

**Submission  
No 94**

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

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To whom it may concern

I write to express my concerns as a concerned member of the public regarding the proposed aerial shooting of brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park. The management of brumby populations necessitates a well-informed, ethical, and compassionate approach that upholds both conservation goals and animal welfare principles.

It is imperative that the Australian government carefully considers various perspectives and conducts thorough research to determine the most effective and humane approach to manage brumby populations in Kosciuszko National Park and other affected areas. Public input and consultation with organizations like the Animal Justice Party are fundamental in shaping policies that strike a balance between conservation and animal welfare.

Here are some key strategies that merit serious consideration from both a humanitarian and economic standpoint:

A. Immunocontraception Vaccines: Immunocontraception vaccines have been proven to be both cost-effective and highly successful in managing wild horse populations, as demonstrated by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the United States. There is no reason why Australia should not follow suit. Notably, New Zealand has successfully implemented this method of management, with the culmination of the May 2022 Kaimanawa Wild Horse Muster marking the beginning of a new era in wild horse population management.

B. Government Funding for Rehoming: Allocating government funding to approved organizations with the purpose of rehoming some horses is a crucial step towards ensuring the welfare of these animals. This would aid in managing the population while prioritizing the well-being of the brumbies.

In alignment with the Animal Justice Party's key objectives, I strongly urge the Australian Government to take the following actions:

1. Immediate Cessation of Aerial and Ground Shooting: Put an immediate halt to aerial and ground shooting of brumbies, recognizing the inhumanity and cruelty associated with these lethal control methods.
2. Outlawing Lethal Control Methods: Prohibit the use of all lethal control methods on brumbies, emphasizing the importance of humane alternatives in managing their populations.
3. Funding Research into Fertility Control: Allocate funding for research into safe, humane, and effective fertility control methods that can assist in managing brumby populations responsibly.
4. Implementation of Humane Capture and Re-homing Programs: Establish and implement humane capture and re-homing programs, providing government support to groups and individuals dedicated to the care of brumbies in genuine animal sanctuaries.
5. Humane Non-lethal Methods: Implement humane non-lethal methods, such as fertility control, targeted wildlife-safe fencing, and rehoming, in cases where brumbies pose threats to native animals or the environment. Tailor the approach according to specific circumstances to minimize harm while ensuring the long-term welfare of both the brumbies and the ecosystem.

I firmly believe that adopting these strategies and objectives will contribute to a more compassionate and effective approach to managing brumby populations in Kosciuszko National Park, safeguarding the welfare of these animals while respecting the delicate balance of the ecosystem.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.