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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 11 October 2023 1:50 PM
To: NRC
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission - Invasive Species Management Review

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Firstly, thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission for the NSW Invasive Species Management Review.

Recreational hunting is a major contributor to the New South Wales Gross State Product (GSP) and is the fourth largest primary industry. Currently no recreational shooting is allowed in the 890 New South Wales National Parks and state reserves.

The 2017 NSW DPI Recreational Hunting Economic Impact Report stated that approximately 25,000 restricted hunting 'R' license holders contributed \$119 million to the state's economy and supported 860 jobs. In addition, 207,000 non-restricted hunting R license holders contributed between \$446 million and \$1.37 billion to the state's economy and supported between 3,932 and 11,572 jobs.

https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/723454/economic-impact-of-recreational-hunting-in-nsw.pdf

In the 12-month period of 2021-2022, 24,481 restricted hunting license holders in New South Wales removed the following feral and introduced animals from NSW State Forests at little or no cost to NSW taxpayers:

127 wild dogs, 349 feral cats, 903 foxes, 1,341 feral goats, 2,487 deer, 3,625 rabbits and 3,893 feral pigs, being a total of 12,725 feral and introduced animals.

The above figures highlight the real and important contribution recreational hunters make in the control of feral and introduced animals and validates the importance of ground shooting by recreational hunters in NSW National Parks and state reserves.

In Victoria, 50,000 (game licensed) recreational hunters harvested, on average, 4.9 deer each and were responsible for the total harvest of 123,376 deer in 2022 alone.

www.gma.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/969705/Victorian-deer-harvest-Estimates-2022-V3.pdf

The effectiveness and economic contribution of recreational hunting on introduced and pest animals cannot be overlooked.

“Conservation is a state of harmony between men and land” and while feral and introduced pests will never be eradicated from the Australian environment they can be managed however, they will never be managed while there is one hand tied behind our backs.

Recreational hunters accredited by the New South Wales DPI Game Licensing Unit must be included in the overall pest and invasive species management strategy for New South Wales National Parks and state reserves as they have been used in New South State Forests for over a quarter of a century.

We're hoping that with the Commissions ongoing objective in providing independent, evidence based advice from **ALL** stakeholder groups acknowledges the important role that New South Wales recreational hunters play in the management of invasive species on both public and private land and enters into meaningful dialogue with them for the long term benefit of our wild places.

Yours faithfully,



Director
The Hook N Bone
Alliance Of Australia

Vice President
Shooters Union New South Wales