

# Meeting Summary

## Wild Horse Community Advisory Panel

Thursday 5 December 2024

The Wild Horse Community Advisory Panel was formed under the *Kosciuszko Wild Horse Heritage Act 2018*. The panel provides advice to the Minister for the Environment or the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) on matters relating to the identification of the heritage value, and the management of, sustainable wild horse populations within Kosciuszko National Park. The current panel membership was appointed by the Minister in February and November 2024.

The panel met online via Microsoft Teams, and 6 members were in attendance. This was the first meeting for 2 newly appointed members.

### NPWS update

NPWS provided a program update since the last meeting of the panel in July 2024. Topics of discussion included:

- NSW Legislative Council inquiry into the proposed aerial shooting of brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park
- carcass monitoring
- wild horse control
- Rehoming program
- legal challenges.

Members discussed the rehoming program.

### 2024 population survey

NPWS provided an update to the population survey progress, methodology and design.

Field work is complete. The data analysis is underway, and the report will be subject to an independent review.

### 2024 control outcomes

NPWS provided an update on wild horse control operations in the park.

The Northern aerial shooting program for feral animals, including horses, is complete and the park reopened on 4 October. Other aerial programs targeting deer and pigs have been occurring across the park since October. The control outcomes between 24 November 2021 and 30 September 2024 are available on the [department's website](#).

Members discussed environmental impact monitoring.

## **2025 Panel membership**

Membership tenure was discussed for 2025.

The CAP's terms of reference are currently being updated.

## **Next meeting**

The next meeting of the panel will be held early in 2025 and will include a site visit to the south of the park, which had been postponed. The panel will set dates for all meetings in 2025.

Members discussed topics they would like to include in future meetings.