

**Submission  
No 51**

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

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Brumbies in the Kosciusko National Park (KNP) were introduced by humans. All introduced species into our precious environment have been introduced by humans. It is humans that are the real pest species causing havoc and decimation of our natural environment. We don't go around killing and maiming humans to reduce their numbers, so we shouldn't be doing that to other species either. Do unto others as you would have them do to you. How would you like to be killed from a moving target such as a plane or helicopter? Add to that the speed of horses running away from the terrifying noise and you have a recipe for disaster. Just like what happened in Guy Fawkes National Park, where horses were left injured and dying. Where mares aborted foals and a blood bath of cruelty was left behind. This is no way to treat another living sentient being.

As well as capturing and domesticating Brumbies there are other alternatives to lethal slaughter and that includes sterilisation programs and setting aside reserves where the Brumbies are allowed and protecting the most vulnerable areas of the park.

I find it a fascinating disconnect that we can build Snowy Hydro 1 and 2 and numerous ski resorts and infrastructure and think that somehow the horses do more damage than we do. Whilst I myself have enjoyed skiing these ski resorts are built purely for entertainment and pleasure of self. All these poor beautiful and significantly historical Brumbies are doing is trying to survive.

And if we are so concerned about our precious environment on top of the imminent extinction of koalas, why is the Government still logging the proposed Great Koala National Park. Industrial logging does far more damage than any horses will ever do.

Please stop the hypocrisy and start realising that what Governments allow humans to do to the environment, basically annihilating it at the expense of every other species and causing the climate crisis, whether that be via logging, landclearing, development, roads and infrastructure, mining or agriculture is what is destroying our precious environment. Not to mention dropping swathes of toxic 1080 into it. The damage by Brumbies is a drop in the ocean compared to that.

The method of calculating the numbers of Brumbies, much like the counting of kangaroos which as our national icon are obliterated in the largest land slaughter of wildlife on earth, is questionable.

But if numbers must be reduced then please opt for non-lethal methods and choose compassion and kindness over cruelty and death.