

Submission
No 312

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

Name: Ms Lana Williams

Date Received: 24 April 2021

a) I have been living in the Northern Rivers area of NSW for 9 months, and in that time I have not seen any kangaroos in the wild, on road / hiking trips through the Border Ranges NP, Mt Jerusalem NP, Casino, Lismore, or from the Tweed to the QLD border.

As a wildlife carer/rescuer I have witnessed first hand the cruelty inflicted on both adults and joeys (both in the pouch and at foot) from -

- being caught on barb wire
- trapped by and/or caught on exclusion fencing
- mothers shot in face/neck but still alive with young
- joeys still alive after being smashed against car after mother shot

There is also the question as to where to release any that have been rehabilitated, so that they will not endure the same fate, or even to locate a mob for them to join.

c) 1. The Northern Rivers was largely burnt out in the fires of 2019, and has recently experienced severe flooding. Both of these events have resulted in the loss of habitat and food for kangaroos, followed by lower breeding numbers as evidenced by a noticeable decline in visual accounts of mobs.

2. Exclusion fencing is also becoming increasingly prevalent and is indiscriminate in its ability to ensnare kangaroos in the wire, as well as trapping them if the surrounding properties are also using it.

3. The impact on kangaroo numbers from extensive land clearing due to agriculture and urban development has been devastating.

h) Regional tourism could only benefit from the addition of kangaroo parks, and viewing areas/platforms along the wildlife corridors they use.

Visitors want to see kangaroos in the wild.