

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Baiting/killing our native dingo using 1080 poison in meat chunks in our National Parks and Wilderness Areas must stop.

I am shocked and saddened to read about the continual and excessive use of the 1080 poison to bait and hence kill our dingoes.

The poison baiting in NSW national parks is set at 40 baits per kilometre. 40 meat chunks injected with 1080 poison predominantly dropped from the air into wilderness areas.

Upon review a decade ago, the NSW government decided that 10 baits per kilometre wasn't sufficient enough to maximise kill rates. They changed the baiting density to 40 per kilometre in our National Parks and wilderness areas.

The dingo is a native animal under the NSW Biodiversity and Conservation Act 2016, (previously under the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974) but it has not afforded any protection under either Act.

For our Indigenous people, our cultural heritage also sits under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and it is afforded protection, so we say the dingo is of cultural heritage value and feature of the environment and, therefore, it should be protected under these Acts.

Dingoes are wild animals that do not require human intervention for their survival. They are apex predators, a keystone species in many Australian ecosystems and play a vital role in maintaining ecological balance. They are capable of self-regulating their population size and finding their own food.

Despite their wild nature, Dingoes face threats due to human activities. These include habitat loss, persecution (baiting, trapping, shooting), and interbreeding with domestic dogs. In some areas, their populations are vulnerable or even at risk of extinction, leading to the need for conservation efforts and legal protections.

Dingoes are considered a "keystone species" because their presence is crucial for healthy ecosystem function. They help control populations of herbivores (like kangaroos) and introduced predators (like foxes and feral cats, rabbits and wild pigs), which in turn benefits native vegetation and smaller fauna.

This baiting of dingos, a native species, must stop.