

The Project Officer, Kosciuszko National Park
Draft Horse Management Plan
National Parks and Wildlife Service
PO Box 472
TUMUT NSW 2720

Dear Sir/ Madam, RE – HORSE MANAGEMENT PLAN DRAFT- November 2007

I say **NO** to NPWS proposal to capture and remove brumbies from Kosciuszko National Park.

The NPWS vilification of the brumby in this Plan is beyond all comprehension.

The Plan is extremely biased and provides no comment or recognition to the cultural and heritage value of the Snowy Mountains brumby, its tourism value and subsequent contribution to the economy or the positive benefits of grazing native grasses and consequently fuel load reductions.

It would seem that because the brumby is a non- predator the NPWS have had to resort to the lame excuse of environmental impacts in an attempt to justify their proposed actions.

Surely any alleged brumby impact could not be considered to be of a serious or irreversible detrimental nature. At worst any impact would be of a temporary and short term nature and must pale into insignificance when compared to the long term impacts of bushfires, predator-feral animals, weeds, roads, dams, powerlines, ski resort development and natural occurrences such as snow, ice, rain, wind, earthquakes/tremors etc.

It is also disturbing to note that the Plan fails to disclose-

- What is the actual number of brumbies to be culled
- What conservatively would be the maximum sustainable number of brumbies in the park
- What conservatively would be the minimum number required to remain genetically viable and to cover contingencies such as the 2003 bushfires which destroyed 50% of the brumbies in the southern end of the park
- What independently chaired local community meetings are proposed to allow full and proper public debate

Signature :-

Name (print) :-.....

Address (print) :-.....

.....Postcode.....

Date / / 2007

Please return by **14 December 2007** to-

SMBUG PO BOX 711 TUMUT NSW 2720