

Submission  
No 40

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 11 July 2025

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Partially  
Confidential

Crown Land is Public Land.

It should be a place where families go for walks and camping in peace and tranquility not to hear the sound of gun fire.

Please keep Crown Land free of blood thirsty gun happy bogans. Background:

The Game Council of New South Wales was a body corporate established under the Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002. It was established for political reasons – when the Shooters Party held the balance of power in the NSW Legislative Council. Its statutory objects were to: provide for the effective management of introduced species of game and feral animals promote responsible and orderly hunting of those game animals on public and private land and of certain pest animals on public land. Hunters licenced by the Game Council were given access to more than 2 million hectares of state forests. In 2013 the Game Council was abolished because of serious governance problems. At the time the Game Council employed 21 staff and had received >\$20 million in funding from the NSW Government over a decade.

In 2013, the NSW Government commissioned a review of the Game Council by a retired public servant after the acting chief executive has engaged in illegal hunting in a Game Council vehicle. The Dunn review led to the abolition of the Game Council and its replacement by an advisory body, the NSW Game Board.

The 2013 Dunn Review, which led to the Game Council's abolition, specifically criticised that body for trying to 'reinvent its statutory objects with a focus on the use of the term conservation hunting'.

The scathing review found that the Game Council had severe governance deficiencies and that the risks for government should be regarded as unacceptable. It found that Game Council lacked:

an overarching governance framework

a strategic planning framework skills, tools and resources to ensure effective compliance

an internal regulatory compliance program

an approved risk management framework

an adequate policy framework.

Recreational hunting is not conservation. It rarely delivers environmental benefits, and in many cases actively obstructs professional control programs. You don't reduce invasive species by doing a bit of weekend pig shooting. You need coordinated, expert-led programs like aerial shooting, baiting and trapping – the kind of methods the Shooters Party oppose.

This Bill will also boost the influence of hunters over management of state forests and other crown land to stop effective feral animal control, including aerial shooting and baiting, so that feral deer and pig numbers can stay high to support hunting opportunities. Please reject this Bill. Do not allow recreational hunting on our Public Land. Public land is for the enjoyment of all taxpayers and their families and not some playground for blood thirsty shooters