

**INQUIRY INTO HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF
KANGAROOS AND OTHER MACROPODS IN NEW SOUTH
WALES**

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 20 April 2021

Partially
Confidential

a. I live in a rural location 55km from the nearest regional town. I purchased this property because of it's 60 acres of natural vegetation and location between three ecologically significant regions. My property acts as a corridor between national parks (Albany region, Porongorup and Stirling Ranges). I welcome all wild animals to my property and aim to provide a safe location for them, as well as preserving the ancient trees and other flora that are food for these animals. I am part of a wildlife rescue team and take on western grey joeys from 1kg. I release them on my property when they are old enough to become part of 'the mob'. When I moved here 6 years ago there was no mob. No kangaroos. That's because one boundary of my property is a main road. It kills roos. Then I am surrounded by farms on 3 sides. Farmers shoot roos. Whenever I hear people say there are too many roos I know they are coming from a road/farmer perspective. Too many roads and too many farms. This gives the impression that roos are everywhere. Roos are just trying to find safe places to raise a family and be part of a mob.

b. n/a

c. In addition to the threats of roads and farmers, there is the issue of water scarcity. The property next to me is a natural water hole. It's the only natural water source for kms. My property is riparian wetland, banksia woodland, and jarrah/marri forest. The waterhole next door is never full of water. There are too many dams on surrounding farms. They take all the water. When roos go to dams for a drink it's because all of the natural water sources have dried up due to over-farming of the land.

d. I am constantly living in a state of trauma. Every time I hear a gunshot I run outside to see if it's people shooting roos. I call for the roos I know to come home. I fret constantly if a roo I know isn't around after shooting. I have known many roos to not come past again because they've been shot or run over. I sit by the roadside and cry when I see a roo dead on the road near my place. My son loves our roos just as much as me. He knows the ones we have released and he knows which ones are wild. My partner has grown up on farms. He used to shoot roos for fun. Now he feeds them. He says he'll never shoot a roo again because he's learnt how intelligent and social they are.

e. I have seen mother roos wait beside their joeys for them to get up after being stuck in fences when being hunted by shooters. I have seen shooters chase roos into fences so they get stuck and are easier to kill.

f. n/a

g. I have contacted my neighbour to ask him to help kangaroos that have been shot but not killed on his property. He does not respond. He lets them die slowly in the paddock. Their family stay for a while, and come back and forth until the roo dies a horrible death. If shooters can't shoot them with one shot they should not be allowed to shoot at all. Kangaroos are mobile animals and people would need lots of training to do this well.

h. Much more needs to be done to prevent deforestation and the destruction of wildlife corridors. Humans have a terrible record when it comes to protecting biodiversity. David Attenborough says in his 'witness statement' that we have only a few years left to save our planet, and we must start with re-wilding the wild.