

Submission
No 7

**INQUIRY INTO ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY IN NEW
SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 15 January 2022

Partially
Confidential

As a "Recreational Hunter" or as I prefer "Volunteer animal protector" my job is not to kill animals, my job is to save animals, and on occasion to save animals I must kill animals. My chosen quarry is predators ie Foxes, cats and dogs. These animals are tremendous hunters in their own right and take many native domestic and stock animals every year. One farm that I protect had a massive issue with losing lambs and chickens to foxes. The week before my arrival they lost 14 chickens to foxes. On my first night we accounted for 9 foxes. So by my account we have saved the life of countless chickens in the following weeks. Not to mention the heartbreak of the elderly farmers we have saved. In the last month or so the same farm was losing approximately 1 lamb every 4 days. We set up cameras and found there was 2 foxes at work. Accounting for these foxes saved 1 lamb every 4 days so in 8 days the number of dead animals would reduce and keep reducing into the future. This does not take into account all other aspects of having a law abiding shooter on properties. In the past I have done for absolutely no fee: pulled sheep from dams, pulled sheep from fences, repaired fences, cleared fallen trees from roads, notified farmers about stock in distress, keep a lawful eye on properties during high crime rate times acted as a free delivery service to remote areas, all for absolutely no fee. I feel at the moment I have a good balance between animal welfare and many other aspects that may go unnoticed and any change to the legislation will have a very negative effect on the life of both domestic and stock animals not to mention our farmers.