

**Submission
No 4**

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED AERIAL SHOOTING OF
BRUMBIES IN KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK**

Name: Mrs Kim McDonald

Date Received: 29 August 2023

Dear Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of these beautiful animals, who are once again being deemed as a pest to eradicate. The aerial shooting of these animals is extremely cruel and can leave countless animals maimed and suffering horrendously for days on end. This is just not acceptable and is definitely not the answer. These animals want to live, just like you and I; and they deserve that chance. Why do humans always believe it is their right to decide what species lives and what species die?

With the intelligence that humans possess, it is hard to comprehend how this is the only solution on the table. We must solve problems like this with compassion and foresight, instead of always choosing a quick fix.

In every way that matters - in their capacity to suffer and feel pain, to feel love and affection and care for their babies, mates and families, to experience joy in living their lives in peace, to seek shelter from the harsh elements and to desperately want to live the only life they will ever have, free from human inflicted pain and suffering, non-human animals are no different to us. Just as our lives matter to us, so do their lives matter to them; and shouldn't that alone be reason enough for us to care about their wellbeing. As living, sentient beings, the instinct to survive is the same for us all. This is their home too.

When we know better, we should do better; and a massacre is just so cruel and so wrong.

Please do not subject these animals to such cruelty and suffering. Please find a better way, because there always is.

Kindest Regards

Kim