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### **Cheney a World Away from Australian Forests**

The International Coalition for Women in Shooting and Hunting (WiSH) has dismissed New South Wales Greens MP Lee Rhiannon's claim that because US Vice-President Dick Cheney injured another hunter, hunters should not assist with feral animal control in State Forests.

"Statistics show that hunting is one of the safest outdoor activities in Australia. Tasmania, South Australia, and Victoria have used hunters to reduce feral animal numbers with great success. The safety record is exemplary," WiSH Chairwoman Ms Samara McPhedran said.

"Sadly, Ms Rhiannon has placed greater importance on a single high-profile incident in the United States than on Australian data and the urgent need for feral animal mitigation in Australian forests."

"Once again, anti-hunting lobbyists put unsupported flights of fancy ahead of evidence-based conservation efforts. Unfortunately, their ideologically-driven approach cannot protect our native animals from the threat of introduced species."

"The role of hunters in conservation strategies is recognised internationally. The New South Wales Government must be commended for adopting a proactive approach to environmental management, and WiSH supporters will certainly be participating in the initiative," Ms McPhedran stated.

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