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Ms Jenny Mannering
Inquiry Secretary
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Hobart, Tas.

RE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL INQUIRY INTO THE WILD FALLOW DEER
POPULATION IN TASMANIA.

My wife Lianne and myself have been commercially farming Fallow Deer for 28 years on our property at Dover in the Huon Valley. Since entering the industry we have invested a substantial amount of time and expense in developing a self-replacing breeding operation with turn off slaughter animals, supporting local and interstate venison markets through Doo Town Game Meats at Eaglehawk Neck.

The cost of initial purchasing of breeding animals, erecting specialized stock proof fencing, building of deer handling facilities ie. Lane ways, yards, purpose build handling sheds and purchasing of specialized transport equipment to meet animal welfare regulations has been a substantial investment.

We entered the industry at the very peak of female live sale prices, and were aware that these prices were not sustainable and were always going to come back to a meet based price return for our animals. The carcass price has been stable for a number of years, however as with other livestock enterprises the returns for our animals needs to improve to keep up with the increasing cost of production.

I have been an active member of the Tasmanian Deer Farmers Council since entering the industry and have served on the executive and held the position of President for the maximum term.

I strongly appose the concept of wild harvested venison being sold for human consumption, for the following reasons

- Will wild shot product be able to comply with DPIW&E meat hygiene standards?
- The quality control of inferior wild shot meat going into established markets and undermining farm product that has been processed in registered abitors that meet all meat hygiene standards.
- The low cost of wild shot product being harvested compared to the minimum cost of production required of quality farm venison, this will undermine and devalue all existing producers and abettor operators and restrict any potential expansion and growth of the industry.
- To draw parallels with beef, pork, lamb, commercially harvested seafood, and aquiculture products etc. wild shot venison cannot comply with the strict controls these industries face.

In relation to wild deer impacts on public and private land, I have discussed this issue with DPIW&E game management services and there is already a system of control in place, this can be further enhanced to suit individuals' requirements.

Other points of references required are covered within the Tasmanian Deer Farmers Council industry submission.

Regards,
John Clark.

Allison Waddington

From: johnlianneclark@bigpond.com
Sent: Sunday, 26 June 2016 4:36 PM
To: DEER
Subject: Wild Fallow Deer Regulation Inquiry
Attachments: Wild Fallow Deer Regulations.pdf

Please find attached submission to be presented to Legislative Council Inquiry into the Wild Fallow Deer Population in Tasmania.

Regards,
John Clark.