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ACT GOVERNMENT'S KILLING CLAIM IS 'CODSWALLUP'

The Animal Protection Alliance describes as 'codswallop' the ACT government's claim, in its press release of 6 July 2017, that its hired guns have killed 2592 kangaroos on ACT Nature Reserves during this year's slaughter.

Animal Protectors Alliance, Robyn Soxsmith, says "This year, we know from our own counts, there were nowhere near that many kangaroos left across all the Canberra reserves. What's more, we know from the people on watch at the reserves since the slaughter was announced that very little shooting actually occurred on the reserves.

"If the government really killed that many kangaroos this year - rather than just saying so hoping the public will believe them - they certainly didn't shoot them on the Canberra Nature Park. Not that where they are shot makes the crime against animals and the environment any less cruel and irresponsible.

"What shooting we did witness this year," Ms Soxsmith adds, "Was true to the government's record of gung-ho cruelty, as shown by the pitiful trails of blood left by one of more wounded kangaroos on Isaacs Ridge on the night of 16 June 2017 when shooting occurred there (see APA media release 18 June 2017).

"As usual, the government is hiding behind its disgusting code of practice which permits cruelty that the ACT Animal Welfare Act prohibits. There is nothing humane about wounding animals, bashing animals, orphaning dependent young, or terrorising animals, all of which routinely occur during the government's vicious annual slaughter."

Ms Soxsmith adds, "The massive reduction in natural densities of kangaroos in Canberra Reserves over the last eight years of annual slaughters is bad news not only for the kangaroos. It also spells the local extinction of many other animals that rely on kangaroos to maintain the vegetative diversity of grassland ecosystem - other marsupials, ground-feeding birds, reptiles and invertebrates."

"The government has lied about so many aspects of its killing program, we have almost given up bothering to wonder why. We can only assume that, by massively exaggerating the numbers they have killed this year, they hope to keep up the pretence that there are still plenty of kangaroos around until the government's kangaroo extermination is complete. Then the farmers and land development who seem to be the drivers of the slaughter will be finally satisfied."