

Submission
No 107

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 8 April 2021

Partially
Confidential

Macropod Inquiry Submission

It outrages and depresses me that in 2021 Kangaroos are still subjected to horrific cruelty and I am appealing to the Government to treat Kangaroos in a better manner

I have been a wildlife carer for the past 20 years mainly caring for macropods and the bulk of those animals were Eastern Grey Kangaroos

In 2017 I moved away from our 270 acres due to the emotional trauma caused by witnessing Kangaroos and other native wildlife being shot on neighboring properties. Most weekends I would be in a state of high anxiety hearing gunshots at night

Farmers shooting Kangaroos do not have the skills to shoot in a humane manner. One of the Kangaroos I raised and released came back to my property with a gunshot wound. She had a large joey in her pouch. I was unable to catch and found her dead several days later by following the flies and the smell of her rotting body. Her joey was also dead. It was after this incident that I began to experience panic attacks and made the decision to leave the property. This particular animal had been in my care for almost 2 years from a tiny furless animal of 450g until she was released at two years of age and weighing over 20kg.

I know that thousands of licences to harm are provided to farmers and there is no monitoring in the field. Compliance is non-existent

In my years of wildlife caring I was also witness to much road trauma to wildlife and have raised many joeys who were orphaned after their mothers were killed on the road. 2 million animals are killed on our roads every year. I am now unable to attend wildlife rescues due to panic attacks and ongoing stress and depression

I am very concerned about cluster fencing and exclusion fencing which are death traps for wildlife who become entangled in the fences and die a long slow and painful death

I am painfully aware that every night in Australia thousands of Kangaroos are shot and the joeys of females are decapitated or bashed to death. Older Joeys still dependent on their mothers are left to starve or be predated upon.

The commercial Kangaroo killing industry is worth 200million dollars

Tourism is worth 62 billions dollars

There is a wonderful opportunity for the investment in regional tourism where overseas visitors could come to view kangaroos

There could also be protected kangaroo corridors through the landscape along known migratory areas

We could have a massive Kangaroo national park where animals could live out the lives in peace and it would be a place where tourists could observe our wildlife