

Submission
No 314

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

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Kangaroos are an Australian icon. As a 70 plus Australian who has travelled extensively throughout my country, seeing mobs of wild kangaroos was something I have always enjoyed. During a recent two week road trip from Sydney to Broken Hill, stopping in small and large towns along the way, I was shocked and dismayed to see absolutely NO kangaroos at all until the final day when we saw just three on the outskirts of Orange. We saw no dead kangaroos on the roads either, meaning they were simply none in the area at all, not just in daylight when we were driving.

The last time I made this trip, about 8 years ago and prior to the recent years of drought, we saw numerous mobs of wild roos, much to the delight of our international visitors, and ourselves.

It seems clear that the long years of drought, as well as the devastating bushfires of the last years, has had a catastrophic effect on the numbers of Australia's favourite animal. We need to ensure that everything possible is done to protect the remaining kangaroos in the bush.