

Victoria Government Gazette

No. S 90 Tuesday 19 June 2001 By Authority. Victorian Government Printer

SPECIAL

Subordinate Legislation Act 1994 NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2001

Notice is given that, in accordance with section 11 of the **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994**, a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) has been prepared in relation to the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2001.

The objectives of the proposed Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2001 are to provide for the management of game hunting in Victoria, in ways that:

- provide continued sustainable, humane, ethical and safe recreational hunting opportunities;
- ensure equitable sharing of game resources between stakeholders;
- minimise the destruction of non-game species; and,
- ensure the protection of wildlife habitats.

The proposed regulations will specify open and close seasons, bag limits, permitted hunting methods and areas and the wetlands and times when entry into certain wetlands over the opening weekend of the duck hunting season is restricted. The regulations will also prescribe the licensing requirements for game hunters and the tag and checking station requirements for Hog Deer hunters. Conditions relating to the possession and use of game will also be prescribed.

The RIS discusses two alternatives to the proposed regulations: no regulations to control the activities of game hunters in Victoria; and, the use of a voluntary Code of Practice to regulate hunting activities. The proposed regulations were considered the best means of achieving the objectives, as they do so in a manner which is more effective than both alternatives.

Copies of the RIS and the proposed regulations may be obtained by contacting the NRE Customer Service Centre between 8.00 am and 8.00 pm weekdays on 136 186. The RIS is also available at the NRE internet site http://www.nre.vic.gov.au under Recreation and Tourism, Hunting.

Public comments are invited on the RIS and accompanying regulations. All comments must be in writing and must be received at the following address by no later than 5:00 pm on 20 July 2001:

Mr Scott Lawrence, Department of Natural Resources and Environment, PO Box 500, East Melbourne, Victoria 3002.

Submissions may also be emailed to: scott.lawrence@nre.vic.gov.au.

All submissions will be treated as public documents.

Dated 14 June 2001

SHERRYL GARBUTT MP Minister for Environment and Conservation

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ISSN 0819-5471

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Government Information and Communications Branch

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Level 3, 356 Collins Street Melbourne 3000

Victoria Australia

Subscriptions

The Craftsman Press Pty. Ltd. 125 Highbury Road, Burwood Victoria, Australia 3125 Telephone enquiries: (03) 9926 1233 Facsimile (03) 9926 1292

Retail Sales

Information Victoria Bookshop 356 Collins Street Melbourne 3000. Telephone enquiries 1300 366 356

City Graphics Level 1, 520 Bourke Street Melbourne 3000 Telephone enquiries (03) 9600 0977 Price Code A

Periodical — \$124.30 each year. All prices include GST.

subscription services:

Subscriptions are payable in advance and accepted for a period of one year. All subscriptions are on a firm basis and refunds will not be given.

Subscriptions

The Victoria Government Gazette is available by three

General, Special and Periodical - \$249.70 each year

All payments should be made payable to

General and Special - \$187.00 each year

The Craftsman Press Pty. Ltd.

Subscription enquiries:

The Craftsman Press Ptv. Ltd. 125 Highbury Road, Burwood Vic 3125 Telephone: (03) 9926 1233 Fax (03) 9926 1292

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