

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the review of the Wildlife Act 1975,

My wife and I are environmentally conscious and when we bought our property in 1972 we fenced off 40 acres of remnant bush on the western boundary as a habitat for the native animals – one fifth of the property. As well we planted other areas to provide wild life corridors and have also encouraged the growth of eucalypts in the pasture paddocks, In other words we have been conserving the flora and fauna in our area. We have always had a small resident population of kangaroos and wallabies which the family has enjoyed.

However over the years we have noticed an increasing population of Eastern Grey kangaroos initially 20-30 in number, some two years ago 70-80 and now up to 120 per night. These animals are playing havoc with our fences- on a weekly basis repairs need to be made to the electric fence system. The kangaroos are competing successfully with our 150 Angus cattle for pasture on which we have spent considerable expense, time and effort in establishing.

With this marked increase in kangaroo population we feel that the Government should monitor and allow a culling program until the numbers are under control.

It is important that our “authorization to control wildlife” permit continues to be made available by the DELWP.

Unless some remedial action is undertaken to reduce the kangaroo population our property will become unviable.