Submission No 109

INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Our national parks should not be used for recreational shooting. National parks exist to preserve wildlife, both flora and fauna, to enhance people's enjoyment of nature, and to assist in providing a good overall national and world environment.

People who should be able to enjoy national parks include local citizens, and tourists from within and outside Australia. Surveys have shown that most people do not want recreational shooting in national parks. With no real control over the shooting, both people and native animals will be in danger.

There is a problem with feral animals in our national parks, and this problem should be dealt with by professional shooters under strict control of national park rangers. If the shooters party tenders for and fairly wins the job of doing some of the feral animal control, okay, but it must be fair dinkum. Recreational shooting provides recreation for a few, and ruins recreation for many, as well as putting our valuable wildlife in danger.