

**Submission
No 54**

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

Name: Mr Karl Augustine

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I hold you Emma Hurst and the AJP directly responsible for the deaths of 200 million defenceless native in NSW killed by people's uncontained companion cats. You posted over a year ago that you are against cat containment laws 24 7. AJP even did a protest against the Hornsby Council that wants to implement cat containment laws 24 7.

A companion cat kills 3 native animals a week on average and pet cats free roaming kill 390 million native animals a year and each cat kills 186 animals of which 110 are native animals. Data I obtained from University of Sydney.

Multiple councils in NSW want to implement cat containment laws 24 7, such as the Blue Mountains Council, Hornsby Council, Wollongong Council, Wagga Wagga council and many more councils, but they can not because they are restrained by the NSW State Government which needs to change the Animal Companion act 1998 on NSW which allows cats to free roam.

So instead of AJP helping these councils protect hundreds of millions of defenceless native animals AJP actually went as far as protesting outside Hornsby council.

It is speciesist to be cat lives only matter. But even from the AJP speciesist cats lives only matter and the 390 million defenceless native animals killed each year mean nothing, surely AJP would realise in also in the cats best interests to be contained 24 7.

Cats are killed by dogs, run over by cars, killed by other cats, catch diseases, are killed by cruel humans etc. These horrific deaths, injuries and diseases to free roaming cats will harm many more cats than the ones thst council will have euthanised by vets.

The impact to council staff and vets of not containing cats is much more. Vets have to euthanise millions of native animals injured by cats upsetting and traumatising vets. Council staff have to deal with complaints when dogs maul a trespassing cat, or cats make noise and damage property and deal with cats that have disappeared or suggested been killed or injured by cruel humans, such as ripping their claws out etc.

Kosciusko is a National Park. KNP actually stands for Kosciusko National Park and not Kosciusko National Paddock. So wild horses are causing massive ecological damage to the ecosystem of the Kosciusko National Park. So are wild pigs, wild dogs, feral cats etc decimating the native wildlife of the Kosciusko National Park and pushing species to extinction. Many people supporting the brumbies are also supportive of sheep and cattle other hard hoofed animals destroying water ways and the ecology with land cleared and impacts of biodiversity loss.

So Guy Fawkes, Singleton killings of Brumbies will take place in the Kosciusko.

You used to push for immuno contraception of the horses. I know protesters at Singleton seeing helicopters flying low using automatic weapons rapid fire from a moving platform and tip trucks turning up to remove carcasses the next day. Gun shots to the brain from a ground shooter might

be better than aerial shooting though the horses will soon disperse after a few shots and dead horses. I asked why immuno contraception was not used. Was told that when shoot a couple of horses the others disperse and too hard to work out which ones have been darted and which ones have not.

It seems that supporters of brumbies a decade ago from other political parties are now unsupportive.

There is a push to preserve native wildlife from extinction. The leading cause of native wild life deaths in Australia is from invasives. Such as fire ants, cane toads, rabbits, pigs, cats, dogs, foxes etc. Invasives are the leading cause of native wild life deaths in Australia ahead of deforestation and climate change as Australia our native wildlife evolved tens of millions of years with out invasives such as cats foxes and wild dogs. Horses included but more so sheep and cattle occupy 56% of Australias land surface. As such our defenceless native wildlife has no protections in place to protect themselves from invasives. Else where in world invasives is fifth leading reason but in Australia it's the leading reason.

Cats, foxes and wild dogs alone kill 2.6 billion native animals a year.

In Kosciusko National Park there are critically endangered species such as the pygmy possum of which are only 2,000 left in the alpine region. These possums only live above the snow line in Alps. Also the broad toothed rat.

It's Kosciusko National Park not Kosciusko National Paddock.

It you want to save wildlife back flip on your hindering cat containment 24 7 laws and allow councils of NSW to implement cat containment laws and save hundreds of millions of defenceless native animals from death by pet cats which you are solely responsible for.