



INQUIRY INTO THE PROPOSED AERIAL SHOOTING OF BRUMBIES IN KOSCIUSZKO
NATIONAL PARK

Animal Welfare Committee

Answers to Supplementary Questions

Hearing: 27 March 2024

Questions from the Animal Welfare Committee

1. How many foals have been killed since aerial shooting of brumbies commenced in Kosciuszko National Park?
 - a. If this number is unknown, why is the number of foals not being tracked?

Answer 1:

The number of juveniles (yearlings or recent foals) removed by aerial shooting in Kosciuszko National Park between November 2023 and March 2024 is 146. This represents 10.7 per cent of all horses removed by aerial shooting over this time period.

2. How many foals had to be killed in other ways (e.g. ground shooting) because of difficulties with the shooting being done aerially?
 - a. If this is not being tracked, why not?

Answer 2:

Nil.

3. At the hearing on 27 March 2024, Mr Fleming referenced the RSPCA “observing and auditing” the brumby aerial shooting program. Can you please clarify what you mean by ‘auditing’? Are there any future planned dates for RSPCA to routinely audit the shooting program, including observing via helicopter? Or is it just that the RSPCA can attend at any point during the shooting voluntarily – but no specific audits are planned while the shooting takes place over the coming months?

Answer 3:

The RSPCA NSW can attend and observe aerial shooting operations by the National Parks and Wildlife Service at any time of its choosing. While the full scope of the audit role is a matter for the RSPCA NSW, it will include evaluating whether the standard operating procedure is being complied with and is delivering acceptable animal welfare outcomes, and whether relevant welfare legislation is being complied with.