

**Submission  
No 29**

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

**Name:** Susie Little  
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My name is Susie Little, I would like to make comment on this submission that challenges the NSW Labor Government and the Environment Minister Penny Sharpe and NPWS Director Atticus Fleming who intend to amend the current Wild Horse Management Plan to allow aerial shooting of Brumbies within Kosciuszko National Park (KNP). This proposed amendment is based on false numbers that has been highlighted in the current Senate Inquiry into Wild Horses in the Australian Alps by Claire Galea, Biostatistician and Joanna Canning Equine Veterinarian.

This barbaric proposal must not be allowed to go ahead. Aerial shooting of brumbies in Guy Fawkes NP in the year 2000, where over 600 brumbies were shot from helicopters, many of the brumbies were not killed instantly and were found still alive days later, suffering terribly, most died slow and painful deaths and this sort of management of brumbies, must never be allowed to be undertaken again. Aerial shooting does not guarantee a clean kill even from professional marksmen and this type of management does not conform to welfare standards or operational standards that NPWS are to adhere to.

Minister Sharpe refuses to listen to the Brumby community who have time and time again pleaded and asked for an urgent recount before any further brumbies are removed or shot. The brumbies are part of our Australian culture and have significant heritage value and their heritage and cultural values need to be protected and preserved. The brumbies have been in Australian Alpine regions well before these areas were declared as National Park. The lineages of these brumbies go back to our nation building and war efforts. As an Australian citizen I have a right to demand that the brumbies of KNP and Australian Alpine regions be protected and preserved as part of our National history. I demand a independent and non biased urgent recount of the brumbies. There is not 18,000 plus brumbies in the KNP/Australian Alps, the Cairns methodology used to count both kangaroos and brumbies, was proven in the Kangaroo Inquiry by Claire Galea, to be false and Minister Sharpe agreed that the numbers were wrong during the recent Kangaroos Inquiry. I am asking that this Inquiry recommends an immediate Moratorium on all removals, be trapping or shooting to be put in place and an immediate recount of brumbies be undertaken. I also ask that the proposed amendment of aerial shooting in the Wild Horse Management Plan be blocked and aerial shooting must never be allowed or be used to control brumbies and Ground shooting also must be banned in KNP/Australian Alps. Ground shooting conducted recently in KNP/Australian Alps, found by members of the public with non lethal shots, brumbies photographed with stomach and shoulder gun shots wounds, pregnant mares found with partially aborted foals. All these brumbies were ground shot by NPWS hired professional shooters. The cruelty allowed is disturbing and disgusting. The carcasses of these brumbies were found near streams, and allowed to rot, which causes contamination to the waterways which again goes against NPWS own best practices. The carcasses also becomes a food source for wild pig and dogs this increases their numbers within KNP. NPWS Atticus Fleming made comments that leaving the carcasses in the park, 'to return to nature' This sort of commentary is unacceptable and shows how detached he is when it comes to preserving these pristine areas from contamination and disease and public safety for all users of KNP.

NO Shooting Brumbies in KNP or within the Australian Alps.

Thankyou,

Susie Little