

KILLING NATIVE KANGAROOS

Kangaroos play a pivotal role in Australia's ecosystem, promoting the regeneration of native plants. Tragically, these creatures are killed to satisfy an outdated leather and pet food industry, justified by an inaccurate and unjust 'pest species' status.

Australia's culling of kangaroos is the largest land-based slaughter of mammalian wildlife in the world, which is devastating to both kangaroos and the broader ecosystem.

MISLEADING INDUSTRY CLAIMS

Kangaroos have lived on this land for over 20 million years. A common justification for the killing of kangaroos is their claimed competition for available resources with introduced farmed animals. The so-called Australian media often wrongly claim kangaroo populations have exploded, which given their breeding habits and high infant mortality, is totally false.

More accurately, kangaroos continue to lose viable habitat to relentless land clearing, particularly for animal agriculture. In optimal conditions, kangaroo populations simply would not be able to grow continuously forever, but rather reach a point of equilibrium and stability.

KILLING KANGAROOS AND JOEYS

A study conducted in 2009 found that as many as 40% of kangaroo carcasses assessed in chillers were improperly shot, causing precious kangaroos significant suffering and pain before eventual death.

It is recommended by the industry that any dependent joeys also be killed by decapitation, a heavy blow to the head, or a shot to their head or chest. It's estimated that as many as 440,000 dependent joeys are brutally killed or left to starve by shooters every single year.

PROTECTING PRECIOUS KANGAROOS

Kangaroo leather alternative companies are producing materials derived partly from pineapple leaves and cacti, that are designed to have more flexibility and movement than their animal-derived counterparts. These materials often have far lower environmental impacts when considering climate and biodiversity threats, too.

In order to protect Australian wildlife, we must begin a transition away from animal-based farming in favour of an Indigenous led, more efficient plant-based system, to free up vast areas of land that will rewild important habitat for wildlife to thrive in.

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