

## Wildlife Act Review

### Submission Comment 173:

Contributor: Individual

#### Primary interests:

- Protection and conservation of wildlife and habitat
- Wildlife welfare
- Rehabilitation of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife

#### Comment

I live within a golf course precinct that has state forest abutting the course. Golf courses have a huge footprint that act as sanctuaries for native flora, fauna and waterways.

Kangaroo harvesting and the trade of kangaroo products is a disturbing practice. How the kangaroos are shot, the despatching of the joey's and the 'at foot' young is horrendous and as a modern society should not be tolerated. Farmed animals have strict controls in place from farm to plate, the kangaroo trade is conducted under the cover of darkness with little oversight. It is my understanding that the Kangaroo Harvesting Program has no size limit. Duck shooting is also something that is now very frowned upon. The practice is losing its appeal due to public opinion.

Education and legislation is required for all future fencing to allow the safe passage of native wildlife. Barbed wire in any form should be banned. Electric fencing should also be included in the review. An echidna was electrocuted after being stuck under an electric fence installed low to the ground. Domestic pets are afforded more protection than wildlife. Owners of domestic dogs that are chasing, terrorising and mauling kangaroos on their properties appear to be untouchable. The police are lacking any powers to enter properties, question or charge repeat offenders. Owners of these dogs can essentially refuse to cooperate with police or Vet's even when the owner has removed a seriously injured animal and denied it medical attention or a dignified death.

Funding needs to be provided for counselling.

The issue of permits needs to be revised. It was noted recently in the comments on Facebook by a shooter (that had 200 tags to shoot kangaroos) describing the enjoyment he got from 'blowing the guts out of roos'. Is this professional behaviour? A compulsory review regarding the safety of any potential area also needs closer scrutiny. Shooters should not be encroaching on any residential areas.

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