

# Farmer quacks it as he ducks bullets

A NAGAMBIE man says he narrowly escaped being "killed or injured" yesterday after duck shooters fired into his property on the first day of the duck shooting season.

Ian Barford said he heard gunshots coming from a boat with two men on board on the Goulburn River near his Kirwans Bridge home about 9am.

Mr Barford, who is not against duck shooting, said that as he went down to investigate, one of the men fired towards his property, missing him by a couple of metres.

"I swore at them and told them what a bunch of idiots they were," he said.

"I said, 'It's a residential area, you shouldn't be shooting anywhere here'."

He said he or other members of his family, including his five grandchildren, could have been hurt.

Police are investigating the incident, which comes as about 200 wildlife campaigners gathered at Dowd Morass near Sale to protest the season.

Police said several protesters had been fined for destroying duck hides.

Coalition Against Duck Shooting director Laurie Levy said there were so few birds it was "irresponsible" of the Government to call a duck shooting season.



**Worth a shot:** Duck hunters near Sale go home empty-handed on the season's first day. Picture: KATHRYN FELDMAIER

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