

Supplementary  
Submission  
No 95a

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 24 April 2021

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Partially  
Confidential

To whom it may concern

I am extremely worried about the treatment of macropods (and other marsupials) in NSW. I support a few joey rescues there, and the situations, where the orphaned Joey's are found is pretty nasty. Females hit by cars, tangled up in barbed wire, shot for fun etc. I am a long time conservationist, dealing with wildlife rescues in different parts of the world, including Asian countries and South America and fighting against "traditional medicine".

The apocalyptic wildfire in NSW destroyed more than enough marsupials and macropods, but left an even greater number of injured animals with severe foot burns and tail burns that rendered those animals almost immobile. The number of casualties in that fire was enormous, even though some found refuge in rivers, but the death toll was too big and in places may have caused genetic material decrease. The number of discarded joeys also was great. This is where the rescues come into the picture: dealing with burns, trying to help the burnt feet and tails and not only with their released kangaroos, but also those of wild ones.

Another big red flag is the dog meat trade. Kangaroos seem to be thought of as a free source of meat and skin. I must say I was dumbfounded to find kangaroo leather Australian style hat for sale in Lapland, Finland, in the gold mining communities' souvenirs shops. My heart dropped...

Since Australia broke off about 125 million years ago from the last super continent, the fauna and flora have remained about the same till today. Only humans have brought with them the need to kill and both beneficial and, in their eyes, also harmful animals like the Australian Tiger, the last of which died in a zoo in the early years of the 20th century. The Tasmanian devil viral cancer can be suspected to be of human origin, but luckily the devils are bouncing back.

In general, human activities, including rallies driven through nature reserves endangers macropods and also wombats. I cannot look at the situation without bringing other species into my submission, since every species contributes one way or another to the lives of all marsupials. And the regrowth of the burnt forests and bushland take years, if not decades, to provide a decent habitat for Australian fauna in NSW.

It is very important to the native forests and bushland to have a well and naturally balanced ecosystem to provide for the fauna. The iconic macropods need their bushland, forests, swamps and rocks to live on. And so do many other native species.

I hope my submission will make a difference, since my love and interest in Australia and all who live on the continent has been great now for decades. Thank you for allowing me to have my little say in this matter.

(And please, forgive any typing mistakes, English is my second language.)