End of the Culling Slaughter of Kangaroos - 23 June

The Canberra Times (One of Canberra’s largest ever kangaroo culls has finished, canberratimes.com.au, June 21) has reported Daniel Iglesias’ account of this year’s kangaroo massacre, along with David Lindenmayer’s tired old assertions that killing kangaroos is somehow a good thing to do, but has given no opportunity to opponents of the slaughter to correct Mr Iglesias’ misrepresentation of our views.

Certainly part of our opposition to the slaughter is its extreme cruelty, a fact which has never been prevented, and never could be prevented by mere spot checks by a government vet. But, as Mr Iglesias knows perfectly well, an equally powerful reason we oppose this massacre is because it is indirectly exterminating so many other native animals.

Kangaroos are a keystone species. When their numbers are artificially controlled, many other native species have no hope of survival. Mr Iglesias’ and Professor Lindenmayer’s nonsense that killing kangaroos prevents overgrazing has, after all, been dismissed by the CSIRO Plant Industry’s report on the ACT government’s own data.

Frankie Seymour,

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