

## Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment

### Inquiry into the health and wellbeing of kangaroos and other macropods in New South Wales

#### Supplementary Questions

Questions for Ms Rae Harvey, Wild2Free

- 1. Can you talk about the process you went through trying to get justice for Janey (who had her neck sliced open yet was still alive) and what the outcome was?**

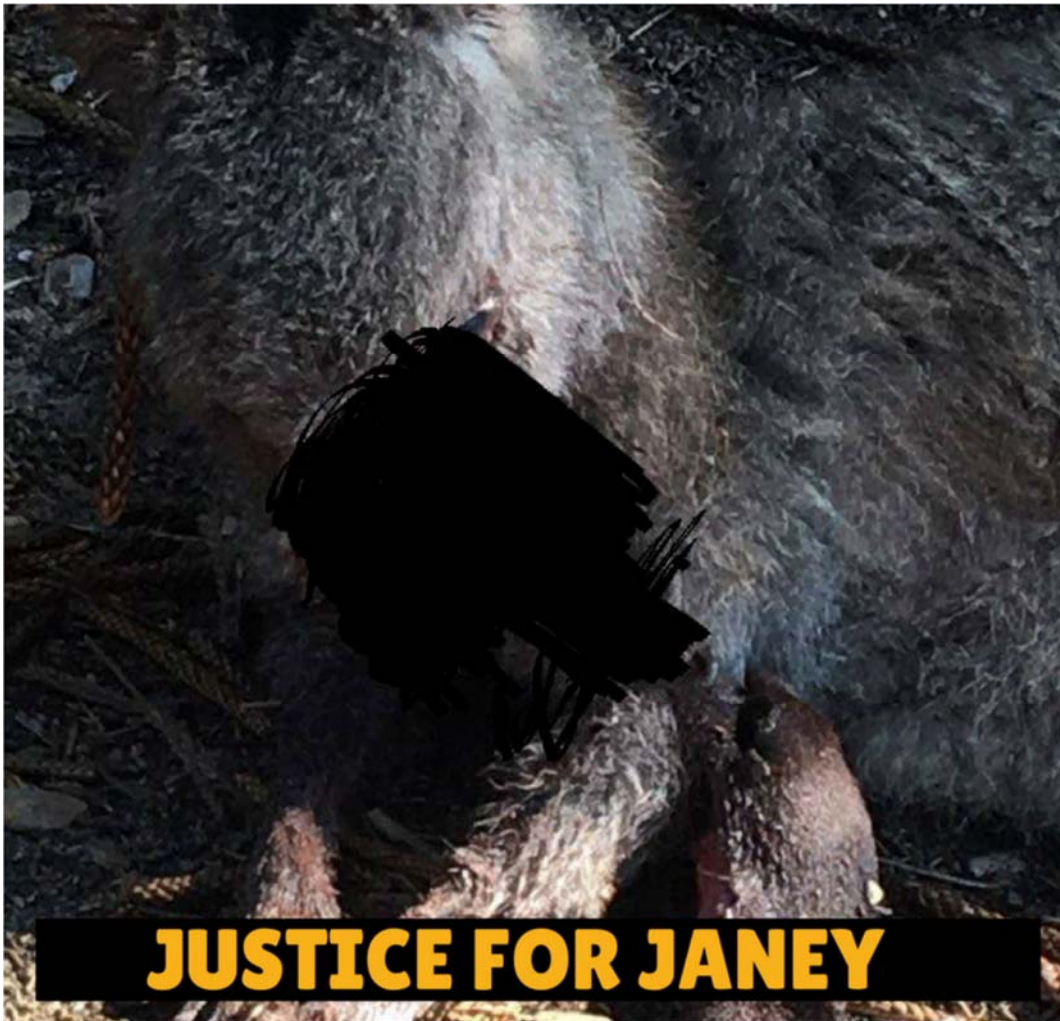
Thankfully (for my mental health), I wasn't the one called to rescue Janey, whose face (not neck) was sliced open. I was the Macropod Coordinator for WIRES Mid-South Coast at the time, so I was across every macropod rescue for WIRES between Wallaga Lake and Milton. The Murramarang Caravan Park manager Ray, received a call from a guest about Janey, and he located her and called WIRES immediately. Janelle Renes was the rescuer who attended and took the photo of Janey featured in my submission.

After that the police were contacted, they euthanised her. It only took one shot because she was unable to move. Ordinarily it can unfortunately take police half a dozen shots to euthanise a kangaroo. The police were not convinced it was a machete (despite the extremely clean slice which Janelle, Ray and myself all believed could only have been done by a machete. The police suggested it could have been done from the back of a ute, but we contest that due to how cleanly she was sliced.

Locals said that when people (likely tourists) had stayed at the caravan parks in the past, they've found kangaroos with their heads chopped off, so Janey was not an isolated incident. Sadly, the kangaroos are a tourist attraction in the area and are very tame.

