

Submission  
No 323

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

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In early 2020, Australia was met with the worst bush fire season in history, killing nearly 1.25 billion animals in NSW and Victoria alone. Unique animals, found only in Australia. The Australian government asked for help to save its wildlife. The world mobilized, sending veterinary supplies, crafters united sending pouches, bat wraps, and many other things to help rescues restock after they themselves had been affected by the fires. The world united and send a clear message that Australia wildlife matters.

Since then, I have had an interest in the Australian wildlife and I am shocked at how it is now treated by the Australian government. Shooting permits for kangaroos were issued in 2020, after loosing so many to the fires at the begining of the year. What a nonsense! And then I learned that industries are allowed to use kangaroo meat for animal food, leather for shoes and so on... Why isn't Australia and NSW protecting it's wildlife?

In Canada, wildlife is protected, even though we don't really have any unique animals. Mooses are found all over the north emisphere, white bears, which are endangered, are found in other countries, beavers are comun, we truly have nothing unique to Canada. And yet, they are protected. Wild meat cannot be sold or used in any ways. Hunters can get a hunting permit, which are in limited numbers, and sometimes just not available if the local population is low, and this permit only allows them to eat the meat. It is illegal to sell wild meat and one that does so would be fined for it. Hunting permits are limited, take into account the health of the wildlife population. For exemple, a moose permit is issued for 2 people together. You can't be 2 people and kill 2 mooses. Some years females and veals are not allowed to be hunted to let the population grow. Right now, a tick is attacking our mooses and hunting permits number are lowering to protect wildlife.

So you will understand that I find it unacceptable, that Australia and NSW government allows commercial use of wildlife meat when it can be done differently. Doesn't your government have a responsibility to protect your precious and so unique wildlife even more than governments from countries with not so unique wildlife? I truly cannot understand why you keep managing your wildlife as if you didn't loose over 3 billions of it last year! This has to stop.