

Submission  
No 282

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 23 April 2021

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Partially  
Confidential

To whom this may concern,

I am writing to you in regards to the current treatment of macropods in NSW Australia. I live on the south coast of NSW and have many local species of macropods in my local area. Over time I am seeing many threats to native animals including deforestation, fragmented habitat, suburban footprint expansion, feral predators, 1080 baiting, drought, bushfires and collision with motor vehicles. It has been a concern of mine for sometime that these risks alone would significantly impact any chance of long term survival however over the past few years I have become enlightened to the fact that we continue hunt and kill our iconic macropods for pet and human consumption. I am completely disgusted that in NSW and Australia we continue to host the largest commercial wildlife slaughter in the world, this magnificent native animal deserves so much more respect, protection and care than this.

Last summer NSW (like many parts of Australia) saw one of the worst droughts in history, this was followed by the most horrific bushfires we have ever seen. Macropod numbers were significantly impacted by these events and in NSW they have never before been under so much pressure. The landscape has NOT recovered from these bushfires making food sources for this animal incredibly challenging and potentially impacting survival and breeding rates. Macropods form an integral part of our natural ecosystem, they assist in the regeneration of the land following bushfires, creating new growth of native flora and are known to reduce future fuel loads. Macropods should be encouraged and supported on our landscapes.

Wildlife carers and organisations in my region rely on both their own finances and public donation to save and rehabilitate this iconic native animal when in need. It is simply insulting that we encourage and/or pay contractors and land owners to then slaughter these beautiful marsupials and their young in the most barbaric and gruesome way. This cruel and heavily unregulated industry is simply unsustainable, careless and unsupported by many. What will it take for us to begin to care.

Please, take the pressure off this beautiful and critically important native animal before we no longer have them to enjoy. I do not support any continued slaughter of macropods and their young, we need to give them the respect, protection and care they deserve.

Regards,