

From: [REDACTED]
To: [ramсар](#)
Subject: End duck shooting in Victoria IT'S TIME!
Date: Monday, 2 December 2019 3:05:22 PM

Dear Committee Members

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

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 unconscionable. This is the 21st century and this cruel activity is well passed its use by date and is so archaic belonging to a long passed era. Up to one quarter of birds that are shot fly away wounded, and will go on to either suffer long agonising 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 for fun. Duck shooting is unsustainable and cruel in the 21st century where we progress to innovation and better societies.

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. Enforcement of the regulations is seriously lacking allowing the large cowboy element of these shooters to freely do whatever they want irrespective of the regulations just to get their kicks.

Regional. Victoria is seriously missing out on the great benefits that would be gained from thousands of ecotourists from around the world and from Australia who would visit our exquisite wetlands but who are put off and revolted by this violent barbaric reckless destruction by shooters maiming and killing our precious ducks and their whole families and other precious birdlife and wildlife during the months of this horrid violent activity.

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 precious water birds depend on. IT'S TIME TO END THIS VIOLENT ACTIVITY.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Attard

[REDACTED]

This email was sent by Elizabeth Attard via Do Gooder, a website that allows people to contact you regarding issues they consider important. In accordance with web protocol FC 3834 we have set the FROM field of this email to our generic no-reply address at campaigns@good.do, however Elizabeth provided an email address [REDACTED] which we included in the REPLY-TO field.

Please reply to Elizabeth Attard at [REDACTED]

To learn more about Do Gooder visit www.dogooder.co

To learn more about web protocol FC 3834 visit: www.rfc-base.org/rfc-3834.html