

Wildlife Act Review

Submission Comment 255:

Contributor: Individual

Primary interests:

- Protection and conservation of wildlife and habitat Wildlife welfare
- Wildlife welfare
- Compliance and enforcement

Comment

I am concerned at the cruelty, lack of compliance with regulation and the ethics of duck hunting. There should be more openness and exhibition of hunting practices and controls. There should be an annual DELWP report on estimated duck populations, mortality by hunting, lists of serious non compliance. There should be increased inspection/survey by relevant authority including by aerial and ground survey of duck numbers. Target of duck population should be for an increasing population to a naturally sustainable level and not simply by compromise on a number advocated by the hunting lobby. ATCW should be reformed by demonstration of SERIOUS damage and that non lethal methods of population control are impractical. That is ATCW by killing wildlife should be seen by authority to be a last resort. Note that it is clear that that a major proportion of the human population considers duck hunting to be a barbaric sport, with clearly insufficient regulation of shooting bags and the need for veterinary care of wounded wildlife. Diversity as well as game population should be promoted by government survey and report. Support for hunting of wildlife by some sections of political parties should be seen as well outside general citizen acceptance. It proceeds in this country at a level not known in almost all other countries. Albeit there should be concentration on control of feral animals such as wild cats, rabbits and deer Native timber logging should not be exempted from damaging, disturbing or destroying suitable habitat for wildlife. Many threatened species rely on the unique habitat provided by wet and damp forests in particular. The Act needs to increase protection for wildlife by protection zones and orders. Scientifically described declines in forest species relate to logging but also rainfall decline and wild fires

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