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## **PRESS RELEASE Singleton Brumbies 19-Dec-18**

### **Aerial slaughter of the Singleton Army Base Brumbies**

The Australian Brumby Alliance along with many hardworking people and locals near the Singleton Army Base have worked hard to secure a humane outcome for the Singleton Army Base Brumbies.

The Australian Brumby Alliance engaged Victorian Lawyers Ocean Legal in an attempt to avert the cull and to negotiate a mutually agreeable removal of the Brumbies from the Singleton Base.

Principal Solicitor Marilyn Nuske has been in regular contact with Senator Fawcett's office and Solicitors recently instructed by the Department of Defence, requesting that the aerial cull be postponed so that Senator Fawcett could consider a proposal put forward by Australian Brumby Alliance.

The proposal was put forward today at 12 noon, delivering a kind, humane, timely and reasonable manner of dealing with the Brumbies and one that excluded a cruel and inhumane aerial cull from moving helicopters.

Senator Fawcett's Advisor, Mike Banham gave a written undertaking on behalf of Senator Fawcett at 6pm 18 December 2018 that Senator Fawcett "would consider the proposal with a reply before close of business (today) 19 December 2018".

In the meantime, we understand that Helicopters have arrived at Singleton Army Base despite the written undertaking given on behalf of Senator Fawcett to consider and get back to the ABA later today. We understand the cull is now taking place. We are deeply saddened to hear this and concerned for the high risk of injury that now faces the Singleton Brumbies.

We are equally angry about the actions of Melissa Price Minister for the Environment who has failed to give any advice about a Part 9 Application for the cull to take place, Senator Fawcett for providing an undertaken via his Advisor Mike Banham to which he has not complied and Christopher Pyne the Minister for Defence who failed to intervene to prevent this regrettable and sad massacre of the well-known Singleton Brumby population.

There is no excuse to aerially cull these Brumbies. So many people have done all they can to avert the current aerial shooting Defence department spree that has proceeded despite several sensible alternative proposal to aerial shooting that have been put to the Defence Department over the past 24 hours. These plans have been developed by skill, experienced professionals, with the best interests of the Brumbies as the highest priority. Such arrogance by our government officials beggars belief.

Authorised by Jill Pickering, President contact 0400-550-772