

Submission
No 6

**INQUIRY INTO GAME AND FERAL ANIMAL
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (CONSERVATION
HUNTING) BILL 2025**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 14 July 2025

Partially
Confidential

I oppose the intended Shooting on Public Lands Bill. As Emma Hurst MP has said "There are significant animal welfare concerns, there's no proper oversight, and anyone walking around public spaces with guns provides an enormous public safety risk." Killing is a violent action. It is not fun. It is not a sport killing another sentient life. Public grounds are open for all the Public, adults, children, family groups to engage with nature in a peaceful, safe setting.

Shooting on Public Lands significantly expands hunting in state forests. This places requirement for Councils to consult with hunting bodies establishing an oversight body using taxpayer's money. similar to the Game Council that was shut down due to poor management. A Minister for Hunting and Fishing would need to be appointed and this will give hunters the ability to apply for access to all prohibited weapons in NSW. This puts Australian citizens at risk having more access to firearms in the community. There has been an increase in violent crimes in Australia with knives and adding the availability of firearms increases the risk for public safety. Relaxing gun laws increases public safety.

Opening up 50,000 hectares of shared public space into hunting grounds contradicts the claims made by Labor and the Greens about a fragility of State forests and wilderness areas, 'ecosystems and endangered species inclusive of habitat. Shooting on Public land is a mockery of the decades of the Greens and Labor's push to reduce the damage caused by human's including their waste and their vehicles on public lands. What education is required to recognise animal and bird species by hunters? The danger of any animal, native and wild, being killed and wounded by hunters who are only there for the kill thrill is abhorrent, senseless violence in an age when violence should not be encouraged and supported by the NSW government.

The duty of care required by the NSW government to ensure the safety and peace of its citizens would be shamefully neglected if this Bill was to be passed.

Killing is not a sport. It is a blood bath.