

S00169 – Kenneth Masters

Hi can you please accept my comments, as I have been away from technology I have not been able to reply sooner.

I am only concerned with 2 main areas.

1. 4.2 Can you suggest any improvements to standard conditions of a landholder's licence to harm?

a. I need an easier way to apply for a license to harm. Each year I apply for a number of Grey Kangaroos and each year the NPWS issues a license. I need the same amount each year to keep the numbers down. I should be able to apply for an renewal of the license not have to keep starting the process each time. The kangaroos come at the same time every year out of the National Park, they destroy fences, trees, and the compete for grass. I have enough trouble keeping my cattle fed without having to support feral animals. It would be better if the NPWS actively helped me rather than making me jump through the same hoops every year.

2. 4.2.3 Should licensing for harm to wombats and other protected animals be retained?

a. Wombats are destroying my property, they are in plague proportions. A lot of them have mange as well. By law I am not allowed to do anything about it. I was charged \$7000 by the local council to join the road with my driveway. A wombat has decided to build its home in the bank which is destabilising the whole bank. I have tried and tried again to stop the wombat from returning to this burrow but the hole just gets larger and larger. If the bank collapses the driveway will be blocked. I should be able to do something about it. There are many "road kill" wombats along the road to my property and when driving at night it is not uncommon to see at least 10 within 5 kms. I need the support of NPWS to bring this into control. I do not want to wipe them out but I need to be able to remove the problematic ones. I have applied for a license again this year after trying alternative methods unsuccessfully over the past 2 years. NPWS has seen the damage to my property but still has to do an inspection each time I apply. The restrictions on Wombats needs to be relaxed.