Ray, the caravan park manager was ironically a kangaroo shooter before taking up the manager role. After living around kangaroos, Ray fell in love with them and knew each kangaroo at the park by face. He told me that Janey had been living there with her mob her entire life and was quite tame. Ray is now managing another caravan park on the north coast. When I called him this week to revisit this story, he told me that there are no kangaroos whatsoever at the new park, Shaws Bay Holiday Park in Ballina. I find that so sad. Kangaroos are a tourist attraction where I live. Sadly, it also means kangaroos like Janey fall victim to people who consider kangaroos a pest and think it's okay to cruelly slice their faces open for fun.

Janelle and I submitted a report to the Batemans Bay Police and I undertook a campaign online, which resulted in a nationally run newspaper story, but with no witnesses, the culprits were never found and Janey did not get her justice.



## JUSTICE FOR JANEY

Wild2Free Inc. - Kangaroo Sanctuary

4 May 2018 · 🌐

This is Janey. Because the public feed the kangaroos in holiday parks around here, they're very friendly. Janey trusted the humans who approached her on Wednesday and they sliced her face open from the bottom of each eye, down her face. She had no teeth, her jaw was hanging, no mouth. SHE WAS STILL ALIVE.

We know this is when it occurred because a member of the public reported it to the caravan park manager. Sadly, he wasn't able to locate her until Thursday morning. SHE WAS STILL ALIVE.

This poor girl suffered unimaginable pain and distress because she trusts humans. STOP FEEDING WILDLIFE - they gain a trust of humans and things like this happen. SHE WAS STILL ALIVE

Thank you to Batemans Bay Police and rescuer Janelle for attending and finally ending her suffering. Inflicting intentional cruelty is the most horrific thing a human can do. SHE WAS STILL ALIVE.

What's behind the black in this photo is too graphic to post online, but please remember Janey, who suffered so much because she trusted humans. SHE WAS STILL ALIVE.

We hardly slept last night, and tonight will be the same as we attempt to rehabilitate a 15kg male kangaroo, raised by members of the public. He's been living in their house and has never met another kangaroo before.

Our souls are deeply hurting. SHE WAS STILL ALIVE.

## Kangaroo left to die at NSW south coast caravan park 'machete attack': wildlife carers

Kate Lockley

National



Wildlife carers are appealing for help to track down those believed responsible for an attack on a kangaroo at South Durres. Image has been censored.

Wildlife carers are traumatised after a juvenile kangaroo was found with horrific injuries, they believe were deliberately inflicted, at a South Coast caravan park last week.



Grey Cassa Study Leather  
Pet Bed



Rosey Ultra Plush Pet Beds  
Colour: White



Enchanted Home Ashley  
Pet Beds Bed Colour: Blue

TEM  
WEB

A. Misseri - Podiatry  
Your feet are in good ha  
0353... Show

Alfredton Dental  
We are proud to be part

Wildlife carer Rae Harvey believed the young female roo appeared to be attacked with a machete, suffering shocking facial injuries.

The roo was found at Murramarang Resort on Thursday, May 3, a Mid South Coast volunteer Janelle Renes said she had probably seen it almost 24 hours.



Boarding Kennel - Cattery and Pound Reform Australia  
about 3 years ago

JUSTICE for JANEY  
NSW!!  
Who did this, do you know?  
This is a very sad horrific example of WHY our wildlife need to be left alone!... See

1 6 7

Ms Renes believed an attacker had sliced open the kangaroo's face until resort staff found her. She said the incident was the most traumatic she had encountered.

"She was lying there and just the look on her face and the damage basically had her face sliced open and her snout and teeth were missing," Ms Renes told the Bay Post/Moruya Examiner.

"It was horrendous. I tried to get close to her so I could console her; I just sat with her until police arrived, to keep everyone away."

Police had no option but to euthanise the animal. Ms Renes said the incident was traumatic for all involved.

"My first reaction was to burst into tears," she said.

"It took me a while to stop feeling sick in the stomach and come to terms with it."

"This kangaroo basically trusted humans and got close enough for a human to inflict that intentional pain and suffering – it's inconceivable."

Ms Harvey, of charity Wild 2 Free, said the incident was a disgrace.

She said the suspected attack was a horrific consequence of people feeding wildlife and earning their trust.

"Because she lived in a caravan park, she trusted humans, otherwise she would've ran a mile," Ms Harvey said.

***"This is the consequence of people feeding animals."***

Ms Harvey said she witnessed the consequences of people feeding wildlife in her daily work caring for injured and orphaned kangaroos.

"At the moment I have three joeys in care from caravan parks whose mothers have died from being fed incorrect food," she said.

Also in her care is a 15kg male kangaroo who requires extensive rehabilitation after being raised by members of the public.

She said the kangaroo from last week's incident, known as Janey, was only 15 months old and still dependent on her mother.

Police said the incident was being investigated and officers were working to determine if the injuries were deliberate.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Batemans Bay Police on 4472 0099.

