

## Lead contamination at Cairn Curran

When regional residents make a persuasive case for closure of a local waterbody to recreational shooting (*Tarrangower Times*, 12 Nov and Letters, 19 Nov), the state's hunting regulator simply passes the buck. The Game Management Authority tells residents to take their concerns to the police, or the Environment Department (DELWP), or even a water manager.

On the crown land around Cairn Curran, Goulburn Murray Water makes the rules in favour of shooters. Victoria's duck hunters spewed out lead pellets for years until 1994 when lead was banned from their arsenal. Now a recent (2017) EPA study shows lead contamination at Cairn Curran exceeds the safe level for protection of ecosystem

*Tarrangower Times 26/11/21*

species. The water also exceeds limits for Aluminium, Arsenic, Boron, Chromium, Copper and Zinc.

It's time Goulburn Murray Water turned over a new (environmental) leaf, converting this killing field into a sanctuary. Victoria has thousands of other watery spots where duck shooting is legal. There is no reason for Cairn Curran to remain a shooting stronghold.

Let the healing begin.

***Chris Collins***  
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