

Submission  
No 64

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

New South Wales Upper House Inquiry into Aerial Shooting  
within Kosciuszko National Park

As a traditional Ngarigo custodian of the country known as Kosciuszko National Park, I strongly agree with the need for aerial shooting to control the feral horses that are destroying country.

I am a horse lover and have owned horses all my life. I am a qualified Equine Podiatrist and have spent many years endeavouring to keep horse's pain free.

I have been on country and have seen firsthand the annihilation of the sacred spring, the rivers and wetlands. Million of years of growth in the bog and fen areas all but destroyed over the last 20 years. This issue was first brought to light twenty years ago!

I understand that some might think that these feral horses can be mustered and rehomed, however we know by the evidence on the ground that this has not worked. These tactics cannot and have not kept up with the foaling rate and the ever-increasing numbers of hoofs that every day compact the soil and disperse the water that become bog holes.

Aerial shooting has been used very successfully by many agencies. It has been proven to be effective and humane. As a horse person with over 50 years' experience, I firmly believe that the approach of mustering, yarding, containing, transporting and re-homing or going to the abattoirs is far more stressful than a bullet.

I feel concern for the native animals and flora that are also suffering due to grazing competition and trampling of habitat. We have the ridiculous situation where native animals are being breed off country due to very real extinction possibility and we are protecting feral animals! I refer to the Galaxis fish and the Corroboree Frog, there are possibly more that I am not aware of.

As we enter the El Nino weather pattern, my concern is also for the welfare of thousands of horses that will be competing for water and grazing.

If aerial culling is not used, I believe that with a foaling rate of over 17% that our iconic and much loved 'Kosie', will pass the tipping point of recovery.

The northern area of Kosciusko National Park was extended in 1974 to guarantee water security to the then Snowy Mountain Scheme. Cattle were

removed and snow leasng discontinued for that reason. How is it that now with climate change adding to the situation, and the degrading of waterways that the feral horses has created and continue to do so, that they are allowed to increase and damage this precious resource?

It is the voice of a few, that have created this problem. The concerns of the many who care for this very special part of Australia need to be heard and acted upon.

We need to act now and we need to Aerial cull, if we are to be successful and save Kosciuszko National Park for future generations.