

From: [REDACTED]
To: [ramsar](#)
Subject: End duck shooting in Victoria
Date: Tuesday, 26 November 2019 4:51:37 PM

Dear Committee Members

I am writing to you to request that you ban duck hunting. There is nothing positive at all about the killing of these birds. The people that carry out this sort of violence are [REDACTED] and have no right to kill innocent birds.

It just defies my belief that you still allow this sort of murder to take place. Do you - any of you - have any compassion? Do you not understand how cruel this "sport" is? Don't you have the guts to stand up and enforce the banning? Is it for your political position? Is it for money?

Why do you let these lowlifes shoot birds? Simple question. What is your answer?

Do something decent for animals for a change. Stand up and show the majority of people that you actually care. Don't be scared of the duck hunters. They are just [REDACTED] who have no respect for life. Be able to live with your conscience and know that you have actually done something positive, because you rarely do anything positive.

It is pathetic that the majority of people want this banned and yet it still goes on because YOU are scared. DO NOT be bullied by the [REDACTED] that kills ducks. Stand up for what is right. Have some decency and do what is right for a change. Show the public that you can actually do something positive.

BAN this disgraceful "sport".

Victoria is blessed with special and diverse wetlands, home to so many different plants, birds, fish and other species.

I'm pleased to see this inquiry underway and wanted to take the opportunity it presents to raise with the committee my strong opposition to duck shooting.

No inquiry into Victoria's wetlands can be complete without understanding that the decline of wetlands combined with the hunting season has brought our native duck populations to the brink.

I'm very upset and distressed that in 2019, duck shooting continues in Victoria when it has been banned in WA, NSW and Queensland, and was never permitted in the ACT.

The shooting of native birds for fun is simply not okay. Up to one quarter of birds that are shot fly away wounded, and will go on to either suffer painful deaths or survive with enduring injuries including shotgun pellets embedded in their bodies.

Across Victoria, Australia and the world, there is growing evidence that our ecosystems are in real trouble and the water bird populations are particularly susceptible to drought, climate change and other threats. These factors make it even more inappropriate for recreational killing of water birds.

On top of this, each 'season' I am confronted by video evidence showing the cruel practices of some hunters and inadequate monitoring by compliance staff.

I hope this inquiry will seriously consider an end to duck shooting in Victoria, and will also provide recommendations for Government actions to restore and protect the wetland habitats all our water birds depend on.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Yours sincerely,
Erin Osbourne

[REDACTED]

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Please reply to Erin Osbourne at [REDACTED]

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