

SAFGA "STATE BOARD"

NewsBulletin

11th June 2025



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AND GAME

*"The wild life of today is not ours to dispose of
as we please. We have it in trust. We must
account for it to those who come after."
King George VI*

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2025 Conservation and Hunting Matters - Update

- *2025 Conservation Hunting Bill – NSW*
- *2025 Biodiversity Act – First for SA*
- *SA Native Hunting Permits "Double in Cost" – CHASA*
- *2025 Katter's Australian Party considers new laws – QLD*
- *2025 Duck Season – SA / VIC / TAS*
- *New GP Mental & Physical Laws - WA*

Conservation Hunting Bill 2025 - How you can help get this Bill passed!

Conservation Hunting Bill 2025 - How you can help get this Bill passed!

Posted on May 28, 2025

The **Conservation Hunting Bill 2025** has been introduced into NSW Parliament by the Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party. This is a landmark reform that:

- Recognises the role of hunters in conservation
- Establishes a new Conservation Hunting Authority
- Supports bounty schemes for invasive species
- Introduces a Conservation Hunting Licence
- Allows **licensed hunters to use suppressors** – a critical, ethical, and humane tool for pest animal control

[Click here to see the Bill](#)

We need your help to **get this Bill passed**. We're calling on **every hunter, farmer, and outdoor enthusiast** to email your local NSW MP and urge them to support the Bill — **especially the provisions allowing the use of suppressors**.

Find your local MP: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/members/pages/all-members.aspx>

Suppressors aren't about "silencing" firearms for stealth—they're about protecting hearing, reducing animal suffering, and making hunting safer and more effective.

[You can use the draft email \(click here\)](#). Modify it as you wish—but **make your voice heard today**.

Media Release



Government
of South Australia

Susan Close MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Climate, Environment and Water

Wednesday 14 May 2025

South Australia's first ever *Biodiversity Act* introduced to State Parliament

South Australia's first ever *Biodiversity Act* has been introduced to State Parliament including new provisions to better protect our state's native animals and plants, build resilience to the effects of climate change, and to reduce red tape for development.

The new *Act* improves recognition for threatened species and provide opportunities for investment in restoring nature. It will consolidate biodiversity considerations, previously spread across several pieces of legislation.

The World Economic Forum Global Risks Report 2025 identified biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse as the second highest long-term risk facing the globe - second only to extreme weather events.

It complements the more than \$15 million invested by the Malinauskas Government over the past two Budgets for biodiversity data collection, protection of native vegetation and assessment of threatened species to help protect nature and guide planning decisions.

The legislation drafted over two years in consultation with environmental scientists, economists, primary producers, miners and development planners.

SA already has strong laws to protect the environment but there are many opportunities to attract international investment in restoring and strengthening biodiversity, and we can make smarter and faster decisions about how we grow the state while protecting nature.

It makes sense to plan ahead based on the best science, so developments are located in places that allow nature to flourish.

The *Biodiversity Act* includes:

- **A new general duty** ensuring that all South Australians play a role in protecting biodiversity
- **Stronger native plant laws** providing clearer regulations to safeguard native vegetation

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premier.sa.gov.au

Doubling of bird hunting permits 'outrageous' – more rises ahead

FIN DUNFORD

A Langhorne Creek farmer is criticising "outrageous" increases to duck and quail hunting permit fees in SA.

Following the Select Committee on Hunting Native Birds inquiry, duck and quail hunting permits will increase to \$100 a permit per species of bird for the 2025 open season, up from \$50.

The increase is a result of a review of the costs associated with administering and managing an open season.

By 2028, permits will increase to \$250.

The inquiry recommended that duck hunting should be allowed to continue in SA, despite opposition from the RSPCA and other organisations.

Conservation and Hunting Alliance of SA (CHASA) member John Peek has been a game bird hunter for more than 60 years and believes the licence fee increases are "outrageous" and could create non-compliance issues, particularly given "most hunting" is conducted on private land.

"Think about an old farmer who's got a patch of water and he shoots ducks now and then," he said.

"He's going to have to pay.

"It's ridiculous.

"The average hunter will be paying tax of over \$15 a bird to hunt mainly on private land.

"This makes the gathering of traditional food out of reach for many."

Mr Peek also has concerns about what he believes is inaction from the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) over the conditions of hunting licenses.

According to the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 – which regulates duck hunting in SA – if a duck or quail has been shot and wounded it must be killed as quickly and humanely as possible by a second shot or a blow with a heavy instrument to the rear of the skull (the bird should be either restrained or immobile).