**2. In your experience is the kangaroo population recovering after the fires and is the Dept still issuing licenses to harm?**

From November 2016 to December 2019, 49 orphaned Eastern Grey Kangaroo joeys and 5 wallabies were hand-raised at Wild 2 Free (stats do not include short term rescues who died or were transferred elsewhere), producing 13 additional 'at foot' or older joeys by 31 December, 2019.

At the time of the bushfire, 51 were still living on the property alongside a wild population of approximately 35 (including wallabies).

**From those 86 total macropods:**

- 1 was euthanised due to burns severity by an onsite vet
- 1 had no injuries but developed respiratory issues (recovered)
- 4 had minor injuries not requiring treatment
- 5 had severe injuries and may not have recovered without assistance
- 19 recovered with no physical injuries
- 21 are missing and presumed dead (from our raised orphans/joeys)
- 22 of the wild population are presumed dead

There are no red-necked wallabies living on the property post-fire (either wild or hand-raised)

The fire was so intense, that only two bodies were located in the bush post fire, the remainder presumably disintegrated or drowned in the river.

*Please keep in mind, that my property is surrounded by water and 3 dams. I suspect we would have lost all the kangaroos if we didn't have the river estuary and mangroves for the kangaroos and other wildlife to seek shelter. They also survived because we were here from day one providing water, food, shelter and medical care. They lived in ideal conditions to survive a fire here and we still lost more than half of the population.*

I hold another 850-acre wildlife sanctuary in Yowrie, which is approximately 15 mins west of Cobargo. That property had approximately 200 macropods living on it, but only 18 were still alive after the fire. Those 18 almost all died in the weeks to follow. The creek had dried up due to the drought and the fire was so intense they were dead in the paddocks, unable to outrun the flames. The survival rate at Wild 2 Free in the Mogo State Forest, was much higher due to the river, estuary and dams.

Pre bushfire, the 55 orphans came from a number of areas due to various circumstances:

**CAUSE**

- 29 – car accidents
- 12 – found alone
- 5 – shooting orphans
- 4 – fence entanglement
- 3 – illness
- 1 – dog attack
- 1 – head injury

**LOCATION**

- Batemans Bay (2)
- Bawley Point (4)
- Berry (1)
- Bodalla (2)
- Depot Beach (1)
- East Lynne (1)
- Falls Creek (3)
- Jervis Bay (1)

**LOCATION**

- Kangaroo Valley (1)
- Lake Conjola (2)
- Long Beach (1)
- Malua Bay (2)
- Merimbula (1)
- Meringo (1)
- Merricumbene (1)
- Merry Beach (2)
- Mogo (1)
- Moruya Heads (1)
- Narooma (2)
- Nelligen (1)
- Nowra (5)
- Potato Point (2)
- Runnyford (2)
- Sanctuary Point (6)
- Sussex Inlet (1)

- Tomerong (2)
- Ulladulla (2)
- Yowrie (1)
- Unknown (3)

***The fact we've reared 5 shooting orphans is evidence in itself, that the Code of Practise is not being adhered to.***

Post bushfire, the only orphan to come in from a rural location, was Koa, who lost his mother in the bushfire at Jeramada, adjacent the Mogo State Forest.

All other orphans have come from the built-up suburbs around Batemans Bay, which were NOT impacted by bushfire: Long Beach, Mossy Point, Maloneys Beach.

It is my experience that the kangaroos are slowly recovering in small pockets of rural areas where food and water are available.

On my numerous drives to either Canberra and Sydney post-fire (including at dusk) I have only seen ONE kangaroo. She was deceased and lying on the side of a road on the Princes Highway heading to Sydney. I saw no kangaroos when driving to Canberra in September 2020. In the Mogo State Forest, I have seen 3 kangaroos (alive) and a wombat (deceased).

At another 100-acre release site which backs onto National Park at Morton, there's only one surviving female. The same story applies on the 200-acres next door.

According to the WIRES branch for the Mid-South Coast region, which covers Milton in the Shoalhaven to Tilba in Eurobodalla (stats below), there was a 256% increase in calls to assist Macropods during December/January 2020.

FATE	19/20 FY	20/21 FY
Dead on Arrival	35	44
Deleted Callsheet	0	2
Died	52	39
Disappeared Before Rescue	42	38
Escaped from Care	3	0
EU by Firearm	242	147
EU by other means	70	47
In Care	1	11
Left & Observed	46	40
No Fate Reported	4	0
Record of Sighting	5	0
Released	47	23
Relocated	1	1
Reunited with Parents	2	4
Resolved by other Org	25	27
Resolved by Vets	3	2
Transferred	4	0
Unclassified	0	1
Unknown	3	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>428</b>

