



February 2026

## NPA ACT position on macropod culling

As a conservation organisation, the National Parks Association of the ACT Inc (NPA) is committed to the protection and promotion of native plants and animals, and cultural heritage, through promotion, education and advocacy. This includes supporting, where necessary, the managed cull of some abundant native species, such as the Eastern Grey Kangaroos (*Macropus giganteus*) and other macropods, to conserve at-risk ecosystems in the ACT.

This support is consistent with NPA's aims and objectives as outlined in its [constitution](#) and is based on available scientific evidence, evidence-based management, consistency of management actions, and animal welfare considerations. It does not address other macropod management strategies such as fencing, fertility control or fauna-sensitive road design.

### ACT Government strategies

The ACT Government's strategies for managing populations of Eastern Grey Kangaroos and other macropods are specified in the *ACT Kangaroo Management Plan 2010* and the *Eastern Grey Kangaroo Controlled Native Species Management Plan 2017*, primarily Eastern Grey Kangaroos (*Macropus giganteus*.)<sup>1</sup>

### NPA position

NPA supports the current laws and policies of the NSW and ACT governments applying in the ACT region as of October 2025 (see Plans and policies below), with stated exceptions.

#### I. Conservation of threatened ecological communities

NPA supports efforts to restore ecological balance in favour of critically endangered ecological communities. This includes culling abundant native macropod species when their impact on the structure of ground-layer vegetation in Lowland Natural Temperate Grassland and Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Woodland<sup>2</sup> affects the viability other species, including the Striped Legless Lizard (*Delma impar*).<sup>3</sup>

#### II. Damage mitigation on rural properties

NPA does not oppose culling of native species for economic reasons on rural properties if the conservation status of the species is secure<sup>4</sup> and there are reasonable grounds for deciding that culling will likely greatly improve productivity or sustainability of the property.

### III. Commercial harvesting and Indigenous use

NPA does not oppose lawful commercial harvesting, which applies in NSW surrounding the ACT, or Indigenous harvesting of abundant populations of native mammal species provided the harvesting is on private land and for consumption or cultural purposes. The conservation status of the species in the region must be secure, and the harvest sustainable and supported by high quality counts and ecological modelling.

NPA would like current regulations changed nationwide so landowners and not just the itinerant harvesters benefit financially from commercial harvesting. This would increase incentive to skilfully manage total grazing pressure on properties so as to retain and benefit from the harvesting of all the major grazing species, not just livestock.

### IV. Methods

NPA regards current standards for culling methods as appropriate, including the two codes of practice (below) and stringent shooter testing for all kangaroo shooters in the ACT and commercial shooters in NSW.

NPA particularly supports shooter testing. However, it cannot defend the failure to apply equal animal welfare standard to all free-range wild animals with the same or greater capacity to perceive pain and stress, whether they are introduced or native species. NPA therefore calls for two changes:

- a. Abandonment of the requirement for kangaroos to be shot in the cranium
- b. Implementation of testing for shooters of all species of large, wild, free-range animals.

NPA supports the use of some carcasses from conservation and damage mitigation culling for human use such as to feed captive wildlife and working dogs on the property where the kangaroos were shot, for baits for Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) and Dingo (*Canis lupus dingo*) control programs, and for Indigenous cultural uses provided enough carcasses are retained in conservation areas to achieve the ecological purposes of supporting communities of scavenger species and decomposers species, and restoring soil nutrients.

## Plans and policies

[Eastern Grey Kangaroo Controlled Native Species Management Plan 2017 \(CNSP\)](#)

This statutory instrument applies to EGK culling within the ACT and is reviewed every 5 years.

[ACT Kangaroo Management Plan 2010](#)

This 2010 plan covers all aspects of macropod management in the ACT and Googong Foreshores (NSW) by the ACT Government. It covers topics not included in the CNSMP

[Wildlife Trade Management Plan for the Commercial Harvest of Kangaroos in New South Wales 2022–26](#)

Licensing policy; Commercial Kangaroo Management Program  
Kangaroo Management in New South Wales  
National Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos and Wallabies for Non-commercial Purposes  
National Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos and Wallabies for Commercial Purposes

## References

1. Management actions at the Mulligan's Flat Woodland Sanctuary include licensed culling of Red Necked Wallaby (*Notamacropus rufogriseus*) and Black Wallaby (*Wallabia bicolor*)
2. Both ecosystems are listed as 'critically endangered' under the national *EPBC Act (1999)* and *ACT Nature Conservation Act (2014)*
3. Listed as 'vulnerable' under the national *EPBC Act (1999)* and *ACT Nature Conservation Act (2014)*
4. 'Secure' conservation status approximates to IUCN 'Least Concern' categorisation. Used here, secure also implies the population is not at risk of declining conservation status by other means, i.e. predation.
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