

THE DEERSTALKER

April 2006

New South Wales Deerstalkers Association Inc

Dedicated to the sound management of Deer



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THE DEERSTALKER

October 2005

NSW Deerstalkers Association

COMMITTEE FOR 2005 - 2006

Formed: 7th June 1972

Life Members: Gordon Alford
Bob Penfold
Wayne McPhee
Jack Boswell

Affiliated To:

Australian Deerstalkers Federation
Game Management Council (Australia)
Inc.

Contributions:

The editor and editorial committee reserve the right to modify any contributions.

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(Please note, this is a changed email address).

Advertisements:

Advertisements for products sold by NSWDA Members are accepted and printed free of charge provided a discount is given to club members.

Cover Photo:

Home page of our new NSWDA website at www.nswdeerstalkers.org.au. Congratulations to Steve Isaacs for making it happen. Wild black Fallow buck photographed by Steve Isaacs this season.

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FROM THE EDITOR

At the beginning of April I attended a seminar by the Registry in Sydney. This proved to be a very enlightening day & I came away with very positive feelings about the Registry & its managers. These men have suffered our suspicion because they were so snowed under with the work load imposed upon them, & so understaffed that they had little time to explain what they were doing & why. The Registry has now pulled itself out of this mire of imposed work at their startup & later sudden decisions of their masters (e.g. pistol buy-back), into what they trust will be a new era of cooperation with the clubs & with individual shooters. They are progressively introducing means of making life easier for club Secretaries, Armourers & members of clubs. Electronic data handling & new electronic book keeping systems are either here, or waiting in the wings. Clubs can now email the Registry, with all communications being quickly attended to. In future license renewals will be posted to you & phone help is available to fill in the forms. Applications are turning around in 25 days currently. More information facts sheets are becoming available on their web site, as are essential forms (but these only to club secretaries). We were assured that no one in the Registry is anti gun; their jobs depend on us & they love their north coast lifestyle! However, they have to administer the law, imperfect as that may sometimes be. If you think some aspect of NSW firearms law is absurd, then write to the Minister for Police ASAP. Despite two years having passed since we had that "urgent" review of the regulations, nothing has happened. Changes can still be made to the new draft. This has frustrated not only shooters, but the Registry also, because some innovations to make every one's lives easier have had to wait. The classic example of dumb law must be the need to apply for a



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Our meeting dates this year:-

**Wednesday's at the German Austrian Club
at 7.30 pm**

3 May 2006

19 July 2006 General Meeting + AGM

4 October 2006

**Saturday Christmas Function Venue yet to
be decided**

18 November 2006

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Please Note: The N.S.W.D.A. Inc. takes no responsibility for views expressed in "The Deerstalker". All articles submitted are signed by the relevant author. The Editorial Committee does however, take responsibility for views expressed in articles signed by them!

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permit to acquire a second or subsequent firearm. NSW is the only state still clinging to this useless requirement, which frustrates us & clogs the Registry with unnecessary work. The Registry recognizes that the work load of Club Secretaries is very large, & they are about to make changes to reduce it. Interestingly, one

Cont. next page.



proposed change will make members responsible for notifying club Secretaries of their attendances at other clubs, so as to reduce the numbers of shooters who are currently seen as not complying with their license requirements.

We were also told that about 50% of the forms sent to the Registry are not completed fully or correctly, causing them to be returned. This slows the system enormously & causes unnecessary delays to everyone. Please double check your forms & as a matter of course, have someone else check them too. You can ring the Registry for information, including what to write on a form & to check the receipt of your correspondence. As it's all held on computer, it's a simple job for their staff to run a check.

This is what happens when paperwork is received;

1. It is date stamped immediately.
2. It is sorted into bundles & run through an automatic scanner. From there on it's all dealt with on computer.
3. All Police checks are done on Saturdays, also electronically, & returned same day. Applications arriving say Mondays, have to queue for the following Saturday, a five day delay, but unavoidable.
4. Work which can then be processed quickly is then completed ASAP, e.g. temporary exemptions are usually returned early the next week. Where some waiting period is mandated, the returns must wait (e.g. pta forms).
5. Forms needing additional information or corrections have to be returned to sender. Many forms are certainly unnecessarily complicated, but this is because of the law, not the Registry, so we need to simply bear with it & be very careful in filling in forms.

The Police Firearms Registry has asked us to notify all members of the need to notify any change of personal details (such as change of address) within seven days. Details & a form are appended to this newsletter.

Dal Birrell. Ed.



Fiordland Moose Study.

(Ed. This is a part of a report taken from the web, in which maps, pictures & other material were originally included. It hasn't been possible to include these here. However this account of the continuing search for NZ Moose will be of interest to most deer hunters).

The NZWT is currently undertaking two main areas of research, both looking at particular species of mammals introduced to New Zealand in the early 1900's. The importance of independent study is vital to ensure an unbiased and realistic approach to the management of such introduced species, learning about their behavior, integration with New Zealand's ecosystem within the last century, their impact on the environment and the conservation of New Zealand's flora and fauna.

The aim of the moose study is to learn how moose live in Fiordland - seasonal movements, food and habitat preferences. Eventually to have sufficient data to estimate numbers, population trends and the limits of moose range.

Methods:

Initially concentrating our research in a single "study area" (Herrick Creek, Wet Jacket Arm) then expanding the boundaries using acquired knowledge: by field recognition and interpreting moose "sign" (eg., browsing evidence), by DNA analysis of material (eg.,



hair, pellets), by volunteer surveys and any other means at our disposal.

Results: Intensive efforts from 1992 to the present time, representing some 600 person-days in the field by Ken and Marg Tustin over all seasons have given a good idea of seasonally preferred food and a modest account of moose movements. There is DNA confirmation that moose are indeed still alive and well in 2000. Jamie Ward of Genomz, AgResearch, has moose hair sample from Dusky Sound. Moose remain extremely rare and 30-day searches frequently reveal no recent traces. With such rarity seasonal patterns of movement have been difficult to assess. Estimates of numbers must await definition of the boundaries of moose range as historic records show that moose at times have been well outside the present likely “core” area of Dusky Sound -Wet Jacket Arm. Even Herrick Creek, with no shortage of good habitat and forage, has only occasional moose presence and then only for short periods. DNA analysis has the best potential to help ensure field sign identification is accurate and eventually to individually identify particular moose. NZWT is working with experts to achieve this worthwhile objective.

To Document Moose History in New Zealand There has always been a “culture of secrecy” about moose in Fiordland and few published records exist. However, contacts with moose by fisherman, hunters, surveyors, pilots and others over the years represent a wealth of unwritten history that deserves recording.

Objectives: To collect unpublished accounts from people who have encountered moose and build an authoritative historic record.

Methods: Personal interviews and family recollections.

Camera Project

Objectives:* To continue efforts to photograph Fiordland moose with the purpose of capturing public attention and awareness and using the interest so gained a tool to drive NZWRT’s educational and other messages about wilderness, wildlife and adventure.

Methods: Self-triggering video and still cameras. Results: From 1994 to the present time about 5000 camera-days have yielded about 2000 records of red deer and one probable female moose. That shot was taken in July 1995. It is a single frame enlargement from a video clip taken by a camera on “time-lapse” mode, hence sharpness and clarity is compromised. The same event recorded a few seconds of the animal moving, visible rearward from the shoulder.

