BOB KATTER

Katter's Australian Party
Federal Member for Kennedy

MEDIA RELEASE



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KAP throws PETA to the dogs over pigging ban

KAP Member for Kennedy Bob Katter and State Member for Hill Shane Knuth have today slammed animal activists for being ignorant and hypocritical in their campaign to ban dog pigging, arguing that by preserving the life of the destructive foreign pest will ultimately result in the further demise of local native wildlife such as the cassowary.

"Where are all the crying, howling vegans now because without management of the exploding number of pigs, and numbers will reach 30 million in the next seven years, the cassowaries are doomed, the turtle is doomed and the dunnart is doomed," Mr Katter said.

"There is no way we can head this off without a serious intelligent, workable program and yet this Qld Government is quite happy for humans to be eaten from croc infested waterways and quite happy for half our wildlife to vanish as well.

"There is some naive assumption that nature stands still. Well I've got news for you – it doesn't and if we sit on our hands, then you'll watch our beautiful, natural wonderland vanish and it is vanishing as we speak."

Mr Katter said the role farmers play in pig management was vital and that government should throw their full support behind them.

"We need the farmers there. I can take you to farms in NQ that have been shut down and they are overgrown with giant sensitive weed and Singapore Daisy. One farm I inspected some time ago, the whole 150 acres was overgrown with sensitive weed.

"You must be proactive if you want to protect and enhance our natural wonderland."

State Member for Hill, Shane Knuth said, "PETA would be better off spending their time thinking of ways to control the fast growing feral pig problem to protect our native wildlife – a serious issue that is often ignored in favour of crying help for the hunting dogs or pigs," Mr Knuth said.

"While PETA is busy pointing the finger at pig dogs - who love the sport and are some of the best kept dogs in the country - the feral pigs are killing cassowaries, digging up turtle eggs, ripping up the whole countryside, destroying the environment and devastating the agricultural industry.

"The hunters are doing more to protect our native wildlife from feral pigs than PETA, and they do it in their own time, at their own expense and contribute so much to the local economy," Mr Knuth said.

"We are now encroaching 25 million pigs across Australia and 10 million in Queensland. This number will continue to increase, before we know it we'll have more pigs than the Australian population," Mr Knuth said.

—ENDS—



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Note: A photo has been supplied of Bob and Shane at the Currajah Hotel pig hunt last year.



