

WILDLIFE ADVOCATE

Representing The Quiet Australian

ISSUE

Clermont Trophy Hunt

Background

On 5 June 2005 the Clermont Lions Club held a Charity Day that included a competition for shooting the heaviest kangaroo.

On the surface, this appeared to be a direct contravention of the Queensland *Nature Conservation Act 1992*. In particular:

- ▶ kangaroos are 'protected animals' and must not be shot other than by an authorised person or a holder of a commercial or recreational licence (sub section 88(2) of the Act refers); and
- ▶ a person can not receive a shot kangaroo which they have reason to believe has not been taken legally (section 88B of the Act refers).

Action

Wildlife Advocate wrote to the appropriate Queensland government authority reporting this possible breach of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

Those authorities responded stating that they had investigated the situation and had received assurances that all those participating in the competition were commercial licence holders. Accordingly, there was no breach of the Act. That said, the authorities also noted that this type of activity was highly irregular and not one for which the commercial licensing system was designed to allow.

We encourage members of public and interested persons to report situations such as the Clermont trophy hunt. It is by eliminating illegal kangaroo shooting that we will help reduce the numbers of kangaroos slaughtered each year.