The gait, size, shape, colour and stance are unlike that of a red deer, but typically moose-like. There are only two possibilities of the identity of this animal: moose or red deer. It seems from historic records and modern “spot checks” that the Dusky Sound-Wet Jacket Arm area is the likely “core area” of moose presence. However, moose swimming ability and the present abundance of foodstuffs in the forest make this presumption by no means certain. Rapid drop off of records suggests the moose population plummeted to near extinction around 1975-1985 due to progressive food shortages.





Secretary's Report.

Well, a lot has happened since our last meeting, the most significant being the release of Public Land and State Forests for recreational hunting that came into effect on the 5th March 2006.

Game Council Update

Public Land/State Forests – 31 now released for hunting and more will be coming on board in the near future.

It is mandatory to obtain your Restricted Licence (R-Licence) so that you have access to the Public and State Forests. Once you have obtained your R-Licence then you can apply via the Game Council Website to hunt on the nominated forest using your password. If you don't have internet access then you can write or telephone the Game Council.

As an Approved Hunting organisation we have a number of Testing Officers who can assist you, they are as follows:

v Malcolm Ambrose	Kenthurst
v Peter Birchall	Mortdale
v Dal Birrell	Bulli
v Neil Brown	Parkville via Scone
v Peter Clark	Wallabadah
v Greg Haywood	Tahmoor
v Mark Isaacs	Schofields
v Steve Isaacs	Schofields
v Les King	Scone
v Greg Lee	Dolans Bay
v Wayne McPhee	Casula
v Darren Plumb	Goulburn
v Michael Talbot	Mittagong
v Ron Topping	Kurrajong
v Geoff Way	Dorrigo

We will arrange some group testing days which we will discuss at the next meeting.

Numbers that you need to be aware of:

Approved Hunting Organisation (AHO) Number 10111
Our Assessor number is Number 1
Our Agent Number for our Commission is Number 7185

We need to continue our support of the Game Council for the good of all hunters and the continuation of our sport for future generation of Australians.

There is resistance from the Greens, Antis and the National Parks Association to name a few.





President's Report.

After a very successful 2005 for the NSW Deerstalkers in terms of hunting and membership participation the committee would like to congratulate all of the members that contributed to the clubs success and hope they will continue to support us in 2006.

It is the committees wish to share as much detail as we know concerning both current events and how we as hunters can help change the future direction of our chosen recreation.

When a particular item of interest unfolds we hope to be able to bring this to you in the Deerstalker or at the quarterly meetings.

When I put my hand up to take on this job I thought oh well this will be a simple matter of priority, first there is my hunting, slot in for March to September, check, oh yeah then there's the fishing season, Yellowfin in May - June then again in November - Dec before the Marlin start in Dec through to March check? Meetings Feb, July, Oct no problem, oh yeah Safari Club Show and Game Con meetings no worries, oh and of course a couple of committee meetings, can do during week nights! Greg rings to tell me The Shooter of the year awards are on in December (must attend). Forget about that trip to NZ?

Suddenly I find Emails coming from everywhere and everyone, shee!! where do these guys get the energy from, well you know what? I am feeling OK and it's because I had forgotten about the Cyber Network of individuals out there plugging and pushing for our wants and needs, including many members from our own organisation.

I am not saying I want to be here for ever

now and some of you young bucks must come forward to share the reigns here, but from what I have seen over the past 6 months encourages me about our future. When you think 25 years ago our future looked grim, hunters had numbers but no cohesiveness, political friends or recognition. From what was predominantly the NSWDA idea (Gamecon), formally the Joint Committee of Recreational Hunters has become a major fighting arm of and for hunters.

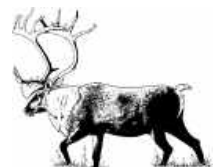
Yes, I here some grumblings out there and yes the club politics persist but that should be expected and will always be the chosen avenue these strong political organizations tread, better that, than being swallowed by lethargy and procrastination.

So what's been happening

Since our last meeting and particularly over the Xmas break, 16 of our members along with a large group of other associated organizations have made application and attended on the Associations behalf, training and testing for the right of our club to test members to attain an application for an R Game Licence to be able to hunt in proclaimed State Forrest's and public land.

Further in this edition of the Deerstalker there will be an explanation of what this is going to mean for our members and hunters in general. This is early days yet but ever since The Joint Committee first attended meetings with the Forestry over twenty years ago and the years that were put in and receiving the cold shoulder, I never thought after having personally sat with the Forestry back then I would ever see it happen. Congratulations to everyone that made this real.

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Video Library

Free hunting videos for members to borrow for one month if picking up video's at a meeting. Members must pay postage by registered mail back to the club in carton supplied. You can phone or write for videos to be posted to you, however the member must pay postage both ways. When returning videos to the club within one-month members must include cost of postage to them in stamps inside the box.

If members are to lend these video's to fellow members, remember that the original person who borrowed them from the club will be held responsible if they are not returned within due time. As these videos are the property of the club, you are expected to look after them. If you loose or damage a video you will have to pay the replacement cost. If you don't return them after 4 weeks you won't get anymore.

To borrow a Video contact:

Terry Burgess

Ph: (02) 9909 1267

P.O. Box 80

Cremorne Junction NSW 2090

Library List

1. Black Death, Cape Buffalo, Lion
2. Capstick, Botswana Safari Buffalo, Lion
3. In the Blood, Capstick, Rhino
4. Zambia Safaris
5. Whitetail, Mule Deer, Pronghorn, Late Season Elk
6. Monster Elk, Horns of Plenty, Hunt Exotics 1 & 2
7. Hunting Bugling Elk, Big Muleys, Caribou
8. North American Big Horn Rams, Greatest Whitetail, Wild Hogs of Texas
9. Col Allison Hunters Home Video, Big Bears, Russian Boar, Whitetail
10. North American Mixed Bag, Big Horn Rams, Whitetail
11. Great Trophy Bucks Mixed Bag, Big Horn Rams, Whitetail
12. Wild Boar Pig Hunting Down Under Part 1
13. Hunting Sheep, Goat & Moose in B.C.
14. Big Rams Brooks Range, Big Horn Rams, Mouflon
15. The Bow Hunter, Whitetail Deer
16. Big Rams, North American Big Horn Sheep, Mouflon Sheep
17. North American Big Horn Sheep, Big Rams Mixed Bag
18. Mouflon, Bow Hunting Elk, Whitetail, Mule Deer etc.
19. Challenge of the Mountain Monarchs, Thars, Mouflon Sheep, Red Deer in Qld



