

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

Name: Mr Greg Standfield

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I wish to address the NSW Parliament Legislative council inquiry into management of Dingoes in the State's National Parks.

I am a 66 year old grazier who with my family have operated a grazing property of 18,000 ha in the Wanaaring district of NSW for the past 27 years.

We farm sheep, goats and cattle together with running a human induced native forest regeneration project. Long term sustainability of this enterprise involves many facets in the semi-arid rangelands of NSW.

One of the greatest and least controllable challenges is managing wild dog / dingo populations so that they do not impact too heavily on our business. Group baiting with surrounding landholders on a nil tenure basis is paramount to managing their impacts.

Attacks on our small livestock by wild dogs and dingoes affect both our mental health as well as our financial viability. Incursions result in not only outright killing but also maiming of animals which eventually lead to a slow cruel death by blood poisoning.

Our property is in close proximity to two National Parks in our area including the recently purchased 437,400 ha Thurloo Downs. These two parks make up 18% of the Wanaaring district.

Since the formation of our local Pest Management group in 2012 dingo and wild dog attacks on grazing enterprises has been kept to an acceptable level.

We carry out two group baitings a year (spring and autumn) on a nil tenure basis. The National Parks being a willing and valuable participant. To remove the NPWS ability to bait or carry out any practical form of Dingo / Wild Dog / Fox / Feral Cat control would put nearby grazing operations at increased risk of attacks by wild dog / dingoes.

"Defend the Wild" recommended to the inquiry that the Government financially support landholders surrounding National Parks to use non lethal strategies.

The only practical and proven method of non lethal control would be for the government to finance neighbours of National Parks in our region to erect and maintain exclusion fencing.

The expense to the government to financially support neighbouring landholders to erect and maintain such fences would be exorbitant. Far

greater than the amount currently spent by NPWS to control dingoes, wild dogs, foxes and feral cats via baiting peripheral areas of the large National Parks in our region.

Allow the current baiting options to continue unchanged in National Parks in this part of NSW so that humans and all animals can live in somewhat harmony.

Sincerely

Greg Standfield

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