

**Submission  
No 15**

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

**Name:** Mr Adam Fletcher

**Date Received:** 5 July 2025

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I have been a hunter since I was a small child. I hunted with my father and brother to put food on our table and to attempt to keep the feral animal population on our and neighbors properties at a manageable level, As an adult I taught my children to hunt and try to live as a sustainable lifestyle as possible. Hunting has always been our primary source of protein.

I'm a retired military veteran, I volunteer my time culling feral animals for desperate property owners who are being overwhelmed by feral pests. On average I spend about days a year in the bush doing this. Last year I culled 1123 pigs, 532 foxes and 217 cats. On several properties I have virtually wiped out the pests problems and the farmers are extremely happy with the results. I do this as a service, not for money, but a small bounty per animal would definitely assist me to continue doing it.

There seems to be a lot of controversy surrounding the sound moderator/suppressor issue, most of it is unfounded fear mongering. During my 32 years in the military I had extensive experience with using them, in the context of hunting they are not dangerous weapons, they do not work like they do in the movies. Sound moderators/suppressors perform several functions, firstly and foremost they are a WHS tool that preserve hearing, I like most of my ex military colleagues have been severely impacted by hearing loss, even when wearing hearing protection an unmoderated firearm damages hearing. Reducing unnecessary noise around livestock is important in keeping stress on the animals at a minimum, less stress on neighbors, less stress on the animals being euthanised.

If passed this bill will be a significant step forward in the fight on the feral animal invasion we are currently facing.

Regards

Adam Fletcher

Warrant Officer (Retired)