



**AUSTRALIAN
BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED™**

ABRN 093 577 603 ABN 79 750 431 225



**Bowhunting Division/Incorporating: The Trophy Bowhunters of Australia Club
Game Management, Measurement and Recording**
Field Archery Division/Incorporating: National and International Field Archery

**Affiliation: The World Bowhunting Association
The International Field Archery Association**

**From Troy Morris
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Email

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To the Senate Environment and Communications References Committee

Submission – Inquiry into the impact of Deer, Pigs and Goats in Australia

Australian Bowhunters Association is a nationally recognition Bowhunting Association that has been actively harvesting feral animals in Australia since 1970. Our membership base consists of 6092 members and we have approximately 100 affiliated clubs throughout Australia. Our members attain and uphold the highest standard of hunting ethics through our bowhunting education training and achieve the right to hunt and record game by passing our nationally recognized Bowhunting Proficiency Course. Over the last ten years alone our members have taken and recorded 15,819 feral animals throughout Australia in the association, which mainly consist of feral deer, pigs and goats.

Feral animal control needs to be a multiple front approach from all Government Departments, States and Territories in Australia, Farmers, Traditional Owners, Hunting Association and Bodies. A national approach to abatement and a united control program of feral deer, pigs and goats is the only way forward to control feral animal population.

The spread and breeding areas or zones of feral deer, pigs and goats throughout Australia has arrived from the poor management of our National Parks, Game and Water Reservoirs, State Forest and Crown Land where no feral game management exist. The individual laws and policy of States and Territories must be aligned under a National Management Plan to control feral animals.

We currently have States/Territories in Australia that do not allow any public hunting of feral animals on Crown Land, State Forest or Reservoirs and then we have States such as NSW and Victoria that understand the importance of feral animal control and use a multi diverse approach by using public hunting and government controls to manage feral deer, pigs and goats.

The financial injection into rural communities and governments in Australia from allowing hunters to harvest feral animals in vast bush lands is well documented and this revenue speaks loud and clear to most clear minded politicians. The senseless spending of millions of dollars of tax payer's money spent on helicopter culling because we have allowed feral animals to breed up in "Safe Haven Zones" called National Parks, Game and Water Reservoirs, State Forest and Crown Land in Australia needs to stop.

The current approach of feral animal control is reactive driver by misaligned State and National Laws, feral animal control needs a proactive plan and structure that control

feral animals from building up to a point that we need to waste countless millions of dollars on culling programs. The implementation of a national feral animal control program that involves the right Government Departments, States and Territories, Farmers, Traditional Owners, Hunting Associations and controlled public hunting needs to be the focus of the government for the future.

The Australian Bowhunting Association welcomes the opportunity to keep supporting feral pest animal control throughout Australia and looked forward to any further information required and support in this area for the future.

Supporting documentation

<https://bowhunters.org.au>

<https://bowhunters.org.au/index.php/bowhunting/bowhunting-info/rules-of-fair-chase>

<https://bowhunters.org.au/index.php/bowhunting/bowhunting-info/bowhunting-in-australia>

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/archived/bushtelegraph/hunting-report-sparks--conservation2c-welfare-and-tourism-conv/5515852>