Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the control of invasive animals on Crown land.

Pest Eradication on Crown Land Katheen Whelan

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Living in beautiful South Gippsland, and very much enjoying the natural beauty of this area, as well as other areas of Victoria, I am aware of the problems that feral pests, such as foxes, feral cats, feral goats, and wild dogs, bring to the natural environment and neighbouring farm land, and the need to find acceptable means to eradicate them from the areas in which they are not wanted.

I am totally against using traps and 1080 baits, as these are cruel and inhumane, causing severe injuries and agonising deaths, particularly with 1080, to both the target animals and to those feeding off the poisoned carcasses.

I am much more in favour of shooting, by professional shooters and bona fide members of Gun & Hunting Clubs on Crown Land, by invitation at certain times of the year when the public will be excluded, for safety reasons, and farmers on their own land, and, importantly, the removal of all carcasses after the hunt (or burial, or burning in pits).

The use of 1080 baits should be banned outright as this poison takes up to 26 hours to take affect, with total agony resulting for the animal that has ingested the bait, including non-target animals such as pets, and predatory birds that may feed of the carcass.

If appropriate, I would also like to see the re-introduction of our own native apex predator, the dingo, to areas where feral animals are a pest, as dingoes are not the same as wild dogs. There is plenty of scientific evidence to show that Canis Dingo is its own unique species, and, if left alone, the pack can restore the balance of nature, especially if the area contains other smaller native animals that have lost their habitat due to overgrazing by kangaroos, for example.

Farmers should also be educated to use guardian animals to protect their sheep, such as maremma dogs. In some areas the use of donkeys and camels have also been shown to protect flocks and herds of farm animals.
There is an excellent ABC documentary on You Tube, entitled Documentary Dingo Wild Dog At War. It is definately worth looking at. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wn2-Eri1oPY

Documentary Dingo Wild Dog At War

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File1:

File2:

File3: