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16/5/2016

To the committee of the fallow deer enquiry,

Please find enclosed my submission / comments .

It must be noted that the fallow deer in Tasmania is supposed to be the purest herd in the world and were brought to our shores a few years after the first settlement and they should be afforded protection and proper management to keep the herds sustainable . I believe that license fees raise around 300 thousand dollars for the government and nearly 2 million dollars are spent annually hunting and managing these wonderful animals and it is a cultural and traditional pursuit to hunt these animals. I would like to say that the game management unit is an integral part of the management of deer and wallaby and game of all types and doing a superb job and are very approachable it's a great shame that some land owners aren't using the management unit to implement management plans on their properties to be able to use hunters as management tool in regards to browsing animals .

I will say however that land owners have the right to say who comes and what happens on their property, for example I have heard where one land owner has a large property and only has 4 hunters on it one of the hunters went to go wallabying and was given 30 stag tags and told to shoot and leave lying (if this is the case then it was a waste of game) I would imagine he doesn't have enough hunters on property in regards to harvesting deer and game to manageable level .

A charge to hunt deer has been around for a long time you can be charged anywhere from \$100 to \$3000 for the privilege to hunt a season with some of these properties having good management but also requiring a commitment from the hunter to return 5 or 6 times a year and more often if they can to control game. It is my opinion that deer wallaby possums do as much damage to crops as each other and I wonder how much help it was to farmers when commodity prices were low and time of drought when hunters were paying money for the privilege to hunt on property. There has always been hunting on forestry and uncommitted crown land and recently deer management through forestry commission and it is my understanding that a large chunk of forestry has now been put under world heritage and national parks.

I believe they allow hunting in world heritage in N.T. and hunting is allowed in N.S.W. and S.A. and Victoria National parks why can't a game management plan be done here in Tasmania over seen by game management unit Its my belief in world heritage and National parks deer would not do any more damage than wallabies and possums when browsing and of course the destructive feral bushwalker who digs a hole to go to the toilet sometimes and leaves rubbish about and creates all the wonderful muddy tracks that wouldn't detract or cause problems for national parks and world Heritage areas would it.

I believe this is the way our deer should be managed

Keep the deer on partly protected list

The stags must be protected during the rut (mating) around April/ May normally a 1 month rut.

I would have a doe season running from May through to August ( late September through to November fawning).

We currently have 3 tags to take 1 stag and 2 does or 3 does ,probably increase that to 4 tags per hunter and then the land owner can make the decision on how many deer that could be taken on his or her properties under their game management plan with consultation of hunters

For properties that don't have management plans or hunters encourage them into having a game management plan to use hunters as management tools for browsing animals with game management unit as mediators I'm sure hunters wouldn't mind supplying reference to land owners.

Unfortunately there seems to be stigma /problem with some land owners regarding hunters this is a great shame when a good hunter / person can be off great use / friend to a land owner it only comes down to trust.

You may also make it a little easier for land owners to obtain deer / forester tags for crop protection purposes if they had basic management plan in place.

I wouldn't imagine there would be that many incidence with vehicles regarding deer as there would be with wallabies and possum and wombats on the roads you only have to drive on country roads to see the carnage

Lastly with the amount of money spent on hunting fallow deer in Tasmania and the investment the government has had over the years wouldn't it be better under game management than wiped of face of the earth why would you want to make it that hunters would spend money on the mainland or N.Z. if the deer where wiped out here.

I think if deer were deregulated it would create an immense poaching problem for land owners and hunters who have a good game management plan in place

If the inquiry panel were to have a day on the coast to accept or hear submissions I would be happy to attend as I understand there has been a lot of interest on the coast

Yours Shan Rayner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Shan Rayner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.