

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Natural Resources Commission  
GPO Box 5341  
Sydney NSW 2001  
nrc@nrc.nsw.gov.au

**To whom this concerns**

**Pest Animal Management Review - Draft Report March 2016**

I live [REDACTED] of NSW. Our [REDACTED] acre bush property is bordered from behind by forest reserve ,drops down to the [REDACTED] and beyond that the [REDACTED] . In your Deer Management Draft report you state that the South Coast is a 'main feral deer hotspot ', which is quite untrue. My family has lived here for 20 years, and I am the only member who has seen a deer, and that only once when in the past I have ridden up into the National Park. I strongly object to the status of any species of feral deer being changed to 'pest animal' status.

Whilst I recognize the need for Farmers and Landowners to control foxes, wild pigs, wild dogs and rabbits to protect their stock and crops, and I also see the need to care for Australia's beautiful flora and fauna in our wild places, I do NOT condone Recreational Hunting as a pest management technique. The NSW Parks and Wildlife Service organise annual counts of feral and pest species on the land which they manage and they are able to call in professional marksmen if a cull becomes necessary. I understand they do not like recreational killing of animals where herds are scattered, lactating females are killed and foxes and wild cats feed on the injured and helpless young who are left behind .

In your Recreational Hunting for pest animal management review draft report you encourage Night Shooting , Access to Private land , the involvement of recreational shooters in Regional Pest Animal Planning of control programs, continued access for volunteer shooters to National Parks through Supplementary Pest Control and more. I strongly disagree with these proposed changes.

This will encourage increased gun ownership which brings with it many dangers and will surely increase the level of Gun ownership along our coast and inland area, especially among the youth who might never have thought of owning a Gun before being exposed to them. Misguided enthusiasm for gun usage draws children and adolescents into recreational hunting, where due to a lack of technical skill, animals may be injured and not retrieved. Children as young as 12 can join a hunting party with a minors' permit having no practical experience or animal identification knowledge.

I also disagree with the shooting of the wild horses in the Kosciusko National Park. They are terrified when being pursued by a helicopter and often die a cruel and painful death when shot at. Surely fertility control after herding and selection, with ethical euthanaising of the sick and elderly horses is the best way.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Gold.