

A bipartisan lie

The article “Shoot out” (*Good Weekend, The Age*, 20/11) highlighted the challenge of busting the hunting industry’s lies.

With extraordinary courage, young Melbourne filmmaker Rogue Rubin posed as a photographer in African game hunts. Hunters describe themselves as “conservationists”, but she found “inexperienced hunters shooting wildly ... [and] injured animals

limping off into the bush for a painful demise”. She decries the “smoke-screen” hiding the brutal reality.

In Victoria, she would not be allowed near the main killing fields of our annual duck hunting season; draconian fines apply to non-shooters. This lockout is defended as a “safety” measure, suggesting some shooters can’t distinguish between a duck and a human. There are no tests of shooter accuracy, and thousands of waterbirds suffer a slow demise from gunshot injuries.

The notion of “safe, humane, sustainable” game hunting is a bipartisan lie.

Joan Reilly, Surrey Hills