

**Submission  
No 19**

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

**Name:** Mrs Mickey v. Br.

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Brumbies are sentient beings, but have been targeted for a long time! Environmental damage in Kosciuszko National Park cannot be attributed to brumbies as such, there are many complicating factors causing this, for example Snowy 2, increased tourism development, 4-wheel drivers, other visitors and agricultural runoff.

Recent incidents have highlighted the brutality brumbies face. In September, the Liberal-National Government shot an entire herd of brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park, causing immense trauma to the whole community. Many horses suffered slow and agonising deaths, including pregnant mares who lost their foals. This is extremely inhumane and unethical. and should never be allowed.

In May of this year, 67 horses in Kosciuszko National Park met a similarly brutal fate, shot in their necks and left to bleed out. Pregnant mares and foals perished. The government may label its brumby shooting and trapping program as humane, but it is in fact barbaric.

The true extent of the killings and the fate of these horses remain uncertain. And the survey methodology for counting brumbies has significant flaws, as highlighted by Independent Biostatistician Claire Galea's recent report. Adding up horse counts from different years is not accurate or ethical – it's deception, not statistics. The call for accuracy remains! Management of wild horses can only be done by the use of PZP, fertility control, if this is necessary. Instead of shooting these iconic beings with bullets, use darts and inject the females with this proven means which has been a success elsewhere for many years!