19/20 FY	20/21 FY	Difference
Jul-19	36	Jul-20 47 130.6%
Aug-19	40	Aug-20 41 102.5%
Sep-19	44	Sep-20 31 70.5%
Oct-19	41	Oct-20 36 87.8%
Nov-19	25	Nov-20 24 96.0%
Dec-19	96	Dec-20 32 33.3%
Jan-20	153	Jan-21 38 24.8%
Feb-20	36	Feb-21 21 58.3%
Mar-20	38	Mar-21 38 100.0%
Apr-20	30	Apr-21 37 123.3%
May-20	14	May-21 38 271.4%
Jun-20	32	Jun-21 35 109.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>TOTAL 418 71.5%</b>

Unfortunately, most of this data is post-bushfire. Of the 1,003 macropods in the 2 years of data over half were euthanised, mostly by firearm. 61% more macropods were euthanised in the year of the bushfires.

The data from the rescue group I'm a member for, the under-funded Wildlife Rescue South Coast, is more rudimentary and relies on an all-voluntary membership to upload it. Wildlife Rescue South Coast covers rescues from Wollongong all the way to the Victorian border. The majority of its members were heavily impacted by the bushfires, particularly the macropod carers who offer release sites – they live on acreage properties. The lack of data displays the impact on the organisation. Every macropod carer was so overwhelmed, that absolutely NO data was uploaded from December 2019 – April 2020

WRSC								
FATE	18/19 FY	19/20 FY		18/19 FY	19/20 FY		Difference	
Dead on Arrival	113			Jul-18	140	Jul-19	39	27.9%
Deleted Callsheet	0			Aug-18	95	Aug-19	1	1.1%
Died	76			Sep-18	123	Sep-19	0	0.0%
Disappeared Before Rescue	10			Oct-18	90	Oct-19	3	3.3%
Escaped from Care	2			Nov-18	62	Nov-19	0	0.0%
EU by Firearm	439			Dec-18	42	Dec-19		0.0%
EU by other means	43			Jan-19	57	Jan-20		0.0%
In Care	114			Feb-19	46	Feb-20		0.0%
Left & Observed	16			Mar-19	53	Mar-20		0.0%
No Fate Reported	21			Apr-19	59	Apr-20		0.0%
Record of Sighting	1			May-19	56	May-20	1	1.8%
Released	22			Jun-19	56	Jun-20	57	101.8%
Relocated	0			Not Rec	0	Not Rec	29	#DIV/0!
Reunited with Parents	0			TOTAL	879	TOTAL	130	0.14789534
Resolved by other Org	0							
Resolved by Vets	0							
Transferred	22							
Unclassified	0							
Unknown	0							
TOTAL	879	0						

The only positive thing to come from the bushfires, is that people who may have not been sensitive to our wildlife previously, were seemingly more concerned about them. "I haven't seen a kangaroo on my property since the fires" was a common statement around the area.

**Something I can't stress enough, which wasn't covered in the inquiry, is the effects of stress on macropods and in particular, Eastern Grey Kangaroos.**

One of the kangaroos I raised, Yogi, was seen on January 5<sup>th</sup>. He came up the hill towards the house and his eyes widened and I could visibly see the shock and trauma on his face when he saw his sanctuary (my home, that he returned to every night) on the ground and the destruction everywhere, it traumatised him so much that he stumbled down the hill and was never seen again. Despite searches, he was not located, but I believe he likely died from myopathy given he never returned.

Eastern Grey Kangaroos are very easily spooked. It's common for the joeys to hop away fast with fright from sudden sounds, sometimes even at silly things like a magpie and raven fighting (that's exactly what happened this morning).

Imagine the trauma during commercial shooting! No one is accounting for the kangaroos dying in the days and weeks afterwards from the trauma of humans killing their families causing myopathy to the survivors. A kangaroo chased for more than 3 minutes, is likely to induce myopathy and kill the kangaroo. It's a complex disease which occurs to a kangaroo under extreme stress. When they're attacked, rounded up and corralled, chased by a dog or captured. During storms and high winds. When their family and loved ones are being shot. Any extreme like this lasting more than a few minutes, can be fatal.

**Joeys in care have been known to die if their friend dies**

**When a joey does die in care, it becomes critical to focus all energy on his or her buddy, because the trauma endured by the survivor, can cause he or her to also die.**

A neighbour of mine told me he was forced to shoot 5 kangaroos post-fire, due to them suffering trauma. They kept hopping back and forth between his low fences, crashing into them and causing themselves injury. The neighbour replaced his fences post fire and whilst they still have barbed wire, instead of 5 strings of barbed wire, there are only 3. The 4<sup>th</sup> is plain wire and the 5<sup>th</sup> is missing. This is enabling kangaroos to move freely through his property by going under the fence. He is happy to have roos on his land and uses their faeces as fertiliser for his beautiful healthy native pasture. His horses and the wildlife all share his land in harmony.

Information on licenses to kill are only available for the 12 months after the fires.