20. Pig Hunting in Qld, Wild Goat in Qld, Mouflon
21. Pig Hunting in Qld, Red Deer in Qld
22. Hunting in Spain, Pig Hunt in Tunisia, Red Deer in Scotland
23. Hunting Fallow in Scotland, Red in Scotland, Kiwi Hunts North West Territories
24. The Wildlife Bow Hunter, Deer, Pigs, Foxes, Mountain Hunting NZ, O'Rourke's Deer, Chamois, Thar
25. Mountain Hunting N.Z., Deer, Thar, Chamois, Red, Sika, Bow Hunter
26. N.Z. Hunting, Sambar in Victoria, Red Deer in France
27. Hunting N.Z. Red Deer, O'Rourke's N.Z., Chamois in Europe
28. Bowhunting Red Deer in N.Z., Bugling Red Deer Rifle
29. Fox Shooting at its best-Volume 3 & 4
30. The Ultimate Whitetail Hunt
31. Sambar Hunting, Mountain Hunt N.Z., Thar in N.Z.
32. Caping Demo by NSWDA
33. Roar Red Stags, Shadows in Scrub, Great Trophy Bucks
34. Hunting the Elusive Wild Dog, Hunt to outsmart Wild Dogs
35. Dark Continent
36. Red in Qld, Dingo, Fox, Fallow, Hog etc., Sika N.Z., Cape for Trophy Mount
37. How to cape for a Trophy Mount, Shoot the Bull, Hunting QLD Red Deer, Deer Attack
38. Hunting African Lion, Hunting Cape Buffalo
39. Big Horn Rams, Nth American Mixed Bag
40. Shadows in Scrub, Red Deer - Clark McGhie
41. Sambar Stalking 1 & 2 - Reg Gordon
42. Bucks & Bulls, NZ Chamois, Thar, Whitetail, Sportsmans Paradise, Pigs, Barramundi, Tusk Versus Tooth, Pig Hunting with Dogs
43. Bucks & Bulls, NZ Chamois, Thar, Whitetail, Hog Deer in Victoria
44. Bucks & Bulls, NZ Chamois, Thar, Whitetail, Sambar Stalking 1 & 2 - Reg Gordon
45. Dogs, Guns & Grunters, Tusk Versus Tooth, Lifes a Boar NZ
46. "How To Load From A Disk" Ballistic CD-Rom
47. Huge Hogs of Aust. North Part 1 & 2
48. Sambar Safari Vol 1, SHIKARI
49. Venison Hunters, Hunting Northern Cape, Hunting NZ Southern Alps.
50. Hunting the Zambeze Delta, Trophy Seekers, Trophy Seekers Shadows End
51. NZ Hunting, Hunting Safaris Vol 1 & 2, Rusa Hunting



Recently pressure has been applied at a very high level in State Government to reintroduce a Duck Season in NSW, now this may never happen but after the Forest win who knows, in fact our members have participated in field excursions to help justification and the roll hunters could play in observing wildlife, ie Bird Flue.

Hunting may not be such a dirty word or recreation after all, for instance when there is a sudden rabbit plague or wild pig increase or even those idiots that stopped the fox fur industry, necessity and reason will prevail, the main thing is that we now have a voice and in fact a strong voice.

And for those that don't know, the other States have got on the band wagon with Game Council organizations being formed and becoming political strengths, in particular Victoria.

So how does this help Deerstalkers, it's obvious, education of the young and general population, less nose turning of field killed table meat and using hunters as no cost benefits to controlling pests and managing Game. The public at large are not stupid, they know Hunting is legitimate if carried out by those that abide by a code of good practice and kill in a humane and no waste way.

We can't keep our heads in the sand and ignore what is happening out there we need to understand who the Anti's are and support those that fight the battle for us. Our Committee particularly Secretary Greg Haywood keeps his ear to the ground on the political front supporting where we can and becoming involved when necessary.

The Hunter Hand book that is studied to take

the test to acquire an R licence is a NSW State Gvt publication and as such will be made available in State Libraries; this is where the learning starts.

Now, when submitting your Application for a Game license and when doing your test for an R license remember to use the NSWDA Game Council Club Number, this number is published on page six of this magazine. The same goes for the Firearm License, be sure the Safety Awareness officers doing the test for a friend or a member of your family uses the club number, again this number is published on page six of this magazine, this is the only way the club can benefit financially from these applications.

At future meetings we would like to encourage members to provide slide nights or demo a product that they have found is particularly helpful to Hunters in the field, knives, packs, sleeping bags, swags etc, if you have found a useful tool or aid bring it along and share it with the members. If you feel like writing about it we are keen to spread your experience.

It has also come back to me that some members are disgruntled about a few minutes being taken up at the General meetings on our voting requirements at GameCon, I can assure them that the meetings will focus on Hunting and members experience in Hunting however we are an important part of the fraternity that makes up GameCon, our members are some of the most experienced in the country and GameCon has expressed to me that they value our members input, if a vote is required at the GameCon meetings then this will be debated at the NSWDA General meeting and our delegate can deliver the outcome.



On hunting; it has been encouraging to hear of early pre season reports of big Trophies being seen, after good rain during Summer & Autumn last year some of the prime hunting areas gained a good feed build up, seems to have pushed antler growth.

On the Web site build we have just launched www.nswdeerstalkersassociation.org.au An area that we are keen to complete on this site is the Top 20 Trophies for all species of Deer taken in Australia this includes Wapiti and Molaccan Rusa, Trophies must be taken Fair Chase and an official ADA or NSWDA signed score card is to be presented and if possible a photo of the Trophy provided, this will go on the Web site in time.

Those members with Trophies to submit please contact either myself, 0418208206, John Natoli 0419263893 or the Secretary Greg Haywood. The club has some records of members' trophies and Gordon Alford has agreed to share his portfolio of scores with the club.

As new Trophies are submitted I am sure the bar to enter into the top 20 will be raised significantly, already the entry point for Fallow is 222DS, the Top 20 will go into the Web site regardless of being complete so members can gauge how their Trophy ranks.

If you have a great Trophy please share it with the rest of the members, I am sure as time goes on this will create a lot of interest.

As this is the middle of the prime Deerstalking season I wish everyone a safe and productive Season and look forward to seeing the result at the November Exhibition.

Steve Isaacs

2005 Trophy Season Fallow Bow Hunt

“Did you hear that?” was the question ask by Pa, “sure did, lets go have a look at him” was my answer. We where stalking up the left hand side of a gully, working our way towards the top of the hill, when just 10 metres down to our right, standing in a washed out area was the buck. We could only see the tops of his antlers, waving around as he was beating a small shrubby tree. He moved off down and round to the right into perfect view, grunting most of the time.

Watching him walk off we knew straight away he was a good trophy, long antler length, one palm length was huge and the other palm had great width, with heaps of long spellers. He was making his way down the hill and we were following him. When he turned and walked across in front and back up the gully towards us, we quickly hid behind a cheer bush and tried to predict the situation. I drew the Carbon Extreme when he was at 40 yards and behind a big shrub. I had predicted that if he kept walking he would



pass behind a big gum tree and once past it he would be a perfect broad side shot at 15 yards. He did not see us; he did not smell us; I think he sensed something was different and stopped at 20yards before the tree. I had to realign myself to shoot a quartering on angle. The arrow flew true, the buck ran 50 yards and lay down forever.

Nigel .Archer

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First Red

After the 14 hour, 2 day trip to the block we drew in the R.I.D.G.E ballot we set up camp and got ready for the 5 day hunt. I am 15 years old and shot a fallow stag in July 2004. Then my dad and I decided to become members of R.I.D.G.E. We drew a spot in the last week of the ballot. We went out enthusiastically with the BRNO .270 and the hand loaded Woodleigh 130 gr. projectiles. We saw a few deer and then went back to camp that night with the sound of the many red deer roaring in the dense valley systems.

