

Submission  
No 393

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 26 April 2021

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Partially  
Confidential

I make my submission as someone who cares deeply for the wellbeing of kangaroos. And as someone who has traversed NSW monthly over the last 8 years.

My first experience with a kangaroo was not in its natural habitat but at Symbio Zoo at Helensburgh as a four year old.

To now experience them living in the wild on my property in Dubbo is phenomenal. They are shy creatures thought magnificent to watch bounding across the paddocks. Their impact on my land is minimal and I happily share my water and any feed they come across with them. My neighbours fed kangaroos during the drought.

I have noticed a sharp decline in numbers of kangaroos. Despite as I said monthly driving between the Illawarra and central west - to Parkes and Dubbo, I have never seen a live kangaroo while driving. And the amount of road kill - kangaroos dead on the side of the road - has also declined since my childhood. I see very few which again tells me their numbers are in decline.

I wonder about the alleged plague proportions and have never witnessed evidence of this. I believe it is inflated by people who shoot for sport.

My knowledge of the commercial killing kangaroo industry is that it is cruel and barbaric, with the bludgeoning of joeys very like the bludgeoning of seal pups except that it takes place in the dead of night. The world would be horrified to know. Kangaroos shot and left to die slowly and painfully from imperfect shots. There is plenty of evidence of this cruelty.

Our native wildlife deserve better. Decimated by the bushfires, they need support and not murder for sport.

I believe our government should be fighting to protect these vulnerable creatures and not further support their cruel slaughter for profit and decline in numbers.