific and humane program designed to limit the impacts of pests on the environment and farmers.

Otherwise I am a strong supporter of NSW National Parks and other areas of public land and lament the continual erosion of the funding which is required to manage these areas properly. I approve of the creation of new national parks but feel that this activity is somewhat pointless if suitable funding is not provided to properly manage these areas of land afterwards.

Having said that I also feel that there should be provision of land for the wide variety of user groups who enjoy or wish to enjoy public lands. I include people such as motor bike riders, 4WD'ers mountain bikers and other users who enjoy our great natural assets. Just as surely as some areas should be preserved in as close to natural state as possible and human impacts limited to the full extent possible some areas should also be set aside for activities that do involve some level of disturbance for a failure to provide suitable areas merely results in people undertaking their hobbies illegally. As stated earlier though I feel that hunting and the use of firearms on public land should only be carried out by professionals.

thanks again for the chance to have a say.

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