We got up early the next morning and went out and saw a few younger stags and does. We headed back to camp seeing Clark McGhie. He then very enthusiastically asked if I would be interested in taking a big old 4 x 4, that he had seen earlier in the day in one of the steep gullies on the other end of the 12 000 acres. Apparently deer were coming in because of hinds in the pen. Glassing a high ridge with Clark we found 3 stags in no time. We saw a large 4 x 4 holding 6 hinds in the furthest valley and decided to start the stalk. We started just before dark and were about 100 meters away when Clark moved us up without the deer even moving. We were now at about 50 meters but the stag and hinds were

in the next gully. We started to move up and over the small ridge but they were spooked, & ran across the hill when Clark roared and stopped him. He was straight above me on the ridge making it a steep uphill shot of about 80 meters. The 130 grain Woodleigh dropped him on the spot. After taking a few photos and capeing it out in the early hours of the night the property owners came up to show their interest in the deer, & they were excited with the stag as it was a first stag.

In the following days we hunted new areas and saw plenty of deer. Many photos and short videos of roaring were taken. We watched a mature stag for about 20 minutes. He was roaring and walked up around the hill above us about 70 meters away. Several photos were taken. In the same day we saw one other stag,& about 15 hinds and heard another 7 stags roaring in most of the valleys around us.

On the Thursday nearing the end of the hunt I had to get home, so I was packing up ready to fly back to Sydney when a dingo ran down the hill into the dam where there was a dead cow nearby. We shot the dog at about 150 meters & the property owners were happy to hear that there was one less dog on the property.

I would really like to thank people like Clark McGhie for the foresight to set up schemes like the R.I.D.G.E group. Being a 15 year old year 10 student it would otherwise be almost impossible to gain access to some of the best red deer properties in the Brisbane Valley, especially when I live in Sydney. Hope to be there again next year.

Scott Waldon



Bloody Steep Country

Jason and Nigel found a new area to hunt pigs and so I was invited on their next hunt. Nigel was out in front and he took a nice Billy out of a small mob. After taking the horns and some memory photos we continued on our quest for more. We climbed higher and Jason found a small mob of nannies with a mighty fine Billy amongst them. With this he came back to tell us and then he gave me the honour and the challenge to have a shot at him.



Because of the wind and my position I had to take a long detour and after half an hour I got to within 20 metres of him, but still I had to shoot over a rock.

On the first shot I did not get the clearance right and hit the rock, so more care was taken with the

second shot. With more clearance I took him in the shoulder. With this the mob took off & as it was very steep I couldn't stay with them. I signaled Jason to cut in front of them and in front of the Billy who got left behind. Jason climbed in front of the Billy and with this I signaled to Jason to finish him off, as I could not get there in time. Jas put an arrow into his heart & we watched as he fell to his death down the steep embankment and on to an outcrop of rocks. We climbed down to take his horns and photos before heading out for some more action.... He measured 105DS.

Dick Archer



Reloading Powders & Temperature Sensitivity.

It is claimed that ADI powders are less sensitive to temperature variations than other powders. I recently emailed ADI to obtain some figures, & although ADI say that they don't supply technical information, I did get the information I requested. ADI proof their powders at three temperatures between -15°C & $+52^{\circ}\text{C}$. The average variation is not more than 0.74 ft./sec per $^{\circ}\text{C}$. This compares more than favourably with Reloder 7 powder that I've been using in my 222 Remington. In my experiments, the variation was about 4 ft./sec per $^{\circ}\text{C}$. This would produce a summer to winter variation of about 160 ft./sec, which is going to vary pressures considerably. My most accurate loads are velocity critical, & temperature variations need to be taken into account when trying to shoot small groups. If I



was using an ADI powder, the velocity variation would be just 30 ft./sec inland summer to winter, or about 20ft./sec per °C on the coast. Pressure variations should not be a problem.

Just think, the Howard government was only lately trying to sell ADI. How fortunate that they failed.



THE HUT, THE RUT, and THE BUT.... April 2005. By Chris Graham.

I was in the old hut that has been my camp during March, April for the last four years. Like most of us the rut is the highlight of my year and there is now nowhere else in Australia I'd rather be during the rut or any other time for that matter than in that old hut, hunting the hills and gullies that surround it by day and by night bullshitting with some of the most enjoyable guys I've ever had the pleasure of sharing a fire with, the Scotch drinker included. It was after dark and the others weren't due 'till the next day so I was setting up my share of the camp alone, just me and a heap of Fallow bucks grunting madly nearby. When I walked outside to better enjoy the situation the hills were alive with grunting bucks. Everywhere; here, there, near and far, they were just going off. In seventeen years of hunting Fallow I'd never witnessed anything as intense as that and it was just so good to stand there and listen to it. It was free range hunting on a very large property and there had been no hunters there for three or four days. The deer were undisturbed and doing their thing. It was fantastic and I knew as it happened all around me that it was a special and rare moment, one that I would always remember and under my breath I thanked the people that had given me the privilege of being there and who were responsible for the

quality of this herd and the quality of the hunting; the owners, the manager and his wife, the other hunters and the local guys who protect these deer all year round. In this district there are a few Red Deer about as well as the predominant Fallow Deer and while standing there I wondered did I hear a faint Red stag roar in amongst all the grunting. There was a fair southerly breeze blowing and it made it hard to be sure. Eventually I went back inside and while making a cup of coffee I heard it again through the window. The little bit I heard was so faint and quick that I still wasn't sure I was actually hearing it. Well O'K, the coffee did have a warming agent in it. I went straight back out the front and vowed I'd stand there all night if I had to. This may sound odd but, even though it was pitch black, I had to close my eyes to focus enough to be able to hear it. It turned out three Red stags were roaring but because of the wind, the dark, the warming agent and the distances involved it took a bit of concentration to pinpoint them in my mind but by the time I went to bed I knew where I was hunting in the morning. By dawn I was well out and well up in the bush only trouble was the Reds where further out and further up, right on the tops. Some of the fitter guys I know could have gotten to them by lunch time but it was too big for me. Two roared regularly all morning, very content and unchallenged and it was like they were my companions as I did my best to find a Fallow trophy below them. It must seem weird to animal libbers how we can feel this near spiritual bond with these big stags yet given the chance we'll take them home in an esky, then again some of us find their spiritual bond with a tree or their "partner" just as weird. By mornings end I had shot a Fallow buck as a cull, an animal whose genetic antler faults cost him his life. I learnt a lesson when I shot that buck and that was big mature, equally matched Fallow bucks when they're fired right up rutting, challenging and defending, will ignore all sorts of disturbances including gun shots and just keep on rutting. There were four bucks on a creek flat, because



