



July 22, 2020

Mr. John Donahoe  
Chief Executive Officer  
Nike, Inc.  
One SW Bowerman Drive  
Beaverton, OR 97005

Dear Mr. Donahoe,

We write to urge Nike to end its use of kangaroo skins in athletic shoes given the animal welfare crisis brought about by fires that have consumed the lives of more than a billion wild creatures in Australia. Nike has made methodical progress on matters relating to sustainability, shedding much of the leather in its shoes and offering consumers better, more sustainable and environmentally friendly options. The presence of kangaroo leather in your soccer cleats is a relic of an earlier era of company conduct and global consciousness, and this moral problem in your supply chain has never been more glaring as the world grieves for the massive loss of life of kangaroos, koalas, and other distinctive Australian wildlife.

We are athletes who've been fortunate to compete at the highest levels in our sports. We are also deeply concerned about the environment and the well-being of animals. We don't treat sports as a cordoned-off enterprise set apart from the rest of world and its swirl of social concerns. That means we care about the things we wear, the supply chain that allows them to be fabricated, and the precious world that we all inhabit with animals.

Killing wild animals in their native environments to make shoes must end. It is an archaic, inhumane and unnecessary practice. The state and federal governments of Australia, which have been lagging badly in

[www.KangaroosAreNotShoes.org](http://www.KangaroosAreNotShoes.org) | [www.CenterForAHumaneEconomy.org](http://www.CenterForAHumaneEconomy.org)

addressing the threats of climate change, are no better when it comes to the humane and proper treatment of wildlife. They enable the world's largest slaughter of mammals in their native habitats with as many as two million adult and juvenile kangaroos killed a year. We need a new paradigm when it comes to the treatment of wildlife, and Nike should not support this kind of massive, on-the-ground exploitation of animals.

We are proud of our accomplishments in athletic competition and we treat our renown as an ongoing responsibility and not just as a historical trophy. One of us won three gold medals for the U.S. Olympic team in soccer, understanding that all of us play a role if a team is going to succeed. A second among us saw the benefits of a plant-based diet and lifted her performance, winning silver in the 2012 Olympic Games.

With respect and appreciation for the work of Nike and its employees, we ask you to publicly commit to eliminating the use of kangaroo skins in your athletic shoes following a brief phase out period. Such a policy will reflect favorably on the company and earn widespread praise. It will also save the lives of countless animals of which you and all Nike customers can be justifiably proud. We eagerly await your response.

Sincerely

**Dotsie Bausch**

Cycling  
Seven-time USA Cycling National Champion  
Olympic Silver Medalist 2012

**Heather Mitts Feeley**

Soccer  
Represented the U.S. in over 100 international matches  
Olympic Gold Medalist 2004, 2008, 2012

**Jennie Reed**

Cycling  
Winner of 25 World Cup medals  
Olympic Silver Medalist 2008

**Katie Rood**

Soccer  
Three-time Kate Sheppard Cup winner  
and record goal scorer, NZ  
Lewes F.C., England

**David Verburg**

Track and Field  
Three-time National Championship Gold Medalist  
Olympic Gold Medalist 2016