

## Wildlife Act Review

### Submission Comment 182:

Contributor: Individual – Rebecca Fisher

#### Primary interests:

- Protection and conservation of wildlife and habitat
- Rehabilitation of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife
- Private and/or commercial keeping, breeding, trading, displaying and/or processing of wildlife or wildlife products

#### Comment

Our wildlife should not be slaughtered for commercial gain. We lost billions of animals in fires and no recent surveys have been done to accurately assess their numbers. Have we not learned from the koala slaughters in the late 1800's early 1900's? The method is inhumane and in no way monitored. Mobs are literally being wiped out! I've seen it personally. It's unethical and unsustainable. Support needs to be given to carers & rescuers. They should also be involved in disasters (fire etc) too. Not just zoos and vets who are paid to keep quiet and do as they're told. Why provide grants for fire equipment and "training" only to not allow volunteers access? Check box activity??? Carers need more financial support from gov too. Their measly \$2000 grants are deplorable. Our laws need to be stricter and enforced. Too many people get away with cruelty acts against wildlife. Wedge tail eagle farmer? Portland koala slaughter farmer? That's just two of the many reported. Delwp need to hold vicforests to the same standards as any other agency- not turn a blind eye and leave it up to the public to protect habitat. The habitat loss at the hands of vicforests through the central highlands (and many other areas) is disgraceful to say the least. Why aren't delwp in their protecting it?? I honestly don't know what Delwp are in fact for? They don't care for wildlife or environment. They inflict so much stress on wildlife carers. Issuing culling permits on neighbouring properties of shelters. Endorsing & Allowing commercial harvesters to slaughter anywhere including neighbouring properties of shelters. (There should be a 10-20km protection zone!) holding shelter licences over their heads. It's deplorable. Until there is an independent authority with prosecution powers that holds government agencies, business, farmers & individuals equally accountable - our wildlife and environment don't have a chance. You cannot claim to respect and protect when you sign off to slaughter & destroy.

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