

Supplementary  
Submission  
No 9a

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 4 October 2023

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Partially  
Confidential

I am writing this submission in support of our Heritage Brumbies in Kosciusko National Park and others across Australia.

In the strongest terms I DO NOT ACCEPT ANY CULLING OF THESE HORSES be it aerial or ground shooting, trapping for slaughter.

The government has now been furnished reports that categorically state the numbers they propose are in the park are wrong. ( Claire Galea - independent statistician and Joanne Canning - equine scientist)

It is a scientific impossibility the numbers can be extrapolated from 1182 ( noted by Cairns) to 14,000-23,000.

The fact that there is such a huge gap in the estimate proves he has no idea of life and breeding cycles of equines.

Mares do not have a foal every year and gestation takes eleven months. Not all foals survive and males do not carry foals.

A count was carried out in June 2023 on horseback, foot and vehicle of the northern end of KNP.

This found there to be 653 horses, which was then doubled ( to ensure accuracy for any missed) in a report presented to Minister Sharpe, where it is said she observed that a mistake had been made in the numbers she had been quoted previously.

She has still refused to stop the culling until a proper count can be carried out.

The events of the last few weeks and discoveries of at least 280 horses over this past weekend after the opening of the park are abhorrent in the extreme.

These horses were not humanely killed, being shot in the neck , legs and gut and left to bleed out. Mares and foals included, pregnant mares living long enough to abort foals.

This is NOT best practice and should be taken to the RSPCA....but again they seem to think this is ok. IT IS NOT!

**\* \* THIS CRUELTY IS UNACCEPTABLE IN A COUNTRY WHERE WE BOAST A HUMANE AND COMPASSIONATE AND CIVILISED SOCIETY\*\***

The carcasses have been left in waterways, near the Alpine Walking Trail, and at popular camping areas for families to enjoy.

An environmental mess. The EPA would fine anyone else for leaving carcasses in such a manner.

The mental health issues this is causing to so many is growing and more so after this week's discovery.

I am suffering severe depression from this. It affects me every day.

I am unable to come to terms with the lies and deceit these people get away with.

THEY ARE NOT ABOVE THE LAW.

These horses are are link to Australia's colonial past, opening up pastoral lands, carrying our young men in war and live in the hearts of so many proud Australians who have links to our history.

It has now been documented that countries are re wilding areas with horses to help mitigate fire risk. This was proven during catastrophic fires that destroyed so much of KNP in 2019-2020.

Areas of the park not badly affected eg Long Plain are where horses had grazed down the fuel load.

Areas where horses have been removed are already being destroyed by wild pigs as there is now nothing to keep them away.

Those who carried out these atrocities must be held to account. This must not continue.

Images:

We should all be compassionate

Carcass in waterway

Pig damage

Human vehicle damage

Horse area.....no damage