

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [ramsar](#)  
**Subject:** End duck shooting in Victoria  
**Date:** Monday, 2 December 2019 3:03:46 PM

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Dear Committee Members,

Victoria's unique and diverse wetlands - home to so many different plants, birds, fish and other species - are such a beautiful and important part of our lives.

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

Duck shooting is nothing short of monstrous. Randomly killing and - far worse - maiming Victoria's most beautiful and most vulnerable inhabitants for no reason whatsoever. It is unthinkable. Unconscionable. THIS IS NOT A SPORT. It is an appalling and unusually cruel act of barbarism. It poses a critical danger to Victoria's wetlands causing an inexcusable decline of native duck populations taking them to the brink of extinction!?! For what!?!

This "season" of horrifying violence and cruelty also renders these beautiful places completely inaccessible to all other human inhabitants of Victoria. No children and families, no young people, no couples can spend time strolling in nature and admiring our wondrous wildlife during murder season. WHY?! Honestly, I just cannot fathom this!!

I'm deeply 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. I have been writing letters, along with many other concerned and appalled Victorians, calling for its ban for years.

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. Appalling. Just appalling. Are we the villains from a Roald Dahl novel?!?

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 senseless killing of water birds.

On top of this, each 'season' I am confronted by video evidence showing the cruel practices of hunters and inadequate monitoring by compliance staff. It is patently clear that no amount of monitoring will make this practice acceptable.

I sincerely hope this inquiry will finally put an end to duck shooting in Victoria, and 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,

Adelaide Fisher

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