

Wildlife Act Review

Submission Comment 251:

Contributor: Individual

Primary interests:

- Protection and conservation of wildlife and habitat
- Offences and penalties relating to wildlife
- Management and control of wildlife causing problems or damage

Comment

I am extremely concerned that wildlife cruelty goes unpunished; and that the ATCW allows for such cruelty to occur as there is no oversight or control over permits once they are issued.

An example: Last year, I witnessed a corella being shot at, maimed and killed by an agent operating for the local golf club. The ACTW permit allowed for "scare only" and the agent was supposed to be using a 'salt shot' in their shot-gun. However, the agent aimed directly at the corella, hit the corella with the salt shot, maimed it. The agent looked at the bird after it fell from the tree and drove off. I recorded this event on video. I collected the corella (as it was maimed) and took it to a wildlife carer to be cared for. The corella subsequently died from its injuries. I reported this to DELWP, including the video, but it was dismissed as 'lacking in evidence'. This event highlights the issues that wildlife face under the current Wildlife Act. Permits handed out at the 'drop of a hat', no oversight, reliance on the general public to witness and report issues, and no enforcement of the law when issues are reported.

Provided June 29/2021