

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [ramсар](#)  
**Subject:** Stop duck shooting in Victoria  
**Date:** Thursday, 28 November 2019 9:35:24 PM

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Dear Committee Members

I am writing to plead for an end to duck shooting in Victoria. This barbaric activity is already banned in three other states and the time has come for it to end in Victoria.

The shooting of native birds for fun should not be tolerated in a society that purports to abhor animal cruelty. 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.

The time has come for Victoria to protect our wildlife by banning duck shooting. It is no longer acceptable to the wider community and we should stop pandering to the gun lobby by calling a halt to this cruel activity that is bringing our native duck numbers to an unsustainable level.

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.

Please take the views of the wider community into account when preparing the committee's recommendations in this matter.

Yours sincerely,  
Joe Erftemeyer

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Please reply to Joe Erftemeyer at [REDACTED]

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