



Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (Vic)
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Media Release

For Immediate Release

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VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT REWARDS ECO-WARRIOR

Minister for Agriculture The Hon. Joe Helper presented Peter Bowker, the 2009 Fox Stop winner, with the keys to his new Mitsubishi four-wheel-drive for his outstanding environmental efforts. Mr. Bowker, a Cape Paterson hunter, won a Mitsubishi Triton for helping Victoria in the ongoing fight against one of the most insidious pests ever introduced to Australia. The common fox has an invidious track record as a vicious and aggressive predator. The overwhelming number of fox attacks on both livestock and our precious native wildlife was the catalyst for the Brumby Government's FOX-STOP program.

Over 1000 fox hunters have registered for the program between May and November this year, destroying more than 6,000 foxes to date. These Participants have thus far won more than 170 prizes across 46 towns in Victoria as part of the four year FOX-STOP initiative.

Mr. Colin Wood, Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (Vic) Hunting and Conservation Manager said "foxes are a real threat to Victorian farmers and Australian wild life and they must be stopped. SSAA (Vic) members have been working together with the state's farmers to free Victoria from this harmful pest and many more are already preparing for next year. "

The four year program funded by the Brumby Government and overseen by the Department of Primary Industries has already been a great success in its first year with promising prospects for the next three years.

With Victorian government support and the strong partnership between the Department and dedicated Victorian hunters the Fox Stop Program will continue to dramatically decrease the number of foxes and their dreadful effect on Victorian's farms and the environment for another three years.

For further information contact Colin Wood on 8892 2777

SSAA (Vic) – Supporting the Shooting Sports and Ethical Hunting

*Shooting Sports and Competition * Programs for Youth, Women and People with Disabilities * Ethical Hunting and Conservation



HEALTH THROUGH SPORT