- Shoalhaven – 28 licenses to kill 925 kangaroos
- Eurobodalla – 12 licenses to kill 400 kangaroos
- The Bega Valley will have double that, but I don't have access to that information currently.

From personal communication with people who have been in contact with the commercial harvesting industry, there's been off the record discussion from commercial shooters about the possibility of coming into the Bega Valley to harvest EG kangaroos. They're asking questions amongst themselves, whether it would be possible to get into the Bega Valley.

**3. In your experience do landholders comply with requirements of licenses to harm and to the shooters adhere to the code?**

When looking for property to buy, we visited one which had deceased kangaroos lying on it. They were tagged. On another property we viewed, they were just shot dead and lying around in various stages of decay. There were no farm animals on the property, it was 'shooting for fun'. Of the 5 shooting orphans raised at Wild 2 Free, only one of the joeys' mothers were tagged.

**4. Have you ever witnessed any compliance checks when it comes to commercial shooting?**

I have not witnessed and I am not aware of any compliance checks for commercial or non-commercial shooting.

**5. Given you mention you receive no funding from the government, how much does it cost you to raise a single joey?**

I have calculated the below based on real costs spent raising joeys at Wild 2 Free. I have only calculated the direct costs and haven't made allowances for the hidden costs like electricity (4 times higher) or other 'household' expenses like cleaning and yard cleaning which inflate greatly due to joey/kangaroo caring.

The cost to raise one healthy joey is approximately \$2,886.79. This cost will decrease to approximately \$1,794.72 per joey over 3 years due to some items being reusable for around 3 seasons before requiring replacement.

Milk and Impact Requirements for One x EGK Joey 6-months Through to Release						Cost per Gram DAILY		Cost per Gram for Period		Sub Total
AGE	Milk Requirement	Mls Per Day	Grams/day	Impact/day	No of Days	Milk	Impact	Milk	Impact	Sub Total
182-184 days	0.4 Wombaroo	75	13.5	0.75	3	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.15	\$ 2.03	\$ 0.34	\$ 2.36
	0.6 Wombaroo	25	5.5	0.25	3	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.77
185-187 days	0.4 Wombaroo	50	9	0.5	3	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.15	\$ 1.35	\$ 0.23	\$ 1.58
	0.6 Wombaroo	50	11	0.5	3	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.15	\$ 1.32	\$ 0.23	\$ 1.55
188-189 days	0.4 Wombaroo	25	4.5	0.25	2	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.53
	0.6 Wombaroo	75	16.5	0.75	2	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.15	\$ 1.32	\$ 0.23	\$ 1.55
190-199 days	0.6 Wombaroo	100	22	1	2	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.15	\$ 1.76	\$ 0.30	\$ 2.06
200-209 days	0.6 Wombaroo	110	24.2	1.1	2	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.15	\$ 1.94	\$ 0.33	\$ 2.27
210-211 days	0.6 Wombaroo	120	26.4	1.2	2	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.15	\$ 2.11	\$ 0.36	\$ 2.47
212-214 days	0.6 Wombaroo	90	19.8	0.9	3	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.15	\$ 2.38	\$ 0.41	\$ 2.78
	0.7 Wombaroo	30	7.5	0.3	3	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.81
215-217 days	0.6 Wombaroo	60	13.2	0.6	3	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.15	\$ 1.58	\$ 0.27	\$ 1.85
	0.7 Wombaroo	60	15	0.6	3	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 1.35	\$ 0.27	\$ 1.62
218-219 days	0.6 Wombaroo	30	6.6	0.3	2	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.62
	0.7 Wombaroo	90	22.5	0.9	2	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 1.35	\$ 0.27	\$ 1.62
220-229 days	0.7 Wombaroo	120	30	1.2	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 9.00	\$ 1.80	\$ 10.80
230-239 days	0.7 Wombaroo	135	33.75	1.35	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 10.13	\$ 2.03	\$ 12.15
240-249 days	0.7 Wombaroo	145	36.25	1.45	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 10.88	\$ 2.18	\$ 13.05
250-259 days	0.7 Wombaroo	155	38.75	1.55	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 11.63	\$ 2.33	\$ 13.95
260-269 days	0.7 Wombaroo	165	41.25	1.65	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 12.38	\$ 2.48	\$ 14.85
270-279 days	0.7 Wombaroo	185	46.25	1.85	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 13.88	\$ 2.78	\$ 16.65
280-289 days	0.7 Wombaroo	200	50	2	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 15.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 18.00
290-299 days	0.7 Wombaroo	220	55	2.2	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 16.50	\$ 3.30	\$ 19.80
300-309 days	0.7 Wombaroo	240	60	2.4	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 18.00	\$ 3.60	\$ 21.60
310-319 days	0.7 Wombaroo	250	62.5	2.5	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 18.75	\$ 3.75	\$ 22.50
320-329 days	0.7 Wombaroo	260	65	2.6	10	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 19.50	\$ 3.90	\$ 23.40
330-359 days	0.7 Wombaroo	240	60	2.4	30	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 54.00	\$ 10.80	\$ 64.80
360-389 days	0.7 Wombaroo	180	45	1.8	30	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 40.50	\$ 8.10	\$ 48.60
390-419 days	0.7 Wombaroo	120	30	1.2	30	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 27.00	\$ 5.40	\$ 32.40
420-449 days	0.7 Wombaroo	60	15	0.6	30	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 13.50	\$ 2.70	\$ 16.20
								\$ 311.42	\$ 61.76	\$ 373.18

Milk prices taken from Vet Products Direct Website and current as at July 2, 2021.

