

**INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW
SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 1 July 2026

Partially
Confidential

I strongly oppose the routine control and removal of dingoes from NSW National Parks. Current scientific evidence demonstrates that dingoes are a native apex predator that plays a critical ecological role in maintaining healthy ecosystems. Management within protected areas should prioritise the conservation of dingoes rather than their widespread control.

Genetic research has shown that many wild dingo populations in Australia retain high levels of dingo ancestry, with numerous populations remaining genetically pure or predominantly pure despite historical concerns regarding hybridisation. This evidence challenges the assumption that wild dingoes are largely hybrids and supports the continued conservation of genetically significant populations.

Dingoes have been present in Australia for approximately 10,000 years, long before European colonisation. Over this period, they have become an integral component of Australian ecosystems and have co-evolved with native flora and fauna. They have significant ecological and cultural value, including for many Aboriginal peoples, and should be recognised as an established native predator rather than managed solely as a pest species.

The ecological consequences of widespread dingo removal are increasingly apparent. As Australia's apex terrestrial predator, dingoes help regulate populations of herbivores and smaller predators through top-down ecological processes. In New South Wales, extensive dingo control has coincided with high populations of feral animals such as foxes, feral cats, goats, deer and feral pigs, all of which have substantial impacts on biodiversity, agriculture and ecosystem function. Although many factors contribute to these populations, the loss of dingoes has reduced natural predation and ecological regulation across much of the landscape.

National Parks exist to conserve native biodiversity and ecological processes. Managing dingoes as pests within these protected areas is inconsistent with these objectives where there is no demonstrated need to protect neighbouring landholders or public safety. Management should instead focus on conserving viable dingo populations, limiting lethal control to exceptional circumstances, and recognising the species' important ecological role in restoring ecosystem function.

Greater investment should be directed towards monitoring dingo genetics, population health and ecological interactions, allowing management decisions to be guided by contemporary scientific evidence rather than outdated perceptions. Conserving dingoes within National Parks represents an opportunity to restore natural ecological processes and improve biodiversity outcomes across New South Wales.