they were still alive meant they were non-trophies. Boy when I'm wrong am I ever wrong! When my morning hunt was over and on my way back to camp I went down to take a look at these four. After maneuvering through and around a number of "does in waiting that were above these bucks I was soon in that close proximity zone were you start to hear your own breathing. One buck, No. 1, was below me and to the left and close Another, No.2, was across the creek and uphill about 50 meters, I should have been able to see this fella but I couldn't. I had most of his does and his stand but not him No 3 was down the creek to the right about 50 meters and No.4 was immediately below me and very close. I peered around the next tree and No.4 was with three does in the gully screaming his head off, a truly messy rack with the genetic death sentence of having no troy tine. I lifted my 30-06 and No.4 went to meet John Lennon. The does scattered as I slithered down to him and dragged him into the shade, the little gully spurs hiding me from the other three who were all going full on. They did not even miss a beat in their grunting! I had to crawl through stinging nettles to get to the creek but it was worth it as it put me between and central to the three others. No.3 down the creek went quiet as he winded me but the other two, each on opposite sides of the creek, kept screaming. Next I got a look at No.2. He was rutting around a big, old fallen tree trunk and was a buck that my son Daniel and I had passed up earlier in the year about 2 k's up the valley. He had good length and width, good brows, poor treys and was uneven. One side was straight and the other curved right in. He was a big mature buck. I snuck backwards and was trying to get back to the creek when up out of the creek came a truly magnificent buck, No.3; super wide - well over 30", beautiful shape, great palm one side and a monster palm the other, big guards and over 30" long. In the split-second that he looked straight at me and turned to go back into the creek I mentally

took a photo of him. Through the trees over the creek I saw fleeting glimpses of him as he made his way over to the dead, no troy tine buck and stood beside it. This animal had just heard a 30-06 go off beside it, as had all of them, then he had winded me, crossed my scent trail a couple of times, had actually seen me and had stepped over a now dead opponent and still all he wanted to do was rut! I was then facing the dilemma that crops up every year with trophy hunters, "what did I want as a trophy?" The previous year one of our hunting mates took a head on this property that was as good as they get, a true trophy of a lifetime. I've got two Fallow heads better than 230 D.S. and realized a couple of years ago that the way for me to shoot my head of a lifetime was to not shoot anything that wasn't at least that good. So there I was having just checked out a big mature dominant buck and passed him up, had a big mature dominant buck check me out and although not as big a body size as No. 2, No.3's antlers might have gone 240 D.S. I could have, with only a little luck, still shot No.3 but I hadn't viewed No. 1 and what if he was THE buck? There was no chance he was anything but a mature buck, he had No.2 and No.3's respect and was holding a heap of does together I could see most of them 30 meters uphill from the creek and just across from where I shot No 4 from. Although most of his does were looking at me at least I could see them. I couldn't see him because he was, as they always are, hidden behind a f #*^/;> tree! If I was anywhere but where I was amongst those f #*^/;> stinging nettles he would have been in clear view. Risking the movement, I got into a sitting position so I could fire once he came out from behind the tree's foliage. I looked around to see how many of the does, they were everywhere, had seen me move and to assess how urgent they were going to make the moment when to my left, 30 odd meters away across the creek, out in the open, standing broadside to me on the little spur was No.3. All he was interested in, as were we all,



was what No. 1 and his does were doing. For five seconds I could have taken him as easily as any deer I had ever taken, but knew I wasn't going to. This was without a doubt a before & after experience in my life, but I'll leave that waffle for the Greenies & their crystals. No. 3 felt the ache in his balls & headed over to challenge No. 1. "Great" I thought and closed the bolt. I watched him move across and disappear behind the tree's big canopy. I sat there, welted to hell with nettle stings, ready for the shot no question in my mind that I was about to take one of these two deer. It was a no lose situation. No 3 was an awesome head and No. 1 was gunna be a moose and I was about to take my pick! All of my hunting and stalking failures and disappointments didn't matter now and all of the thousands and thousands of dollars hunting had cost me- Christ my wife could've had her boobs done years ago, just the money I had spent on diesel would have paid for another two sets to be sewn on, didn't matter. The ongoing pain in my knees and ankles, all the "if only it had"s, the guilt of deserting my family every April for three weeks and a good part of the rest of the year, it didn't matter in that instant 'cause I was about to be fulfilled. Being dragged by the ear off Snake Island by the rangers, clean missing a 27" Sambar stag that Ian's mate led me by the hand to where he knew it was living, eyeball to eyeball with Mick Anning before I had even passed his gate, shot the wrong Rusa stag when Wayne led me to a 30"er at 4-30 in the morning, spent weeks with John on the same critters and blew the final stalk on a good one, all that and much more was about to be all right, squared away by the monster I was about to take. Elle McPherson belly dancing nude couldn't have prized my eye off that scope, well ok, ok, one quick look but that's all. So No.3 went in and they clashed, I could hear the fight. It lasted about 20 seconds and there were two bouts then rustle, rustle, snap, snap, and displaced rocks as one buck chased the other straight up the slope, followed by the

does, into some thick mess, all this blocked from my view by the head of that f*^A#>!/ tree. I didn't get a look at either of them! I jumped up and ran across the creek and up the left side of the gully spur, downwind of the bucks. It was my last chance to get a look them but I ran straight into some does coming my way. They ran up to the others that were looking at me and all exploded off and away. Good fun isn't it!!! Standing there, rifle still loaded and cocked, hunched over looking at my boots, a beaten and humiliated man and No.2 said to himself" well I'm still having a good day" and started to grunt again!

I was carrying out No.4's antlers and as much of his meat as I could handle when across the valley the 3rd red stag started to roar. I positioned him as best I could and booked a hunt for that afternoon. Come afternoon it was hard not to go back and hunt No. 1, but he would have been easier to nail the following morning & headed to where the Red stag was. It didn't take long to find the rub he made while roaring that morning & it was not long after while heading higher that I witnessed something that I could never have imagined. I was going super-slow, because I could smell him, when just like magic, there he was. Christ, there he was! All of you guys know how good this feels. You're undetected, wind's OK, but you are in the mountains & there he is just 25 metres over there in the shadows. You are dead still, only your eyes move. If you as much as twitch it's all over. It's quiet enough to hear his movements. You truly admire this animal & you're so close to him that the situation is actually intimate. My bliss was short-lived as experience took over & I thought "hinds"; where are the hinds? Like always there had to be some hinds nearby that I hadn't seen & like always they would be looking straight at me when I spy them and in the next instant they would crash off, too close to bark, and take this beautiful creature with them. But no, there were no hinds and he was all mine for a moment. Anyhow this was what the stag was doing.



There was a sizeable gum tree lying downhill that had been felled in a recent storm and the stag had gotten in amongst the head of this tree among the thinner branches and was rubbing his antlers on them. Well not rubbing so much as caressing them. He was rolling his rack slowly, around and around just sort of enjoying the feeling of the branches touching his antlers. As he pushed and moved a branch, a spotted Fallow buck that was standing behind him at the head of the tree would jump in and whack the moving leaf head with his antlers. He was like a boxer jumping about, whacking one bit then jumping back and whacking the next bit of the tree to move. It was quite obviously an amusement and a challenge to him and he looked to be having a ball doing it. The Red stag was unaware, I think, of the game he was creating for the Fallow but certainly aware that this buck was behind him carrying on like Jeff Fenech. Any how it was great to witness. The Red was a twelve pointer about 36" long and heavy with a broken trey tine. What saved his life was his balance. He had four on the top on the right antler but only two on the top of the left antler, one short of what I want on a Red stag. The Fallow was 210 to 215 D.S and not a bad sort of a buck. You can't be that close to a deer in the mountains without it catching a swirl of your scent pretty quickly and soon enough they both caught mine and jumped away down into the thick bush below. It was great!

The next morning I got a look at No. 1. He was back in his stand and so was No.2. No.3 was silent. No.1 was a big bodied buck with one antler snapped off between the brow and trey tines. Yeah I know, forget the heroics, and just shoot 'em. Even complete he wasn't a skerrick on No.3 and over the rest of the week neither I nor any of the other hunters saw No.3 again. At the end of the week I counted twenty two does and fawns standing together in his stand.

