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The Project Team Kosciuszko National Park Wild Horse Heritage Management Plan National Parks and Wildlife Service PO Box 472 Tumut NSW 2720

SUBMISSION TO THE SENATE INQUIRY ON THE IMPACTS AND MANAGEMENT OF FERAL HORSES IN THE **AUSTRALIAN ALPS**

Dear Project Team,

Bushwalking NSW Incorporated is the peak body for bushwalkers in NSW and the ACT. It represents the interests of over 11,000 bushwalkers from 70 bushwalking clubs throughout the state, and provides a united voice to local, state and federal government agencies and other bodies on issues affecting bushwalkers.

Our affiliated clubs and their members have been enjoying Kosciuszko National Park for generations and it is widely considered one of the premier bushwalking destinations in the country.

We despair at the lack of effective reduction in feral horse numbers in Kosciuszko. Bushwalking NSW has been active in providing submissions on feral horses to the NSW Government for several years now and we have grown increasingly frustrated at the slow pace of horse numbers reduction.

Not surprisingly, Bushwalking NSW strongly supports the proposed amendments to the Wild Horse Management Plan to rapidly reduce the number of feral horses. We endorse the proposals to amend the control methods to allow ground shooting in any area of the park and to include aerial shooting as one of the available control methods in the Plan.

Yours sincerely,

David Bo

David Bell President

Bushwalking NSW Inc

6 September 2023