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PRESS RELEASE

Kosciuszko: Home to Australian flora, Fauna and Alpine Snowy Brumbies

So, environmentalists want to reclaim Kosciuszko. But Kosciuszko National Park is not theirs to reclaim, it was created for the benefit of the **general** public (National Parks Act 1975).

The public visit, value and cherish Kosi for a broad range of reasons, such as photographing wild life (including Brumbies living wild), scenery, flora, bush walking, biking, 4WD, skiing, scenery and for spiritual fulfilment, and many other varied reasons.

Jill Pickering, Australian Brumby Alliance President is scathing of the environmentalists' cold selfish push to 'reclaim Kosi' by exterminating Kosciuszko's iconic Snowy Brumbies.

We see ourselves as environmentalists too, says Ms Pickering. We value seeing Kosciuszko's fascinating environment and seeing healthy Wild Horses living in healthy environments.

The current drought cycle has been disastrous for many Queensland, NSW and Victorian areas. Farm and many wild animals in drought regions are without doubt 'doing it tough'.

The Kosciuszko Heritage Wild Horse Act 2018 is a bold step in the right direction that will also lower wild horse suffering in drought cycles. Properly implemented the Act will;

- identify the heritage value of **sustainable** wild horse populations within **identified parts** of the park, and
- set out how that heritage value will be protected while **ensuring** other **environmental values of the park** are also **maintained**,

Places of Cultural significance enrich people's lives, provide a deep, inspirational sense of connection to lived experiences of Australia's identity; and must be conserved for present and future generations in accordance with the principle of inter-generational equity.

Our Snowy Brumbies represent iconic Australian culture, a culture that 'reclaimKosi' seeks to kill, and so deny current and future generations the chance to experience and identify with.

No culture should be exterminated by another culture.

Snowy Brumby are an integral part of our culture. We urge the government to implement the NSW 'Brumby' Act's intent to; identify **sustainable** heritage horse numbers, in **identified** park areas, and **manage** that heritage value while **maintaining** other **environmental values**.

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