No trophies were taken by me that week and it was seven of the best days hunt ng I've

ever had. Two of the guys took great bucks, both with their bows and at long last the "Pipe Smoker" took a magnificent Red stag.

Now where was Elle McPherson belly dancing?????

Regards
Chris
Graham.

.....
A Locally Grown Fallow

Having a pre Season hunt on the fallow with the camera I soon realized it was very noisy underfoot so I would have to go to plan "B" to get a stag.

I started to look around for an old rutting hole near a tall gum tree. After about 2 hours I found the tree I was looking for and after driving a few pegs in the tree up to the first branch which was over 30 feet high I made a bit of a seat and my anticipated wait for the roar had begun. After climbing the tree at 2pm to sit and wait I found two rutting stands, the best one being a bit over 20 metres away with the other minor one 11 meters to my right. I naturally faced the best



one.

A doe came into view first and I watched her feed off for half an Hour then a Stag came in he



went to the minor stand but because I was facing the wrong way I couldn't get a good shot off with the bow I soon realized after a few minutes of the stag looking over his shoulder that he was actually looking at the bigger stag approaching about 100 metres away and every time the stag looked away at the fellow bigger one I stood and moved around but this seemed to take forever trying not to blow my cover so I could get into my prime position for shooting it. It was when I did this I was able to place my arrow into the front of his shoulder which went through the beasts heart and the back of his other front leg he struggled and ran for about 50 meters then fell dead.....
He measured 194 Douglas points.

Dick Archer



Top 20 NSWDA Members Records (as of this date, April 2006) showing DS & year taken.

Fallow Deer

- 1 S. Isaacs 263 5/8 2004
- 2 W. McPhee 250 1/8 2003
- 3 G. Alford 249 6/8 2004
- 4 L. King 245
- 5 G. Alford 235 1/8 2000
- 6 J. Way 234 7/8 1996
- 7 G. Way 233 1/8
- 8 S. Isaacs 233 1/8 2000
- 9 N. Brown 231 3/8
- 10 C. Graham 231 3/8
- 11 J. Simpson 231 2/8 2002
- 12 J. Natoli 229 5/8 2002
- 13 bs J. Archer 226 6/8
- 14 D. Birrell 226 6/8 2000
- 15 R. Jones 226 2/8 1992
- 16 M. Isaacs 224 2005
- 17 G. Alford 223 1/8
- 18 L. McPhee 222 6/8
- 19 D. Birrell 222 6/8 2003
- 20 G. Way 222 3/8

Rusa Deer

- 1 G. Alford 220 1966
- 2 N. Leslie 217 1/8 1966
- 3 N. Leslie 215 ¼ 1973
- 4 G. Alford 207 1960
- 5 S. Isaacs 204 1/8 1978
- 6 R. Thomas 200 1/8
- 7 G. Alford 195 ½ 1961
- 8 C. Alison 195 1/8 1977
- 9 G. Alford 194 ½ 1964
- 10 N. Leslie 193 3/8 1972

Red Deer

- 1 T. Lydon 279 1985
- 2 G. Haywood 243 7/8
- 3 D. Archer 236 1/8 1966
- 4 G. Alford 230 1978
- 5 G. Alford 224 ¼ 1973

6 J. Natoli 220 1/2 1996

Chital Deer

- 1 J. Gajdos 184 1/2 1980
- 2 R. Thomas 179 5/8 1975
- 3 J. Natoli 179 1997
- 4 D. Archer 177 1961
- 5 G. Alford 164 1/4 1960
- 6 S. Isaacs 159 3/8 1978

Hog Deer

- 1 G. Alford 112 1/4 1974
- 2 N. Leslie 108 1968
- 3 G. Alford 104 1964
- 4 G. Alford 102 3/4 1971
- 5 R. Penfold 97 7/8 1974

Sambar Deer no records

Wapiti Deer no records

Moluccan Rusa Deer no records

N.B. Where less than 20 records are shown, there are no more records on file. If you have a trophy which can be added to this list, & you wish to do so, please read Steve Isaacs' President's report to find out what to do.



NSW Deerstalkers Annual Trophy Exhibition Nov 2005

Once again the Year came to a close with the coming together of Deerstalkers and their families for what was and will be known as the Annual Trophy Exhibition.

This year we had a strong attendance and a full Exhibition of both Australian and overseas Trophies taken by rifle and bow, just about every species of Australian medium to big game trophy was on show

with a sprinkling from Mongolia, New Caledonia, Nth America, and even Iran.

The Red, Fallow and Rusa deer on show were exceptional, many taken in the past couple of years. Photos of the Exhibition together with trophies the owners name are printed in the following pages, it is encouraging to see that many of our members are very active in pursuit of world class trophies; this was evident in the discussions that took place around the room on the day.

Attendance was up on the past couple of years with well over 100 members and families celebrating the end of year.

To reiterate on future Trophy Exhibitions, it is the Associations endeavour to have as many members as possible to attend these functions and generate an opportunity for all our members to engage in sharing the experiences of hunting and field excursions. In future exhibitions more opportunities will exist to allow members to have their favourite photograph displayed, more about this at future meetings.

I would like to congratulate those that made the effort to bring along the exhibits and I am sure we will all look forward to this years Trophy Exhibition from what looks like an excellent start to the year.





Archers' bow shot goat 105 DS



Chris Graham's coloured Fallow



Chris Graham's 12 point Red



Chris Graham's Fallow



Chris Graham's Coyote & Skunks





Chris Graham's Mongolian Elk



Chris Graham's Mongolian Wolf



Chris Graham's Mongolian Roe



Chris Graham's Boar



A general view of some of the heads on display in 2005



Dick Archer's 194 DS bow shot Fallow





Terry Burgess' Chital



Lloyd Bishop's 12 point Red



Roy Hrelja's Iranian Ibex



Jason Archer's bow shot Fallow



Mark Isaacs' 224 DS Fallow







Peter Birchall's Asian Buffalo



Ross Townsend's New Caledonian Rusa



Peter Birchall's Fallow



Terry Burgess' Chital



Peter Birchall's Scrub Bull





Terry Burgess' Coloured Fallow



Terry Burgess' Boar



Chris Graham's Red



Terry Burgess' Sambar



Nigel Archer's bow shot 198 1/8 DS Fallow



7 day Buffalo Hunt.
South East Arnhem Land

Hunt Duration

Hunts run from Saturday To Saturday
Hunters will be picked up from Katherine on Saturday & returned the following Saturday. This allows 5 full days hunting with 2 days travel.

Period:

Limited vacancies exist from the 5th August 2006 till the 26th August.

Rifles:

Minimum calibre 300 Win Mag.
Rifles can be supplied if required. Fee of \$50.00 but does not include ammunition which will be charged additionally.

Prices:

Hunt costs \$3500 1 x 1, all inclusive of food, beverages, (some alcohol), trophy fees, (one trophy buffalo), trophy preparation, transport to & from Katherine. Expediting of trophies will incur additional charges.

Additional Trophy Fees:

\$1500 extra Buffalo Bull
\$600 Scrub bull

This is a marginal Pig area but there are still some exceptional Boars in the area. These are no charge. However \$100.00 trophy preparation will be additional.

