

**Submission
No 369**

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

Name: Mr Christopher Coy

Date Received: 26 April 2021

Dear Committee,

This is my submission into the inquiry into the health and wellbeing of kangaroos and other macropods in New South Wales.

My name is Christopher Coy and I am a retired Police Officer.

Evidence is suggesting that the long-term survival of our Kangaroos is at risk. Almost 90 million kangaroos and wallabies in Australia have been killed for commercial purposes in the last 20 years. This simply cannot go on. We will end up with Kangaroos becoming extinct in the wild.

The impact of deforestation, housing development, drought, depletion of water in rivers and dams, bushfires, land clearing for agriculture, mining and the exclusion fencing (which the NSW Govt encourages) which stops the movement of Kangaroos and ends up in their deaths, has depleted the populations of all Macropods.

Current Government policies as to the cruel way in which these animals are killed do not take into account any of the above occurrences. Nor do they take into account the mortality rate of the orphaned joeys that are killed where females die. What are the methods used for setting quota numbers for culling and for the management of licences to cull Kangaroos? Are there any drought relief programs or policies to help farmers deal with Kangaroos besides just killing them.

How do you know if these commercial and non commercial "hunters" are complying to the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 codes and regulations?

There is surely difficulty in establishing killed numbers of Kangaroos by both commercial killers, non commercial and landowners since the removal of the requirement for drop tags and Legislative Council Portfolio Committee No.7 - Planning and Environment. Do they use planes?

The NSW government promotes, financially supports and even actively participates in the brutal killing of tens of thousands of kangaroos across our state. This is an international disgrace and is a terrible, shameful way to treat an Aboriginal totem and of all things our national emblem.

Kangaroo females feed their joeys for 12 months, often longer. They do not breed during drought. We lost so many during the Black Summer fires of 2019/20.

I've heard some politicians say that they are mobile so can escape. Its impossible to escape through barbed wire fences and exclusion fencing. I have seen terrified adult Kangaroos and joeys burnt to death on these fences because they could not jump them.

Governments are happy to use the Kangaroo logo for tourism and selling Australian products but are much happier to kill these iconic animals to make a \$200 million profit from them.

They are happy to have joeys heads bashed onto towbars because their mother's have been killed. They suffer, believe me, despite what is common belief, so called pinkie (without fur) "unviable" joeys feel pain. My wife is a Wildlife carer so I have seen and heard them. The whole industry is cruel and without mercy or compassion.

All Kangaroo meat sold comes from wild kangaroos. Commercial hunters shoot, behead and butcher them outside Then they hang them on the outside of their utes and transport them to a

chiller truck. During this time their lifeless bodies are vulnerable to bacteria, which can be harmful to humans. Several random tests over the years have found that Kangaroo meat intended for human consumption has tested positive for salmonella and E.coli.

On top of this Kangaroo meat contains the highest levels of L-carnitine, a compound that is tied to the creation of arterial plaque and is positively associated with higher rates of heart disease, including heart attacks, strokes and cardiovascular disease.

Australia has the unenviable record of the highest mammal extinction rate in the world.

While other countries are doing their best to conserve their native wildlife to survive, our Government is trying its best to kill them all.

WHEN ALL THE TREES ARE CUT DOWN
WHEN ALL THE ANIMALS ARE DEAD
WHEN ALL THE WATER IS POISONED
WHEN ALL THE AIR IS POLLUTED
ONLY THEN WILL YOU DISCOVER THAT YOU CANNOT EAT MONEY.