Based on prices for 900gr Wombaroo 0.4, 1.1kg of Wombaroo 0.6, 5kg Wombaroo 0.7, 500gr Wombaroo Impact

Calculations are for the net cost per gram of each product and does not allow for any wastage

Feed amounts taken from the Wombaroo Feed Chart Guide for Eastern Grey Kangaroos

Items that are Resuable for a Joey for the next 2-3 Seasons			
	Qty	Cost	Sub Total
25ml Glass Bottles from Burston Blue	6	\$ 1.50	\$ 9.00
100ml Glass Bottles from Burston Blue	4	\$ 1.90	\$ 7.60
30cm Pouch Liner	8	\$ 6.00	\$ 48.00
40cm Pouch Liner	8	\$ 6.00	\$ 48.00
45cm Pouch Liner	8	\$ 6.00	\$ 48.00
50cm Pouch Liner	8	\$ 6.00	\$ 48.00
60cm Pouch Liner	8	\$ 6.00	\$ 48.00
70xm Pouch Liner	4	\$ 6.00	\$ 24.00
30cm Pouch Liner - Winter additional pouch	8	\$ 6.00	\$ 48.00
40cm Pouch Liner - Winter additional pouch	8	\$ 6.00	\$ 48.00
45cm Pouch Liner - Winter additional pouch	8	\$ 6.00	\$ 48.00
Sissy Warmer (padded pouch up to 7.5 months)	4	\$ 30.00	\$ 120.00
Hanging Bag Summer	4	\$ 15.00	\$ 60.00
Hanging Bag Winter	4	\$ 15.00	\$ 60.00
Joey Stand inside	1	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
Joey Stand outside	1	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
Port-a-cot	1	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00
Port-a-cot hanging bags	4	\$ 30.00	\$ 120.00
Blankets (from op shop)	4	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00
Shoulder bag (to take small joeys on walks)	1	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
Kurunda Dog Bed and Topper (used when weaning from pouch)	1	\$ 290.00	\$ 290.00
Bottle and teat brushes	3	\$ 5.00	\$ 15.00
Bottle and teat steriliser for microwave	1	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Kurunda Dog Bed and Topper (used when weaning from pouch)	1	\$ 290.00	\$ 290.00
Assuming use for 3 joey seasons, 1/3 of this cost is \$547.53			\$ 1,639.60
<i>Joeys grow bigger each month, so their pouch liners are increased as they age.</i>			
<i>We dedicate 8 pouches of each size per joey, allowing a week to accumulate a full washing machine load to ensure eash joey's laundry is washed separately for good hygiene</i>			
<i>Pouch liners used to cost \$12 each but now average \$6 incl postage - the time sewing them is donated</i>			
<i>Hanging bags used to cost \$30 each but now average \$16 incl postage - the time sewing them is donated</i>			
<i>This doesn't include other requirements such as:</i>			
<i>ICU Unit (for furless joeys)</i>			
<i>Electricity - 4 times higher with animals in care</i>			
<i>Water - 10 times higher with laundry and pressure washing</i>			
<i>Yard cleaning - buckets, rakes, garden gloves etc</i>			
<i>Kettle, washing machine, dryer, microwave</i>			

