INQUIRY INTO HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF KANGAROOS AND OTHER MACROPODS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 28 March 2021

Partially Confidential

I am writing this submission from the point of a normal person travelling each day over the past 20 years between Pericoe and Eden in New South Wales.

Back in 2002 when I first started travelling this road there were a number of Eastern Grey kangaroos at various spots along the way. They are creatures of habit so they were always in the same places.

I know that many people come out to this state forest and hunt kangaroos for their dogs, which makes it quite pathetic. I also know that people come out to a certain farm in Perico to hunt for fun and I have seen the results. Wallabies and kangaroos shot and left alive with joeys in the pouch. Most people don't know the difference between a wallaby and a kangaroo and don't really care. They just like the thrill. Also I have noticed many people around the area think they are vermin. I think this is just ignorance and lack of education. This lack of education and ignorance goes back a long way to the old farming ways and these ways have not changed.

I know that in there is not a kangaroo in sight and if I happen to see one on a farmers property in that area, I usually see it dead within a day or so.

I have spoken to locals who do not kill native animals and they always live next door to someone who does. There are hundreds of deers in the area but for some strange reason they are not shot only kangaroos and wombats.

Also killing mothers and young is quite sickening as they live in family groups and become very stressed with Capture Myopathy when they are chased by dogs or rounded up. This leads to death after a couple of weeks. That is a fact.

I have overheard young boys boasting about killing kangaroos. I find this quite horrid as anyone can shoot a kangaroo as they just stand there. Our natives did not evolve with guns so pay no attention to that sound.

Surely there is enough cow leather available to provide shoes for Niki let alone killing our wildlife. There should be more scientific research and education on our wildlife with the real facts being brought to the forefront.

MORE EDUCATION, MORE POLICING AND ADVERTISING THAT IT IS NOT A GOOD THING TO KILL OUR WILDLIFE AND THEN MAYBE THINGS MIGHT START TO CHANGE.

State Forestry should have their own people out in the field policing the horrible things that go on out there.