



## Shot for being thirsty

The Editor Dear Editor, People are deeply upset about what's going on in Australia: kangaroos trapped in barbed-wire fencing while attempting to flee the fires, cows and sheep being cooked alive in the flames, and an estimated one and a quarter million or more animals now killed in the conflagrations. Now, we add shooters being ordered to gun down thousands of camels desperately searching for water. There is something that can be done – a long-term fix for this horror and the others that will inevitably follow, as prolonged heat and drought have extended seasonal wildfire periods around the world and we're facing mass extinctions, rising sea levels, and record-breaking temperature changes. It's imperative that we take personal responsibility for the protection of our planet, and by far the easiest way to do that is to stop eating animals and go vegan right now. The UN has stated that meat consumption must decrease by as much as 90% in order for us to avoid the most catastrophic effects of climate change. This requires zero governmental initiative and no promises from giant corporations – it just means choosing to leave animals out of our shopping trolleys. It's a simple but revolutionary action that says, "We will not let this planet and countless sensitive animals die on our watch." We urge all caring people to join the vegan movement. The Earth and all its human and non-human inhabitants depend on it. Ingrid Newkirk Founder PETA Australia PO Box 20308 World Square Sydney NSW 2002 (08) 8556-5828

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