



AUSTRALIAN ALPS NATIONAL PARKS

2019 Aerial Wild Horse Survey Media Release

In autumn 2019, the Australian Alps Co-operative Management Program will be working with Parks Victoria and the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service to conduct an aerial wild horse survey in the Australian Alps.

The purpose of this survey is to produce an estimate of:

1. The horse populations in the surveyed blocks; and
2. The change in horse populations in those blocks since 2014.

The Alps Program has previously co-ordinated aerial surveys in 2001, 2003, 2009 and 2014, so this will be the latest in a long running monitoring program that has provided valuable information to land managers, scientists and other stakeholders.

The 2014 survey was a significant step-up in scale from previous years and produced population estimates that were far more precise than its predecessors. The published results were subjected to both rigorous internal technical review and multiple independent peer reviews. The reviews found the results to be scientifically rigorous and statistically sound and they are now considered to be the best available estimates of horse populations in the survey areas.

The 2019 survey will follow the 2014 model, by employing the same operational and statistical methods. This will allow us to estimate both the current population and the change in numbers over the past five years.

The results of this large scale aerial survey will give the most comprehensive picture to date of wild horse numbers, range and population trends across the Australian Alps. It is vital information that will contribute to future scientific research and inform evidence based adaptive management by Parks' agencies.

The Australian Alps Liaison Committee

For more information contact Brett McNamara, Convenor of the Australian Alps Liaison Committee, Brett.McNamara@act.gov.au, (02) 62072904 or submit your question here: <https://theaustralionalps.wordpress.com/contact-us/>.



2019 Survey Areas