Consumable Expenses			
	Qty	Cost	Sub Total
Dummies (rotated for washing/sterilising)	10	\$ 3.00	\$ 30.00
Size #1 Flange Teat (silicone) Up to 1.5kg	1	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Size #1 Flange Teat (silicone) 1.5-3kg	1	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Size #1 Flange Teat (silicone) 3-5kg	1	\$ 5.50	\$ 5.50
Size #1 Flange Teat (silicone) 5-10kg	1	\$ 5.50	\$ 5.50
Size #1 Flange Teat (silicone) 10+ kg	1	\$ 5.50	\$ 5.50
50ml Coccivet (added daily to milk bottle to reduce coccidia parasite)	2	\$ 13.00	\$ 26.00
15mg Fluconazole for intestinal thrush	2	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00
5 Tablets Valaciclovir for kangaroo herpes virus	1	\$ 24.95	\$ 24.95
Syringes	10	\$ 1.00	\$ 10.00
30 pack of puppy pads (toilet when older and inside)	2	\$ 14.19	\$ 28.38
60 pack Chux wipes (toiletting when young)	1	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
Box of Tissues	3	\$ 1.25	\$ 3.75
4L Sensitive Laundry Detergent (80 washes)	2	\$ 29.99	\$ 59.98
1L Canesten Antibacterial Rinse	2	\$ 8.80	\$ 17.60
Box of 100 disposable gloves	2	\$ 17.50	\$ 35.00
Supplementary hay and grains for 24 months at 400gr/day (average)	730	\$ 0.60	\$ 438.00
1L F10 Disinfectant	1	\$ 91.95	\$ 91.95
Avagard Antiseptic Hand Rub	1	\$ 16.90	\$ 16.90
Dishwashing Liquid	2	\$ 7.50	\$ 15.00
			\$ 874.01
<i>As joeys age, they require different teat sizes with longer lengths because they drink from the back of their throat</i>			
<i>Joeys introduced to a dummy immediately after rescue, settle into care faster and are calmer because they use the dummy to simulate being in their mother's pouch</i>			
<i>For this exercise, I have assumed a healthy joey in care, who endures thrush due to stress once and catches Kangaroo Herpes Virus (which almost every joey here endures and is fatal under 5kg without medication)</i>			
<i>The local vet will consult free of charge in most cases and only charges for medication</i>			
<i>One joey will create on average 3 loads of washing per week</i>			
<i>It takes a minimum of 12 months after weaning, for a male to fully return to the wild (2.5 years old)</i>			
<i>Most females never return to the wild. They live on the property forever</i>			
<i>In the wild, females remain within 20 hectares of where they were raised</i>			
<i>We are still support feeding a minimum of 20 kangaroos each evening</i>			



**6. Given talk of plague proportions of kangaroos and the fact it took you 12 months to find a place and a property that had kangaroos, can you describe that experience of looking for a place to set up a sanctuary and noting prevalence or absence of kangaroos in the landscape?**

I could only estimate the number of properties physically viewed in that 14-month period, which I believe encompassed at least 80 properties as far north as Murwillumbah and as far south as Eden. I spent at least \$30,000 on flights, car hire and accommodation in that time.

Finding a region that had a healthy population of kangaroos was important to us because we wanted to contribute. There's little point running a sanctuary for orphaned kangaroos when there isn't any around who require our help. And that is why I live on the South Coast – The Nature Coast.

We focused on coastal properties avoiding commercial culling areas because my mental health would suffer too much to live in a killing zone. Although coastal, we were also focussed on acreages which backed onto State Forest or National Park, so we were absolutely driving into off the beaten track areas that should have good populations of macropods. Except they didn't. We only saw populations on the South Coast.

It was an incredibly frustrating experience. I recall being excited at one south coast property after finding faeces on the ground that belonged to a kangaroo and I was always looking at the ground for evidence because we just weren't seeing them in the flesh.

The place that hit me hardest, was when we were driving around Belligen, Thora, Megan and Dorrigo. I love the Coffs Harbour region for weather and would have loved to move there so we focussed a lot on the area. We were getting onto a lot of dirt roads and areas with a lot of forest and still we saw NOTHING. Not one wallaby. Not one kangaroo. I guess we ventured too far inland.

We did find evidence of kangaroos at 4 other properties, but they were deemed unsuitable.

- One had shot dead kangaroos on it that were tagged, so we weren't interested on principle and told the owner that was the reason.
- One had shot dead kangaroos on it that were not tagged so we ensured the owner knew that was the sole reason we were not going to purchase it.
- One had a wild population but was too close to a highway (near Merimbula)
- One very close to where we are now, had a wild population but the paddocks had no trees to provide shelter for animals and a public dirt road went through the middle, so it was deemed unsuitable. I have no interest in spending 16 hours a day 7 days a week caring for a joey only to have it be hit by a car after release.

I was saddened to recently speak to the former caravan park manager from where Janey was killed, and be told he's now managing a caravan park near Ballina. He said there are no kangaroos there whatsoever in stark contrast to the caravan park here he was formally at here on the South Coast.

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In closing, I must comment on a statement made by the final witnesses at the inquiry in response to the absence of kangaroos in Tibooburra and an explanation that they migrate.

I am not aware of kangaroos migrating. In my experience, their home range is quite small and the females don't move more than 20 hectares from where they were raised. This is known by all wildlife carers who release kangaroos back into the wild (or try to). Almost all females released at Wild 2 Free are still living on the property. The males do move along, but are not known to go long distances, they only move to find mating partners.

PLEASE understand that for every angry farmer who is blaming a kangaroo for the damage a pig or deer probably caused to his property (and if you push them hard enough some admit it's not really the kangaroo), there is a wildlife carer who is suffering ill mental health and trauma from the loss of a joey they cared for or from hearing gunshots of wild kangaroos being killed.

Kangaroos are so emotive and sensitive. They require so much from us beyond the basics like feeding and toileting to help them recover from the trauma and learn to trust us. They need hugs, cuddles, quiet times simply lying together on the ground, face pats, LOVE. These joeys become our children.

