

Horrendous cruelty just a vote-buying exercise

ON FEBRUARY 26 the Victorian State Labor Government announced the 2022 duck hunting season. Once again Dan Andrews has capitulated to the ever-dwindling hunting fraternity in Victoria. This is despite growing opposition from so many Victorians including from within the Labor Party.

The 39th East Australian Annual Water survey published December 17 last year shows alarming statistics: 48 per cent of wetlands having no birds, "game birds" down by 58 per cent on 2020 and are at just 25 per cent of the long-term average.

Horrendous cruelty which I have personally witnessed many times over.

Then there is the safety risk to the public. The science is clear and yet ignored by Dan Andrews in a vote-buying exercise with a looming state election. I am certain Victorians want to enjoy our beautiful waterways in peace without enduring weeks of gunfire and witnessing terrible cruelty. One would have thought time spent in nature would have been on top of the government's agenda for our mental health which has suffered greatly over the past two years - not to mention the substantial economic benefits that eco-tourism can bring to communities. I urge all who care for our beautiful native birds to speak up and end this once and for all.

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Chestnut Teal pic Christopher Healy