

**Submission  
No 115**

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

**Name:** Ms Karen Sommers

**Date Received:** 12 October 2023

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Subject: Urgent Appeal to ban the Killing of Brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park

Dear members of Parliament

I write to you today with a heavy heart and a profound sense of urgency regarding the ongoing culling of Brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park. As a concerned citizen and advocate for the preservation of our natural heritage, I implore you to take immediate action to cease these destructive practices and consider alternative, humane methods of managing the Brumby population.

The Brumbies, descendants of the horses introduced by European settlers, have become an integral part of the cultural and ecological fabric of Kosciuszko National Park. However, recent government actions to cull these iconic animals demonstrate a concerning disregard for the inherent value they hold and the disastrous consequences it will have on both the land and the lives of other species within the park.

It is imperative to recognize that Brumbies play a crucial role in maintaining the delicate balance of the park's ecosystem. These majestic creatures have coexisted with native flora and fauna for over a century, adapting to the unique environmental conditions of the region. Their grazing habits facilitate seed dispersal, promote plant diversity, and prevent the encroachment of invasive species. Eliminating Brumbies from the landscape would disrupt these ecological processes, leading to irreversible damage and endangering the survival of numerous plant and animal species.

Moreover, the government's insistence on culling Brumbies demonstrates a fundamental lack of understanding of the potential non-lethal methods available for population management. Fertility control programs, used successfully in other areas facing similar challenges, offer a humane and effective solution to control the Brumby population while preserving their presence in the park. By implementing such programs, the government can demonstrate a commitment to conservation and strike a balance between environmental sustainability and the preservation of our cultural heritage.

Furthermore, the Brumbies hold immense cultural significance for many Australians, particularly those with ancestral ties to the pioneering era. They embody the spirit of resilience, freedom, and our nation's rich history. The eradication of these cherished animals would result in an irreparable loss of our national identity and cultural heritage.

I implore you to reconsider the decision to cull Brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park and instead invest in comprehensive research and consultation with experts, environmentalists, and stakeholders. By doing so, we can develop a sustainable management plan that respects the ecological needs of the park while honoring the cultural significance of the Brumbies.

In conclusion, I urge you to ban the killing of Brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park immediately. The government's ignorance and failure to explore non-lethal alternatives will have far-reaching consequences for the land and the lives of numerous species within the park. Let us embrace a

compassionate and informed approach to preserve our natural heritage and uphold our responsibility as custodians of the environment.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I eagerly await your response and implore you to take the necessary steps to protect these magnificent creatures and the ecological balance of Kosciuszko National Park.

Yours Sincerely,

Ms Karen Sommers