

## Inquiry into Auditor General Report No.202: Meeting Obligations to Protect Ramsar Wetlands (2016)

Ms Clare Nesdale

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### YOUR SUBMISSION

#### Submission:

I think duck shooting in the Victorian RAMSAR wetlands. (Kerang, Barmah, Gippsland Lakes, Gunbower, Edithvale-Seaford, Corner Inlet, Glenelg, Huttah Lakes, Port Phillip Bay, Lake Albacutya, Western District Lakes, Westernport.) should be banned, that duck shooting should be banned throughout Victoria.

Duck numbers have declined by up to 90% and many wetlands have been in drought conditions. Water birds have moved south from NSW to Victorian waterways because of the drought conditions there and these include threatened and endangered birds. In past years duck shooters have broken the law by shooting water birds that are not permitted to be shot, have left wounded birds to die in waterways, have shoot more birds than allowed by the quota and left rubbish and spent cartridges in nature reserves. Duck shooters are not being adequately policed.

Surveys have shown that duck shooters do not help the rural economy. People living near waterways where duck shooting is permitted dislike the three months of the year during duck shooting season. They fear for their pets and their family members and find the noise distressing. People with holiday rentals near waterways loose money during the duck shooting season, no one wants to spend their holiday being woken early to gun fire and hear it all day long. It would help the rural economy to ban the duck shooting season.

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#### Signature:

Clare Nesdale