

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Dingoes are listed as invasive species and there is no protection. Legislation currently IGNORES the NATIVE TITLE RIGHTS of First Nations People.

Current dingo management policies are largely based on outdated genetic research using only 23 genetic markers. Contemporary studies now use up to 195,000 markers and indicate that overwhelmingly, Australia's wild-living canids are dingoes, with hybridization relatively uncommon in stable, undisturbed populations. In New South Wales, more than three-quarters of sampled wild canids showed over 93% contemporary dingo ancestry.

Research indicates that lethal control methods such as poisoning, trapping and shooting can disrupt stable dingo pack structures, increasing social instability and the likelihood of interbreeding with domestic dogs. Modern conservation science increasingly recognizes that ecological function - including the role of dingoes as apex predators - is an important consideration alongside genetics when assessing wildlife populations.

Dingoes differ from domestic dogs in several important ways, including their ecological role, social structure, breeding patterns, and behavior. Australia does not have an established continent-wide population of feral domestic dogs living independently across ecosystems, and it is now widely understood that the wild canids occupying these landscapes are dingoes performing important ecological functions.

Dingoes are the only native mammal in NSW specifically exempt from protection under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, allowing them to be targeted with widespread 1080 poison baiting and trapping and shooting across New South Wales National Parks.

Dingoes are ecologically and culturally significant animals, ensuring balance across our ecosystems. Removing them from our public conservation areas has widespread implications for the whole landscape.