But Mr Peek said those regulations were impractical and did not serve animal welfare purposes, particularly if you were standing in water.

"You try that with a loaded gun in one hand and a duck in the other while waist deep in water," he said.

"We simply want to use the same methods recommended by the Victorian Game Authority, which recommends cervical dislocation.

"We wrote to DEW 12 months ago about this, but nothing has been done."



Langhorne Creek duck hunter John Peek is criticising recent price increases to both duck and quail hunting licenses in SA, which have increased to \$100 a permit.



The costs of Native Bird Hunting permits have "DOUBLED" in one year. We have been told by 2028 it will be **\$250 per person** for the season!!

"Ridiculous & Outrageous and more to come"

We urge members to use the "Mail my MP" on the CHASA.ORG.AU website – easy to use and mail your MP, while you're at it mail the Premier, Mail the Minister of Environment – Susan Close and tell her how this affects you. Compare this to Fishing when it's **FREE**. – **Send your message now. Visit CHASA.org.au and go to the "Mail my MP" – it's that easy!!!**

Terri Irwin calls Katter's Australian Party crocodile cull plan 'dangerous' as Queensland considers new laws

• ABC NEWS - Brisbane

By Jessica van Vonderen Thursday 5 June



Terri Irwin has made a submission to a parliamentary inquiry on newly proposed crocodile laws. *(Supplied: Australia Zoo)*

In short:

Katter's Australian Party is proposing new legislation that would allow crocodile culls and safari style hunting trips.

Conservationist Terri Irwin says the laws would "increase the likelihood of attacks".

Critics warn the plan could harm tourism and undermine existing education efforts.

abc.net.au/news/terri-irwin-blasts-crocodile-culling-legislation/105366948

Share article

World-famous conservationist Terri Irwin has branded proposed legislation to allow crocodile culls and safari-style hunting trips as "dangerous" and a "recipe for disaster".

The legislation put forward by Katter's Australian Party (KAP) proposes the creation of a Queensland Crocodile Authority, which would be charged with implementing "zero-tolerance zones" in populated areas, where all crocodiles would be culled or relocated to farms or sanctuaries.

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Katter's Australian Party members Nick Dametto, Robbie Katter and Shane Knuth are proposing the creation of a Queensland Crocodile Authority. *(Supplied)*

"These are man-eating killers," said KAP MP Shane Knuth, whose electorate of Hill takes in known crocodile country in Far North Queensland.

"The crocodile population has absolutely exploded and back-to-back governments have failed to do anything about it."

But in a parliamentary submission, Terri Irwin described the population increase as "very modest" and said the KAP bill would "increase the likelihood of attacks" because so-called zero-tolerance zones would create a "false sense of security".

DUCK HUNTING

- 2025 Victorian Duck Season - now “CLOSED”
- 2025 Tasmanian Wild Duck Hunting Season – Now “CLOSED”
- 2025 South Australian Duck Season – closes sunset on Sunday 29th June.
- Northern Territory, the Waterfowl Hunting Season Opens on private land in August and on hunting reserves on September. The season typically runs through January, with the exact end date varying depending on the specific hunting reserve.

newsGP

By [Anastasia Tsirtsakis](#)

New gun laws place GPs in ‘complex position’

Anyone applying for or renewing a firearm licence in WA must now undergo a health assessment with a GP. But there are clinical and ethical concerns.



Almost 80% of respondents to a newsGP poll said they would not be willing to provide a firearms health assessment for their patients.

GPs practising in Western Australia are now responsible for conducting physical and mental health assessments for those applying for, or renewing, a firearm licence.

The new state legislation, [effective 31 March](#), requires individuals to undergo a Firearm Authority Health Assessment (FAHA) to have their health status assessed by a doctor to ensure it does not compromise firearm safety.

The changes, [first flagged to the public in July 2024](#), have raised concerns among many GPs who have expressed feeling uneasy about making determinations that could have significant consequences for patient relationships and community safety.

In [a newsGP poll from July last year](#), almost 80% of 1347 respondents said they would not be willing to provide a firearms health assessment for their patient, with only 10% saying they would.

SAVE THE DATE

SAFGA State Championships

Central Branch

14th – 15th September 2025

SAFGA State AGM

8th November 2025

25 Memorial Drive Keith

Keeping  informed

This News Bulletin brought to you by the **State Board**.

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SAFGA Delegates Conservation & Hunting