

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

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

My family and I have been living and working in the Western Division all our lives. Our ancestors first settled along the Darling River in the 1870s and have been producing wool, cotton and beef to help make Australia the prosperous country it is now. We provide food and fibre, pay taxes, collect GST revenue, support local communities and in most cases care for our native vegetation and wildlife.

The Western Division is made up of leasehold land that requires landholders to control the spread of feral animals under the Western Lands Act . We in the Western Division also pay rates to help maintain the Wild Dog Fence which helps control the spread of wild dogs from the Queensland Channel Country. Wild dogs are in large numbers at the moment despite the fact that the Wanaaring Pest Management Group and the Nocoleche Rangers work together in organizing baiting programs

. We urge this enquiry to allow baiting to continue in all National Parks in the Western Division. If the Parks fail to bait they will become a breeding ground for large numbers of dogs that will continue to spread into adjoining livestock producing areas. In short time these pests will move into the more closely settled areas destroying communities as they advance. Sheep, goats and cattle will be replaced by dogs, pigs, deer and noxious weeds. Even the recently established Bourke Abattoir will be in jeopardy.

If baiting is discontinued in National Parks consideration must be given to a full exclusion fence around these areas. Given the fact that the NPWS now own approx. 20% of land in this area it must be their responsibility to manage their patch without impacting on adjoining income producing landholders and taxpayers.

Along with the huge economic losses that dogs can cause there is also the devastating emotional and mental impact that packs of marauding dogs that maim and kill for fun can have on the people who are responsible for their care.

WE SAY THAT WILD DOGS MUST NOT BE PROTECTED IN NATIONAL PARKS.

Footnote..

In the last few years our enterprise has lost over 600 sheep and an unknown number of goats to dog predation.

We have destroyed over 100 wild dogs.