



Inquiry into the proposed aerial shooting of brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park

TERMS OF REFERENCE

That the Animal Welfare Committee inquire into and report on the proposed aerial shooting of brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park and surrounding areas, and in particular:

- (a) the methodology used to survey and estimate the brumby population in Kosciuszko National Park
- (b) the justification for proposed aerial shooting, giving consideration to urgency and the accuracy of the estimated brumby population in Kosciuszko National Park
- (c) the status of, and threats to, endangered species in Kosciuszko National Park
- (d) the history and adequacy of New South Wales laws, policies and programs for the control of wild horse populations, including but not limited to the adequacy of the 'Aerial shooting of feral horses (HOR002) Standard Operating Procedure'
- (e) the animal welfare concerns associated with aerial shooting
- (f) the human safety concerns if Kosciuszko National Park is to remain open during operations
- (g) the impact of previous aerial shooting operations (such as Guy Fawkes National Park) in New South Wales
- (h) the availability of alternatives to aerial shooting
- (i) any other related matters.

The terms of reference for the inquiry were self-referred by the committee on 28 August 2023.¹

¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 12 September 2023, p 442.

Committee membership

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Hon Emma Hurst MLC | Animal Justice Party | <i>Chair</i> |
| Hon Bob Nanva MLC | Australian Labor Party | <i>Deputy Chair</i> |
| Hon Robert Borsak MLC | Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party | |
| Ms Abigail Boyd MLC* | The Greens | |
| Hon Wes Fang MLC | The Nationals | |
| Ms Sue Higginson MLC* | The Greens | |
| Hon Stephen Lawrence MLC | Australian Labor Party | |
| Hon Aileen MacDonald MLC | Liberal Party | |
| Hon Peter Primrose MLC | Australian Labor Party | |
| Hon Emily Suvaal MLC | Australian Labor Party | |

- * Ms Abigail Boyd MLC is a participating member from 4 September 2023 for the duration of the inquiry.
- * Ms Sue Higginson MLC is a participating member from 31 August 2023 for the duration of the inquiry.