"Kanga cull smokescreen

I would like to thank The Canberra Times for its editorial "Government needs to do better job of explaining roo cull" (May 4), and especially for its conclusion that "the voices that oppose the cull have much to teach us, if we could be given the opportunity to hear them more often."

The fact is the government cannot do a better job of explaining its annual mass slaughter of kangaroos because the public would find that explanation unacceptable. The environmental rationale has never been anything but a smokescreen for servicing the vested interests of affluent developers and farmers. The so-called science supporting it, though accepted on no less than three occasions by a scientifically incompetent ACAT, is arrant nonsense to anyone with an actual understanding of ecology. As for the cruelty of the slaughter, this has been witnessed directly by far too many ACT residents for the government to be able to explain or deny it.

Those of us who understand the facts about kangaroos find it astonishing that so many members of the Canberra public have been manipulated into accepting this annual kill-fest.

Many Canberrans work for a government and should therefore be intimately familiar with the way governments routinely can and do mislead the public.

Frankie Seymour, Animal Protectors Alliance”

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