



Rob Stokes MP
Minister for the Environment
Minister for Heritage
Minister for the Central Coast
Assistant Minister for Planning

MEDIA RELEASE

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GOVERNMENT PLAN FOR WILD HORSE MANAGEMENT

Member for Monaro John Barilaro and Environment Minister Rob Stokes today ruled out aerial culling and brumby running/roping as wild horse control methods in the next Wild Horse Management Plan for Kosciuszko National Park.

Mr Stokes said the current review of the Wild Horse Management Plan for Kosciuszko National Park would continue and a new draft would be placed on exhibition in mid-2015.

"I have instructed the National Parks and Wildlife Service to explore wild horse control methods that are acceptable to the community," Mr Stokes said.

"Kosciuszko may look rugged, but environmentally it is fragile. We must act urgently to address the damage wild horses are causing.

"The animal welfare impacts of brumby running/roping make that form of horse population control unacceptable to the community."

Member for Monaro John Barilaro said brumbies were special animals for many people in the Snowy Mountains.

"I have always strongly opposed aerial culling as a means of wild horse population control."

"This management plan provides a clear way forward that gets the right balance."

Member for Wagga Wagga Daryl Maguire also expressed his support for today's announcement.

"This region's economy hinges on tourism. The natural environment of Kosciuszko National Park is a major drawcard to the area and wild brumbies are also an attraction," Mr Maguire said.

"I am pleased the NSW Government is committed to finding acceptable way to protect this unique landscape while maintaining a sustainable wild horse population."

For more information on the review of the Wild Horse Management Plan for Kosciuszko National Park visit

<https://engage.environment.nsw.gov.au/protectsnowies>.