

**SUBMISSION: National Parks and Wildlife Services**  
[npws.wildhorses@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:npws.wildhorses@environment.nsw.gov.au)

13 October 2021

Dear Madam or Sir,

Re: Kosciuszko Wild Horse Management

As a resident of Far South Coast NSW and therefore a neighbour to our wonderful Kosciuszko National Park, I submit the following as relevant issues to be seriously considered when finalising the about Plan:

1. **To protect Kosciuszko's natural and Indigenous heritage**, I strongly support the rapid reduction of the feral horse population from the current high numbers using a range of control methods, including lethal methods.
2. **The proposed target population of 3000 horses is an improvement on the current situation**, has no scientific foundation and it is still too high. 3000 horses will likely continue to degrade the park and its catchments; reducing feral horse impacts should be the focus of the plan.
3. **Horses need to be removed from more areas than proposed**. The park is not a grazing range or breeding ground, so Park status demands at least a majority be horse-free. Horse retention zones cannot overlap with important environmental assets, like sensitive wetlands and critical habitat for threatened species such as stocky galaxias and corroboree frogs. Such overlapping defeats the Plan's purpose.
4. **The proposed use of ground shooting** as one control method is an important breakthrough for the plan as it is one of the most humane and effective control options for horse control. Professional aerial shooting should also be included where remoteness and accessibility limits the application of other control methods.
5. **Biodiversity and conservation planning and laws** are the prevailing principles above and beyond the protection of an introduced feral herbivore. The NSW Government has to repeal the 2018 Kosciuszko Wild Horse Heritage Act.
6. **The Plan requires implementing immediately** with significant additional funding allocated to the control program to ensure the horse population is rapidly reduced.

Sincerely,

Paul Payten

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