



MD15/6036

Ms Jill Pickering
President
Australian Brumby Alliance Inc.
pickjill@hotmail.com

Dear Ms Pickering

Wild horse management in Kosciuszko National Park (KNP)

I refer to your letter to the Minister for the Environment, the Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, about wild horse management in KNP. Your letter was referred to the Office of Environment and Heritage and I have been asked to reply.

The Independent Technical Reference Group (ITRG) will provide rigorous, scientific and expert advice throughout the review of the KNP Wild Horse Management Plan. The review will examine the impact of wild horses on the environment and consider the most appropriate control methods. Aerial shooting and "brumby running" (or roping) have been discounted as potential horse control methods for the new plan.

The revised plan will be based on scientific evidence and community input. This will ensure that the next plan delivers responsible conservation outcomes and is efficient, humane and socially acceptable.

The initial consultation stage of the review has closed and information from community and stakeholder engagement is being considered. It is expected that the draft plan will be publicly exhibited in early 2016, providing further opportunity for community input. Information on the review is available at <http://engage.environment.nsw.gov.au/protectsnowies>.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Rob Gibbs, Ranger KNP Wild Horse Management Plan Review NPWS on 6450 5507 or at rob.gibbs@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

MICK PETTITT
Acting Director Metro and Mountains Branch
National Parks and Wildlife Service

9/12/15