



Activists tried to halt the opening weekend to Victoria's duck hunting season in the Federal Court of Australia on Friday afternoon. Picture: David Crosling

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Anti-duck hunting activists launched a last-minute bid to halt Victoria's season ahead of the first weekend for shooters.

The Coalition Against Duck Hunting launched a court case in the Federal Court of Australia on Friday afternoon in a bid to halt the season.

Activist Jo Soren argued for an injunction to stop shooters heading to wetlands across the state for what she said was traditionally was the most "intense, dangerous times for all birds".



Duck hunters in the Marshes Game Reserve at Kerang. Picture: Yuri Kouzmin

She argued that other bird species were shot during the season and if they weren't shot many were traumatised and not breeding and there was habitat loss due from pollution and people walking through the wetlands.

"It is not sustainable and it's highest dangerous this weekend which is why it really is urgent," Ms Soren said.

But lawyer Dr Ian Freckelton QC argued the application for an injunction has "no basis whatsoever" and the interim injunction should not be granted.



The Coalition Against Duck Shooting launched the failed legal challenge to halt the duck season ahead of the opening weekend. AAP Image/Wayne Taylor) NO ARCHIVING

After a brief adjournment Justice Helen Rofe dismissed the application.

The season opened earlier this week and Premier Dan Andrews was blasted for his "offensive" comment comparing hunting to golf.

"I know it's not everyone cup of tea. Some of us play golf like me, some of us were at the footy last night, some of us go shooting. I'm not about telling people what should constitute their recreational activities," Mr Andrews told reporters.