



**BUSINESS AREA: SPATIAL SERVICES**

Case Study

# Hunting Area Dataset Development

DELWP needed to provide an authoritative spatial dataset for Victoria that identified where hunting of different pest and game species could occur on public land.

The purpose of the project was to support the implementation of core components within The Sustainable Hunting Action Plan 2016-2020 (SHAP) which requires development of a map set for Victoria showing where game hunting on Crown land is permitted.

More specifically the project aimed to confirm the process by which suitable hunting area spatial datasets were to be generated, implement this in the form of an automated process based on spatial datasets and rules, and then publish the output of this process into the DELWP corporate spatial repository as well as other platforms.

## Customer Profile

[www.delwp.vic.gov.au](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au)

## Company

DELWP – Land Management Policy Division

## Location

Victoria

## Industry

Government

## Products

Data Analysis and Data Layers

## Solution

Following a series of workshops involving key stakeholders, rules were corroborated. A spatial tool was developed to generate hunting area datasets comprised a modular and automated process using scripted set of toolboxes and existing state-wide datasets.

## Benefits

- Outputs can be used in a broad range of applications, ranging from pre-generated PDF maps, to web and mobile mapping applications.

**“Spatial Vision achieved a great outcome for the Victorian community both in terms of the quality of the hunting dataset outputs developed, and also the spatial tool that it deployed so as further changes in the hunting rules can be readily implemented.”**

**Dan Meehan**

Manager, Crown Land Administration Support, DELWP



## The Issue

A key requirement of this project was to provide an authoritative spatial dataset for Victoria that identified where hunting of different pest and game species could occur on public land. This was an issue since no such dataset or map currently existing and many of the rules associated with hunting were complex, confusing or unclear. There were also changes being made that needed to be accurately reflected in any future hardcopy or digital map product. The requirement for this information was a key action identified under the Victorian Sustainable Hunting Action Plan (SHAP). The focus was on confirming and then accurately reflecting the rules and regulations as to where, when and how duck, stubble quail, and a range of key deer species, could be hunted, and providing flexibility for rule changes.

## The Solution

The approach adopted by Spatial Vision was to firstly develop a set of business rules that identified hunting area inclusions and exclusions. This involved an extensive review of current and relevant legislation, gazettals, rules and regulations to determine where and when particular game and pest species could be hunted, and by what hunting method. The development of these rules involved identifying what spatial features could be used to identify hunting areas, and where additional spatial information needed to be captured.

Development of these business rules involved extensive consultation with a project reference group and other relevant stakeholders. These consultative workshops allowed the development of the business rules to be expertly verified and corroborated.

A key step in developing a suitable rule set was to confirm the starting point, and then the hierarchy in which the rules were applied. This was especially important since some rules were more general in nature, and other rules were exceptions to that general rule, or extremely complex. Hence, the approach involved clarifying the way spatial data and text based tables came together in the correct sequence to best represent the correct hunting status for an area.

Stage two involved wrapping this series of business rules into a modular and hierarchical set of desktop GIS tools, where the input datasets and tables could be updated as rules changed.

## The Benefits

- ✓ The first maps and spatial representations of where game and pest species can be hunted on public land across Victoria.
- ✓ A clear set of hierarchal business rules that define where hunting is permitted, when and how.
- ✓ A spatial tool that can be updated to reflect rule changes or any issues identified in the current interpretation of the rules.
- ✓ Greater confidence and clarity around where hunting is permitted so that all stakeholders across the sector can more effectively plan and manage hunting related activities.
- ✓ Greatly improved access to, and consistency in, hunting area related information.

Can we help turn your dataset into actionable insights?

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