



Family mob of eleven Brumbies killed in Kosciuszko National Park, NSW

The Australian Brumby Alliance (ABA) received reports that on Sunday, 11th of September, eleven Brumbies had been shot and killed in Kosciuszko National Park (KNP), NSW.

The ABA condemns this senseless shooting which is inconsistent with the Kosciuszko Wild Horse Heritage Act and is demanding that the NSW Government and urgently investigate and publicly report on those responsible for this atrocity.

The ABA believes the horses were killed from a distance by multiple shooters using high powered rifles. Tragically these 11 wild horses belonged to the same family group known as the 'Kiandra Greys', who are specified as having heritage value in the current KNP management plan.

NSW's Kosciuszko Wild Horse Heritage Act 2018 regulates sustainable management of Brumbies on public land. The purpose of the Act is to recognise the heritage value of sustainable wild horse populations within parts of KNP and to protect that heritage.

President of the ABA, Jill Pickering said:

"The slaughter of these horses in KNP is devastating and barbaric. It is not consistent with the Kosciuszko Wild Horse Heritage Act which states "wild horse population in these areas will be reduced to a size that ensures that wild horse heritage values are protected, and other environmental values of the park are maintained".

"However, the heritage values of this small number of Kiandra Greys, required under the Act to be retained at a sustainable level, are being ignored, while National Parks & Wildlife Services (NPWS) continue to prioritise trapping in accessible areas, while ignoring remote areas. Intense trapping and now a shooting spree is pushing this shrinking population of Kiandra Greys to extinction."

"These 11 Brumbies are now rotting in Kosciuszko National Park where they will have a negative impact on the ecosystem, undermining any suggestion the Brumbies are killed to actually protect KNP's ecosystem.

"Humane, non-lethal options are available to governments to sustainably manage brumby populations such as fertility control and trapping. In addition, we urge NPWS to adopt a more strategic approach by targeting densely populated areas first, such as Currango."

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Authorised by Jill Pickering, President ABA