

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 496

asked on Thursday, 5 June 2014

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MR KNUTH ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATIONAL PARKS, RECREATION, SPORT AND RACING (MR DICKSON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to provisions in New South Wales which allow recreational bow hunters to hunt feral and pest animals on public land, as does Northern Territory, South Australia, Victoria—

Will the Minister consider bringing the current arrangements in line with the provisions made by New South Wales and other States and Territories to assist with the control of feral animals in Queensland National Parks?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the Question.

The Queensland Government does not support recreational hunting in the protected area estate, including national parks and State forests and has no plans to open these areas for recreational hunting.

In addition, the use of bow hunting to destroy pest animals is not listed as a humane method of control under the nationally recognised Model Code of Practice for the Humane Control of Feral Pigs first published in 2009 by the then Commonwealth Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

In general, pest management operations on national parks and State forests are undertaken by the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service through its network of trained and accredited rangers and/or contractors across the state.

The protected area estate and State forests represent less than seven percent of the total land area of Queensland. Of the remaining land, approximately 45 percent is leased as pastoral holdings and another 24 percent is freehold land. With the permission of the landholder of either freehold land or land under pastoral lease, this land can provide significant opportunities for recreational hunting. Recreational hunters are encouraged to pursue these options.