

**Submission  
No 25**

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

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The proposed aerial killing of brumbies in the Kosciusko National park is an alarming and distressing proposal and should not be allowed or sanctioned under any means.

1--the brumbies have been scapegoated and blamed for destroying the environment within the National Park. However it is well evidenced that increased numbers of feral deer and pigs have done as much damage to vegetation and waterways and other threats to the park include Snowy

2.Tourism and 4 wheel driving

2-Recent shootings of an entire herd of brumbies has caused immense grief to an entire community and to a herd of horses including newly born foals

In May 2023 67 horses were shot in the neck and left to die in an agonizing death and the carcasses left to rot near waterways

3 There is a flawed methodology in the numbers of brumbies said to be in the park as highlighted by the Claire Galea report .The adding up of brumbies from different years is not only deceptive but also not ethical. And as mares only reproduce once a year and are often barren in times of drought the number of brumbies reported by National Parks is grossly overestimated. Also, it is unknown accurate numbers of brumbies that perished in recent bushfires and previous to that a severe and protracted drought.

4---Aerial shooting in the park poses a threat to other endangered species and to humans who may be bush walking, camping within the park

5-The impact of a previous aerial culling of horses within the Guy Fawkes National Park has had a long term psychological impact on a community

6-Aerial culling of horses is a cruel and barbaric method of eradicating horses. It leaves a herd often depleted of its stallion which protects the herd from predators and many times foals are left watching their dying mothers. Horses stampede once they become aware of the killings and often in the stampede horses suffer broken legs and are left to die an agonizing death

7--In many countries around the world wild horses are protected and welcomed by the community and present a tourist attraction. In Scotland. The Faroe Islands and Finland their horses are protected.

Please ---this is a chance for Australia to present a show case on how to preserve these brumbies and keep them as a tourist attraction and as the iconic brumbies have highlighted the majesty of the AUSTRALIAN alps in so many movies and have attracted so much interest from overseas.