

Australian Society for Kangaroos

'Dedicated to the victims of the largest wildlife slaughter in the world'

MEDIA ALERT



Agile Wallaby joey at Mission Beach- by Sue Tidey

The Australian Society for Kangaroos is calling on the Queensland Parliament to immediately suspend the shooting of 1050 Agile Wallabies at Mission Beach until an independent study is conducted on the dwindling native population and all non lethal alternatives are exhausted.

In an official government petition to the Queensland Parliament lodged by the Australian Society for Kangaroos:

"Queensland residents draws to the attention of the House that the decision by Environment Minister Powell to authorise the destruction of 1050 Agile Wallabies at South Mission Beach should be suspended in the absence of scientific population counts, ecological studies or the use of non lethal alternatives.

The remaining Agile Wallaby population is estimated to be just 200 along the entire Cassowary Coast, meaning these permits have the potential to drive the Cassowary Coast Agile Wallabies to extinction and put at risk the biodiversity of the Cassowary Coast of which the Agile Wallabies play an integral part.

These destruction permits are causing unnecessary cruelty as the wallabies are forcefully herded out of town and killed, their social structures and family bonds destroyed, and their joeys bashed to death, decapitated or orphaned after the mother is shot (RSPCA report, 2002). Relentless shooting of these wallabies and the clearing of their habitat for development is the direct cause of the wallabies inhabiting the South Mission Beach township as they attempt to find refuge.

Your petitioners, therefore, request the House to suspend further shooting of Agile Wallabies within the Cassowary Coast until all non lethal alternatives are exhausted, and an independent scientific study is conducted upon the remaining Agile wallaby population to ensure that the conservation of the Cassowary Coast Agile Wallaby population is not at risk or the biodiversity of the Cassowary Coast ecology"

The Australian Society for Kangaroos is also calling on the residents of Queensland, and in particular the residents of Mission Beach to make their opposition to this cruel and unnecessary slaughter of protected native wildlife official by signing this legal government petition which can be found on the Queensland Parliament website link here:

<http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/petitions/e-petitions>

For more information contact
Nikki Sutterby
President
Australian Society for Kangaroos
PH: 0417354408