

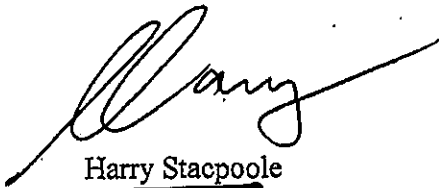
20th June 2016

Mr Harry Stacpoole
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms Mannering

I have enclosed my submission. Can you please replay by email to me when you have received it.. My email address is harry@stacent.com.au

Yours faithfully



Harry Stacpoole
[REDACTED]

Inquiry into wild fallow deer population in Tasmania

20 - 6 - 16

Submission By:
Harry Stacpoole



I live and operate a farm fronting the South Esk River on Bellvue Road, East of Epping Forest.

Summary:

The regulations regarding managing the deer population in Tasmania are complicated, cumbersome, highly restrictive, selective, embroiled in red tape and need simplifying.

1. I believe that a farmer or his nominee should be able to dispose of deer at any time.
2. In addition farmers be allowed to sell deer caught on their land.

A Ministerial Order under Section 30 of the Nature Conversation Act 2002, which provides the Minister the authority to determine open season as well as other conditions can achieve item 1.

Deer have a profound influence in my farming operations.

1. Environmental

Deer have the ability to roam at will up and down the South Esk Valley and swim across the river, even at flood times. I have seen them do that several times a day causing environmental damage to the riverbanks and paddocks.



Figure 1 Deer tracks on a cleared paddock

2. Impact on commercial activities on private land.

The impact on my river flats are severe as it is not worth trying to grow crops as wild deer just invade good pasture or crops in large numbers. I have counted up to 130 head during the morning and evening and I see deer every day. It must be worse at night when they are most active. Last year I planted oats on part of the river flat and they were totally wiped out by deer.



Figure 2 Deer outside house

3. The partly protected status of fallow deer.

The regulations regarding shooting of wild introduced deer are quite breathtaking in its complexity seeing it applies to an introduced species. These laws may have been introduced when they were few in number unlike today when they are in arguably plague proportions.

There are various times in the year when I can shoot deer. Deer carcasses need to be tagged with a metal strip supplied to the shooter or farmer before removing from the property. The metal strip

has an identification number.

There are severe penalty's imposed on hunters with deer without a valid tag. Permits change at various times of the year. For instance they may be for stags, immature males, females etc. I have shooters on the farm but they have minimal impact on the problem.

4. Commercial opportunities for the use of wild population stocks.

At present I cannot sell any deer. Why not? Deer are a potentially valuable animal around the size of a sheep, highly regarded in culinary circles and very suitable for pet food. I have the ability to harvest deer. I believe this is a wasted opportunity that would bring economic benefit to my enterprise and to the State.



Figure 3 Deer ready for burial

What a waste!

My proposal does not necessarily interfere with the current permit system. I would be happy to address the Committee.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry Stacpoole". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail.

Harry Stacpoole.