

6 December 2011

Professor Stuart White
Project Director
THINKK, the think tank for kangaroos
University of Technology Sydney
PO Box 123
BROADWAY NSW 2007

Dear Professor White

The ends and means of the commercial kangaroo industry: an ecological, legal and comparative analysis

RSPCA Australia welcomes the publication of the above report by THINKK, the think tank for kangaroos. The report examines the legitimacy of the kangaroo industry in Australia and highlights the urgent need for the re-evaluation of the grounds for commercial kangaroo killing.

RSPCA Australia is opposed to the killing of wild animals for commercial utilisation unless this is carried out as part of a wild animal management program that aims to protect the welfare of individual animals, help conserve a threatened, endangered or vulnerable native species, or reduce adverse impacts on human activities or the environment.

In most jurisdictions, the management of kangaroos through commercial and non-commercial shooting no longer directly relates to any of these aims. Kangaroo management plans treat kangaroos as a sustainable resource available for commercial use, rather than making a decision for control as a result of examining of their impact on agricultural activities or the environment. RSPCA Australia believes that the issue of whether kangaroos should continue to be killed under a sustainable use policy should be reviewed by both federal and state governments as a matter of urgency.

RSPCA Australia firmly supports the THINKK report's recommendations regarding the need for a reassessment of the justification for commercial kangaroo killing under the current quota system, as well as for kangaroo management at the property level. We also support the need for further research and policy intervention to ensure the humane treatment of adult kangaroos and dependent young affected by kangaroo management programs.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any assistance in promoting the recommendations of the report to government.

Yours sincerely



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