If the hunter decides not to take His/Her trophy Buffalo. The hunt will cost \$2500. Extra days (bookings permitted) will be charged at \$350 per day. Observers will be charged at a rate of \$150 per day.

A deposit of \$1000 secures your hunt. Cancellations up to 60 days prior to hunt date will be refunded less \$100 handling charge. Cancellation under 60 days will incur a \$500 charge.

Enquiries:

Darren Plumb 02 48 210 774
0412021741

Change of Personal Details



NSW Firearms Registry Fact Sheet

GENERAL INFORMATION

If you need to change personal details on your licence or permit you must obtain an "Application for Change of Personal Details Form" P658 from the Firearms Registry. Any change of details must be notified to the Commissioner in writing within 7 days as required by legislation. After completion, the P658 form and accompanying documentation must be returned to the Firearms Registry.

Change of name: The P658 form must be accompanied by documentation to prove the name change. For example, copies of marriage certificate, change of name certificate, birth certificate, birth certificate extract, divorce certificate etc¹

Change of Residential Address: Is this the same address for storage of your firearms? If so, and the new address has not been inspected for safe storage, an inspection certificate must be provided.² If your residential address is changing, but your storage address is remaining the same, then no inspection is required.

NOTE: Provide new phone numbers if applicable.

Change of Postal Address: If this is the same as your residential address, place a mark in the box in section D.

Change of Safekeeping Address: If your safe keeping address has changed, you must provide an inspection certificate *if the new safe storage address has not been previously inspected.*³

Inspection Certificate for Safe Storage: Contact your local police and arrange for a safe storage inspection. Police will determine if your safe storage meets the legislative requirements with respect to the categories of firearms you possess. Police will then forward the inspection certificate to the NSW Firearms Registry.

Moving Interstate?

If you move interstate and you own firearms, you must notify the Firearms Registry of your new interstate residential address within 7 days⁴. Please provide information on your new interstate firearms licence and location or disposal of firearms.

FEES

Any change of name on your licence will require a duplicate licence. A fee of \$75 is payable at the RTA for the duplicate.

Any change on most permits will require a duplicate permit. A fee of \$75 is payable to Firearms Registry for the duplicate.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information and an "Application for Change of Personal Details" form can be obtained from:

NSW Firearms Registry
Locked Bag 1
Murwillumbah NSW 2484
Ph: 1300 362 562
Fax: 0266708558
Email: firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au

Or visit our website at:
www.police.nsw.gov.au

With links to:
Firearms Act 1996
Firearms (General) Regulation 1997

¹ Clause 13 Firearms (General) Regulation 1997

² Section 69 Firearms Act 1996

³ Clause 14 Firearms (General) Regulation 1997

⁴ Clause 90 Firearms (General) Regulation 1997



NSW POLICE - FIREARMS REGISTRY

P658

Application for Change of Personal Details Form

A.B.N. 43 408 613 180

The Firearms Act 1996 and associated Regulation prescribes that licence and permit holders must notify the Commissioner of any change in details within prescribed timeframes. Failure to do so may result in significant penalties including:

- Change of address – 7 days (Section 69 - 50 penalty units - \$5,500)
- Change of address – Interstate – 7 days (Clause 90 – 20 penalty units - \$2,200)
- Change in any particular – 7 days (Clause 13 - 20 penalty units - \$2,200)
- Change in safe storage address – 7 days (Clause 14 - 50 penalty units - \$5,500)

Fee: Where the change of details requires the issue of a duplicate permit (i.e. change of name), complete the credit card authority on the back of the application or attach a cheque or money order payable to Firearms Registry for the prescribed fee.

Please note that copies of official documentation for change of name details must be supplied prior to your details being amended.

THIS APPLICATION IS FOR A CHANGE OF PERSONAL DETAILS - (Please mark appropriate box/es with an 'X')

Name Residential Address Postal Address Safe Storage Address Other (please provide details over page)

A. NAME ON CURRENT LICENCE/PERMIT - PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS

Last Name (please provide details of name currently held on our system)

Existing Licence/Permit Number

Given Names (please provide details of name currently held on our system)

B. CHANGE OF NAME DETAILS – Please provide details below of the changes to your name (Last Name, Given Names)

New Last Name (please provide details of change to name – if applicable)

New Given Names (please provide details of change to name – if applicable)

C. NEW RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS

Unit Number

Property Name

Street Number

Street Name

Suburb/Town

State

Postcode

Phone Number

Mobile Phone Number (if applicable)

D. NEW POSTAL ADDRESS (If same as above, please mark box with "X" and proceed to Section E)

PO Box Number

Unit Number

Property Name

Street Number

Street Name

Suburb/Town

State

Postcode

E. SAFEKEEPING ADDRESS OF FIREARMS

The *Firearms Act, 1996* lays down strict requirements for the safekeeping of firearms (See Brochure 'Safe Storage of Firearms')

Failure to comply with these requirements attracts severe penalties.

Police may inspect your security arrangements.

I certify that I will keep any firearms owned by me or in my possession at the following address.

(If same as residential address, please mark Box with "X" and proceed to Section G)

Unit Number Property Name

Street Number Street Name

Suburb/Town

State Postcode

Are all firearms registered to your licence stored at the above address? YES NO
(Please mark appropriate box with a 'X')

If you answered 'No' above, please attach separate list of firearms, including Registration No's. and their storage location.

F. OTHER (Please provide information on any other changes to personal details if you checked the 'Other' box on front of form)

G. DECLARATION

- I fully understand and will be able to comply with the firearms safekeeping requirements of the *Firearms Act, 1996*
- I understand that it is a serious offence under the *Firearms Act, 1996* to make a statement or provide information that I know is false or misleading
- I certify that the information contained in this application to change my personal details is true and correct in every detail
- I agree to the NSW Police undertaking such enquiries as are necessary to establish the veracity of any information I have provided in this application.

Applicant's Signature Date

Witness's Name (Please Print)

Witness's Signature Date

I confirm that I am 18 years of age or over, and have witnessed the signing of this application.

If this form is for change of details for a minor (under 18 years of age) it must be witnessed by a parent or guardian.

Please Note: Return all documentation to the Firearms Registry, Locked Bag No 1, Murwillumbah NSW 2484

H. CREDIT CARD AUTHORITY

Please debit my credit card for Bankcard MasterCard Visa

Card No Expiry Date /

Cardholder's Name (Please Print)

Cardholder's Signature Date /

OFFICE USE ONLY

Receipt No Amount \$. Date /

The R-LICENCE: information for applicants

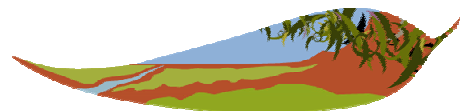
Restricted NSW Game Hunting Licence

R-Licence

**CONSERVATION
HUNTING**

*on public & private land
in New South Wales*

INFORMATION FOR LICENCE APPLICANTS



GAME COUNCIL

New South Wales

CONSERVATION HUNTING

www.gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au

1 GAME COUNCIL NSW: PO Box 2506, Orange NSW 2800 Ph: 02 6360 5100 Fax: 02 6361 2093

introduction

The Restricted NSW Game Hunting Licence or R-Licence is required by law for hunting game and feral animals on declared **public land** in NSW.

