

**Submission
No 153**

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

Name: Mrs Helen Coy

Date Received: 14 April 2021

Dear Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to write my submission into the inquiry into the health and wellbeing of kangaroos and other macropods in New South Wales.

My name is Helen Coy and I am a Macropod and Possum / Glider Wildlife Carer and have been for many years.

My husband and I are retired and have travelled around Australia several times. In early 2000 outback Queensland and NSW roads were a nightmare to drive through. Dead Kangaroo bodies were everywhere, not so now. The same is true on the Nullabor.

We went to Uluru in 2018, travelling through NSW, SA and the NT. We saw 2 dead Red Kangaroos, no live ones at all. 2 DEAD Kangaroos in thousands of miles. Don't know where the "plagues" the Government is telling us were?
Kangaroo numbers have definitely been depleted

The impact of deforestation, housing development, drought, depletion of water in rivers and dams, bushfires, land clearing for agriculture, mining and the exclusion fencing (which the NSW Govt encourages) which stops the movement of Kangaroos and ends up in their deaths, has depleted the populations of all Macropods.

Current Government policies as to the cruel way in which these animals are killed do not take into account any of the above occurrences. Nor do they take into account the mortality rate of the orphaned joeys that are killed where females die.

What are the methods used for setting quota numbers for culling and for the management of licences to cull Kangaroos?

Are there any drought relief programs or policies to help farmers deal with Kangaroos besides just killing them.

How do you know if these commercial and non commercial "hunters" are complying to the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 codes and regulations?

There is surely difficulty in establishing killed numbers of Kangaroos by both commercial killers, non commercial and landowners since the removal of the requirement for drop tags and
Legislative Council Portfolio Committee No.7 - Planning and Environment.

Do they use planes?

The NSW government promotes, financially supports and even actively participates in the brutal killing of tens of thousands of kangaroos across our state. This is an international disgrace and is a terrible, shameful way to treat an Aboriginal totem and of all things our national emblem.

Kangaroo females feed their babies for 12 months, often longer. They do not breed during drought. We lost so many during the Black Summer fires of 2019/20 and I've heard some politicians say that they are mobile so can escape. Its a bit hard to escape through barbed wire fences and exclusion fencing. I have seen terrified adult Kangaroos and joeys CREMATED on these fences because they could not jump them.

Governments are happy to use the Kangaroo logo for tourism and selling Australian products but are much happier to kill these iconic animals to make a profit from them.

They are happy to have joeys heads bashed onto towbars because their mother's have been killed. They suffer, believe me, despite what is common belief, so called pinkie (without fur)

"unviable" joeys feel pain. I have seen and heard them. The whole industry is cruel and without mercy or compassion.

Australia has the unenviable record of the highest mammal extinction rate in the world. While other countries are doing their native best to conserve their native wildlife to survive, our Government is trying its best to kill them all.

DO WE REALLY WANT THE KANGAROO TO BECOME EXTINCT LIKE SO MANY OF OUR OTHER NATIVE ANIMALS HAVE ALREADY ???