

**Submission
No 119**

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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To whom it may concern,

Dingoes are a native Australian animal and an important part of NSW ecosystems, yet current policy still treats them in ways that allow shooting, baiting, trapping, and poisoning. I am deeply concerned that these practices cause suffering to these and other sentient animals and are too often used as the default response instead of more humane, evidence-based management.

I am also concerned that NSW law does not give dingoes the protection they deserve. The NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee has recorded that pure dingoes are excluded from protection under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, while also noting their ecological significance and the pressure they face from lethal control and hybridisation.

Dingoes play a valuable ecological role as top-order predators. The Scientific Committee's determination notes evidence that dingoes can help regulate foxes and other mesopredators in some landscapes, which can benefit smaller native species. I cannot find a credible reason for broad-scale killing; but there is broad scientific consensus for caution and better stewardship.

Current management practices in national parks should be reformed. NPWS state that they aim to minimise damage while allowing for the conservation of dingoes in low-risk areas, yet authorise aerial baiting, trapping, reactive trapping, and shooting. A modern approach should prioritise non-lethal management, targeted risk reduction, and humane coexistence rather than routine lethal control.

I urge the committee to recommend stronger legislative protection for dingoes in NSW, halt lethal control, and instead shift toward humane, non-lethal management. Dingoes deserve to be protected as part of Australia's natural heritage, not treated as disposable animals in the very places meant to conserve our iconic and precious wildlife.

Thank you for your consideration on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Alwyn Rubie