NOTHING hit me harder than when a friend sent me a text one night after monitoring a reserve where kangaroos were being culled. The text simply said "12 souls lost tonight". I cried my eyes out. It took me a year of hard work to raise 11 joeys that same year. To know that more lives were lost at one reserve in hours, taking away what it took me a year to achieve, was soul destroying. Kangaroos are my family. They matter more to me than humans or any other animal. If ANY of you are LUCKY enough to experience what a kangaroo is really like, you would give up your life to dedicate it to them, just like I have.

90 years ago, we killed the koalas for profit. They're now extinct where I live in the Eurobodalla. I have NEVER seen a koala in the wild and I am 49 years old and travelled far and wide all over Australia in my past life as a band manager. I hope the children of the future can say they've seen a kangaroo in the wild. Right now, YOU have the chance to change the future for those children. Please give them the opportunity to see kangaroos in the wild, before it's too late.

Why are the government waiting until an animal is almost extinct, before they take any action towards protecting it? From 1883 to 1920, NSW killed around 3 million bettongs and potoroos and three of these species are now extinct. 90 years ago, we killed the koalas to export their fur and today millions are being poured into saving them from extinction. The number of bird species we're losing from logging and the kangaroos from farming and to support a commercial killing industry, which from what I've read, employs less people and contributes less to the economy than it did 10 years ago.

I'm no rocket scientist, but if the government is allowing all this to create employment, then it's a false economy when it will be spending more to save these animals in the decades to come. That suggests to me, that the government only care about 'now' and not about our future.

According to the KIAA, the kangaroo killing industry adds \$200M to the Australian economy and employs 3,000 people. Has anyone calculated how much the kangaroo adds to the Australian economy in other terms such as tourism and even using their image to promote ourselves?

And we do promote ourselves as a clean living, healthy, sun and beach loving country living in harmony with our unique wildlife including kangaroos. And while we think the world isn't watching, we're smashing their heads in and deliberately swerving to kill them on the roads. The rest of the world would be shocked if they understood what was happening to our kangaroos in the darkness. It's no different to the killing of the harp seals in Canada.

1850s Wheelright (1979) describes HW Wheelright (hunter, naturalist and writer) as having, in combination with another party "*shot at least 2000 kangaroos within a short distance to the south-east of Melbourne*"

To suggest there are more kangaroos now than there were 200 years ago is ludicrous. There is not an abundance of kangaroos because they have more access to water. Before dams, kangaroos sourced their water from springs and the creeks that rain flowed to prior to dams.

The best estimates of population growth for grey kangaroos seem to indicate that 9-11% growth is reasonable under standard conditions (eg: Arnold et al 1991, Banks et al 2000). A 30% increase in one year is given as possible in the wild under exceptionally good seasonal conditions (eg: Strahan 1995), however the only reference to growth rates of 30% (and higher) seem to be "calculated" growth rates, or being referred to population estimates based on aerial survey and application of various "correction factors", rather than observed population growth rates in detailed (small) population studies in the field.

A cow, weighing 550kg eats 3.7% of their body weight daily, or 20.4kg. During the drought, we were going through 100kg a week of feed, which is 14kg a day, feeding 40 kangaroos. That works out to 350 grams per kangaroo, or 1/60<sup>th</sup> of what a cow eats. This corresponds with research Ray Mjadwesch has conducted in his studies.

My ground is mostly quartz, so it's not suitable for farming. It could only hold two cows, but it has had 80 kangaroos on it with no problem.

We need to educate people on the benefits kangaroos ADD to the environment. They CREATE growth because they only eat grass tips. I challenge the person to made the comment at the first inquiry date that they use their teeth to pull grass out by the roots. I sit next to kangaroos every single day. Up close. I have never seen a kangaroo do this. They selectively eat grass tips and I've watched them deliberately leave grass that has seeds. After millions of years living on this earth, kangaroos have most definitely worked out how to care for and regenerate their environment. I witness it every day.

In closing... have you ever opened kangaroo meat and noticed it smelt or looked a bit unusual or found your cat/dog refusing to eat it? I cannot prove this right now, but I believe it's because the animal was dying from myopathy when it was shot. That doesn't sound like an animal who has not suffered prior to death.

*"exertional myopathy may cause muscle changes that decrease the quality of the meat"*

I hope I have answered your questions satisfactorily and thank you for the opportunity to provide additional comments. I'm more than happy to extrapolate on any response if required. Thank you for listening to us. Thank you for helping me feel that there is some concern for what I firmly believe is a kangaroo welfare crisis.

**Rae Harvey**

*A successful band manager of 25 years who now thinks spending her life dedicated to kangaroos and their welfare is more important.*

*Authorised to care for macropods for Wildlife Rescue South Coast.*

*Co-Founder of Wild 2 Free Kangaroo Sanctuary.*