It also incorporates the General NSW Game Hunting Licence (G-Licence), required by law for hunting wild deer, ducks and game birds on **private land** in NSW.

R-Licence categories: Bows, Firearms, Dogs, Blackpowder.

R-Licence Types: Standard (\$60/yr), Commercial (\$250/yr), Hunting Guide (\$150/yr) and Overseas Visitors (\$100/yr).

Application forms are only available from Game Council "Approved Hunting Organisations" (AHOs) and hunters must be accredited for one or more R-Licence category.

Game Council NSW administers the NSW Game Hunting Licensing System and is a statutory authority of the NSW Parliament established under the *Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002*.

R-LICENCE CATEGORIES

- FIREARMS
- BOWS
- DOGS
- BLACKPOWDER

Hunters must be accredited for one or more categories.

LICENCE REQUIRED TO HUNT THE FOLLOWING SPECIES

Public land : R-Licence

(declared under the Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002)

Wild deer: sambar, chital, fallow, red, wapiti, hog, rusa.

Feral animals: pigs, goats, foxes, cats, hares, rabbits, wild dogs (not Dingo)

Game Birds: pheasant, peafowl, partridge, California quail, turkey.

Private land: G-Licence

Wild deer: sambar, chital, fallow, red, wapiti, hog, rusa.

Game birds: pheasant, peafowl, partridge, California quail, turkey.

Wild ducks (under the Game Bird Management Program for duck mitigation, managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service)

(NOTE: the R-Licence incorporates the G-Licence)

PROPOSED DELCARED PUBLIC LAND IN NSW: FIRST ROUND

The State forest areas declared and available for hunting may vary and will be updated regularly by the Game Council. Declared public land areas will only be available to R-Licence holders who have written permission.

NEW ENGLAND:	Barratta Creek State forest	Werai State forest	Pennsylvania State forest
Nundle State forest	Billapaloola State forest	Yathong State forest	SOUTH EAST NSW
Riamukka State forest	Binya State forest	Red Hill	Bondi State forest
MID NORTH COAST	Bondo State forest	WESTERN NSW / CENTRAL WEST	Currowan State forest
Doyles River State forest	Buckingbong State forest	Canobolas State forest	Glenbog State forest
Mount Boss State forest	Bungongo State forest	Cumbine State forest	Nullica State forest
Bulga State forest	Carabost State forest	Glenwood State forest	Tallaganda State forest
SOUTHERN NSW / RIVERINA	Maragle State forest	Grahway State forest	Yambulla State forest
Bago State forest	Micalong State forest	Mullions Range State forest	Yadboro State forest
Banangalite State forest	Morago State forest	Peisley State forest	NORTH EAST NSW
	Tumut State forest	Roseberg State forest	Orara East State forest
	Wee Jasper State forest		

STEP 1: R-Licence requirements

There are a number of requirements that must be met before applicants can apply for the R-Licence from Game Council NSW.

Applicants must:

A) Be a member of a Game Council Approved Hunting Organisation (AHO),

and

B) Become accredited for one or more of the R-Licence categories (Bows, Firearms, Dogs or Blackpowder).

APPROVED HUNTING ORGNISATIONS (AHOs)

Game Council NSW has registered more than 80 "Approved Hunting Organisations" who are authorised to offer their members applications and accreditation for the R-Licence.

These AHOs are listed on Game Council's web-

site which is updated regularly or by contacting the Licensing Processing Unit on (02) 6360 5111.

ACCREDITATION

There are three ways of becoming accredited for your R-Licence category/s:

1. Sit a closed book "recognition of prior learning" test, or
2. Complete an accredited training course (see table below), or
3. Sit an open book test based on Game Council's "NSW Hunter Education Handbook".

Accreditation for your R-Licence category can be carried out by an approved assessor who must be registered with an AHO or by an organisation that offers the accredited training course listed below. Contact your local AHO for further information.

HUNTING ORGANISATION	GAME COUNCIL ACCREDITED TRAINING	R-LICENCE CATEGORY
Australian Bowhunters Association (ABA) Ph: (07) 3359 2221	Bowhunter Proficiency Course (BPC)	R-Licence (Bows)
Australian Deer Association—Victoria Ph: (03) 9898 5904 / (03) 5622 2733	Hunter Education Course	R-Licence (Firearms)
Australian Deer Association—Queensland Ph: (07) 3806 1488	Queensland Hunter Education Course	R-Licence (Firearms)
Sporting Shooters Association of Australia—NSW Ph: (02) 9833 9444	Hunter & Conservation Accreditation Course	R-Licence (Firearms)
Sporting Shooters Association of Australia—Victoria Ph: (03) 8892 2777	Hunter & Conservation Accreditation Course	R-Licence (Firearms)
Game Council NSW	NSW Hunter Education Handbook: This program is offered by most AHOs	R-Licence: Bows, Dogs, Firearms, Blackpowder

STEP 2: the application process

Application forms for the R-Licence are only available from AHOs, however when Step 1 is completed, the form must be submitted to Game Council NSW for approval.

Your R-Licence application form must be accompanied by relevant documentation including a copy of your current Firearms Licence (if applicable), accreditation, concession, and your AHO membership number. If your R-Licence application is approved by the Game Council, you

will be issued with a special pin or customer number via post to assist in Step 3, the booking process for hunting on declared public land.

Upgrade fees: Holders of a G-Licence wishing to upgrade to the R-Licence can do so for a \$30 fee. This fee will be waived for those upgrading G-Licences purchased before March 1, 2006.

(Note: G-Licence application forms can be downloaded from Game Council's website)

STEP 3: hunting on public land

Obtaining written permission

Hunting on declared public land areas cannot take place without written permission.

When you have received your R-Licence, you must book your hunt through Game Council NSW.

This can be done using the internet or by phoning the Game Council.

When making a booking, you must quote your customer number (which acts as a pin number) as well as your R-Licence number. Special forms will be available for group bookings.

The booking system has been put in place to maximise public safety and hunter accountability. The written permission will have conditions applying to hunting on the State forest

and include a map of the area.

The hunt

While hunting on declared public land you must:

- ▶ Carry your written permission including a forest map, R-Licence and Firearms Licence (if applicable);
- ▶ Wear an article of blaze orange clothing while hunting;
- ▶ Abide by all conditions of the written permission, the hunter code of practice and the Game and Feral Animal Control Act, its associated Regulation of 2004 and all other legislation.

Return forms: Further bookings to hunt on public land cannot be made until your hunter return form is submitted back to the Game Council via email, post, fax or phone.

INSURANCE

All Standard R-Licences cost \$60/year and include \$10million public liability insurance.

The Certificate of Currency can be downloaded from Game Council's website or by phoning Game Council on (02) 6360 5100.



GAME COUNCIL
New South Wales

CONSERVATION HUNTING

Postal Address:

PO Box 2506, Orange NSW,
Fax: (02) 6361 2093

General Enquiries:

Ph: (02) 6360 5100

Email: info@gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au

Licence Processing Unit:

Ph: (02) 6360 5111

Email: lpu@gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au

www.gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au

REPORT ALL ILLEGAL HUNTING OR CRIMINAL ACTIVITY TO NSW POLICE ON 1800 333 000

Who? What? Where? With? When? Vehicle registration?