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

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Partially Confidential

We live on a rural property at NNSW on the Central West Slopes and Plains. In the 30 years we have been there we have never allowed any kangaroo shooting on our property. However the wheat farmers on all sides of us shoot every kangaroo they see. There has been absolutely no control over this shooting in all the years we have been there. At one stage 20 large kangaroos were dead along our boundary fenceline and not one had what was then required a tag to identify that it was legally shot. The farmers are shooting nearly every night. We have grown crops and the kangaroos never did much hard to them, only nibbled a few areas on the boundaries and even those grew back. The roos do not like the crops once they get to a certain height and leave the crops alone. This open slather across NSW in terms of shooting kangaroos en masse is a disgrace. We have often had to shoot wounded roos that have crawled into our place when the shooters have done a poor job. It is time some sort of control was exercised over this, and more importantly that action is taken when clearly the wildlife rules are abused in the way we have seen them being abused in the years we have been here .Not only do they shoot the roos they also shoot the few emus that remain. On top of that the croppers knock down any old growth trees thus depriving native birdlife of nesting facilities. They are creating a monoculture and lunar landscape on these plains and it has to stop. How can the Government say it will pay farmers to sequest carbon when other farmers are destroying trees all over the central west of NSW. They then burn them having knocked them down. It is time the NSW Government did something to protect the wildlife populations of this State and biodiversity. But is seems out of sight out or mind as far as the Government in concerned. A disgrace. Action is long overdue.