



Meeting Summary

Kosciuszko Wild Horse Community Advisory Panel

Wednesday 31 July 2024

***Note: Some planned activities from the previous meeting did not eventuate at this meeting due to a lack of quorum.**

The Kosciuszko Wild Horse Community Advisory Panel was formed under the *Kosciuszko Wild Horse Heritage Act 2018*. The panel provides advice to the Minister for Environment and Heritage or the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) on matters relating to the identification of the heritage value, and the management of, sustainable wild horse populations within Kosciuszko National Park. The current panel membership was reappointed by the Minister for Environment and Heritage in February 2024.

The panel met at Queanbeyan, and three members were in attendance. Due to a lack of a quorum, no official decisions could be made at the meeting.

Presentation

Members received a presentation on the NPWS Ecological health performance scorecards program. Members were interested in use of the scorecards in environmental management and decision making.

NPWS update

NPWS provided a program update since the last ordinary meeting of the panel in February 2024. Topics of discussion included:

- NSW Legislative Council inquiry into the proposed aerial shooting of brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park
- Carcass management and monitoring.
- Wild horse control and animal welfare.
- Misinformation and disinformation circulating publicly.
- Rehoming investigations.
- 2024 population survey.

Member appointments

The panel discussed the process currently underway to appoint new members to the panel. Members hoped for appointments prior to the next meeting of the panel in November 2024.

Rehabilitation of wild horse impacts

Members discussed requirements for rehabilitation of areas negatively impacted by horses, following their population reduction. The panel were particularly interested in the protection of the Corroboree frogs and Stocky galaxias.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the panel will be held in November 2024 and will include a site visit to the south of the park.