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## TINY TIMMIE LEADS THE WAY FOR BRUMBY SOLUTION

On Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2024, a group of up to 200 brumby supporters met at Hyde Park in Sydney to protest the ongoing aerial culling of wild horses in Kosciusko National Park.

Protesters congregated with a wide array of placards, banners, slogans and even a miniature horse called Tiny Timmie. The 64cm grey equine proudly and confidently lead the protest march from Hyde Park to Parliament House, and certainly drew a crowd in Sydney's city centre!

Timmie wore signs depicting Animal Care Australia's proposal for 'Brumby Wonderland'. It's a tongue in cheek name for a serious proposal for NSW government to support the creation of an all-purpose facility to manage the legislated ongoing care of wild horses as well as wildlife in Kosciusko National Park.

"Brumby Wonderland would not just be a centralised facility for the horses to be counted, monitored and rehomed" said Karri Nadazdy, owner of Tiny Timmie, and the Horses & Livestock Representative of Animal Care Australia. "It would also include brumby tourism activities, as well as a veterinary clinic, wildlife sanctuary and visitor accommodation. The tourism and all-inclusive nature of Brumby Wonderland would provide benefits to the community while being financially self-sustaining."

A Parliamentary *Inquiry into Proposed aerial shooting of brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park* was established in August 2023, has completed 4 days of hearings and is still ongoing. However aerial culling was commenced by NPWS without waiting for the outcome of the Inquiry. The proposal for Brumby Wonderland was presented to the Parliamentary inquiry as well as directly to the NSW Environment Minister, Penny Sharpe.

"The brumbies of Kosciuszko National Park, while valued for their heritage and highly sought after as riding horses, are subjected to being shot on average 7.5 times per animal. This practice undermines the principles of humane treatment of animals." said Ms Nadazdy. "Brumbies are completely neglected and then mass culled – how is this responsible animal or Park management? Our proposal ensures that the horses are cared for properly while under the responsibility of NPWS, are captured and rehomed appropriately, while also restricting their access to sensitive areas of Kosciusko National Park. Tourists would be able to visit and see the progress being made to restore the natural environment, interact with brumbies and see the local wildlife for themselves."

Animal Care Australia's full submission can be viewed on their website at <u>www.animalcareaustralia.org.au</u> or on the Parliamentary Inquiry Website at <u>https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2991</u>

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Below: Photo credits: Tracey Dierikx





## About Animal Care Australia

Animal Care Australia (ACA) is a national incorporated association established to advocate for real animal welfare by those who keep, breed and care for animals. Our goal is to promote and encourage high standards in all interactions with the animals in our care.

Animal Care Australia was founded in early 2018 to establish an organisation run solely by volunteers. With extreme animal rights and animal liberationist ideologies influencing government legislation, regulation and policy at our expense and to the detriment of our animals and pets, it has become necessary to provide government with a balancing voice.

By uniting the broad spectrum of animal groups, collectively we offer an experienced, sensible approach to animal welfare. Animal Care Australia estimates our foundation clubs currently represent well over 150,000 members and that is just in NSW alone!

By educating our members and the general public about the importance of treating animals with kindness and respect for their needs, and promoting the humane treatment of animals to improve animal welfare outcomes, Animal Care Australia is in the unique position of collaborating, consulting and advocating for all animals within our care.

Animal Care Australia provides priority to the following:

- consulting with government for stronger welfare outcomes
- encouraging government to increase education of the public in animal welfare and best care techniques
- educating the public on handling their animals with kindness & respect and the importance of their needs
- educating the public in the differences between animal welfare and animal rights