

Kangaroo population management

Public land kangaroo control in 2017

This document outlines where kangaroo control programs will occur on public land in 2017.

Kangaroo management in Victoria

Kangaroos are important to Victoria's ecosystems. It is illegal to destroy, disturb or control kangaroos without an authorisation from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

Populations of kangaroos in some areas can reach very high densities because of access to good quality food, permanent water, and a lack of predators.

In over-populated areas, kangaroos can cause damage to farmland, property and habitat, pose a risk to human safety, and can suffer starvation from over-grazing. Kangaroo control is important in these areas to protect the environment, people and the welfare of kangaroos.

Public land managers seeking to control kangaroos must apply for an [Authority to Control Wildlife](#). A kangaroo management plan is often required as part of the application which outlines kangaroo population survey results, describes kangaroo impacts and evaluates control options. These plans are often reviewed by experts external to the department.

Kangaroo control methods

Fertility control, fencing, and shooting are the methods used to control kangaroo populations on public land. The appropriateness of each method depends on the size of the kangaroo population, surrounding habitat and the expertise of the person undertaking the control.

Fertility control requires kangaroos to be captured which poses risks to animal welfare. It is only effective

at reducing numbers where kangaroo populations are restricted to a certain area.

Exclusion fencing is costly to install and maintain. It also poses risks to animal welfare as excluding populations that are over-abundant may lead to mass starvation.

Shooting is considered to be the most effective and humane method to control kangaroos because the animals die quickly and it reduces the numbers rapidly. The lethal control of kangaroos by shooting is done in accordance with the *National Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos and Wallabies*.

Transparent approach to kangaroo control

DELWP and public land managers have been working together on a coordinated approach to kangaroo management on public land.

The 2017 schedule for public land kangaroo control programs is outlined below. It outlines the reasons the control is required.

This document will be updated regularly throughout the year, as required.

Gippsland Water

Location	Dutson Downs
Species	Eastern Grey Kangaroo
Number	100
Reason	Browsing by kangaroos has reduced crop yields and the amount of pasture available for livestock. Kangaroos regularly damage wire fences as they pass through the property which impacts the stock management. Over-browsing by kangaroos is also impacting environmental values on the property. Kangaroo control is required to reduce browsing pressures on high value native vegetation and threatened species.

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Gippsland Water

Location	Mirboo North Treatment Farm
Species	Eastern Grey Kangaroo
Number	30
Reason	Population requires control due to over-grazing.

Parks Victoria

Location	Murray Sunset National Park
Species	Western Grey Kangaroo
Number	408
Species	Red Kangaroo
Number	3,865
Reason	Population control is part of a restoration program across 124,700 hectares of threatened woodland vegetation communities historically overgrazed by stock, pest animals and kangaroos. The program is responding to strong population growth following seasons of good rainfall.

Parks Victoria

Location	Wyperfeld National Park
Species	Western Grey Kangaroo
Number	1,508
Reason	Population control is part of a restoration program across 22,800 hectares of threatened woodland vegetation communities historically overgrazed by stock, pest animals and kangaroos. There is strong kangaroo population growth following good rainfall.

Parks Victoria

Location	Hattah-Kulkyne National Park
Species	Red Kangaroo
Number	1,240
Reason	Population control is part of a restoration program across 22,600 hectares of threatened woodland vegetation communities historically overgrazed by stock, pest animals and kangaroos. The program is responding to strong population growth following seasons of good rainfall.

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