

**Submission
No 128**

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Ms Allison Manners

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Dear Members of this Parliamentary Inquiry

It is unacceptable that Australia continues the relentless killing of dingoes in their natural environment. This practice has been ongoing since colonisation. Here we are in 2026 continuing to inhumanely kill a keystone native species in our ecosystem.

The dingo has been proven by the latest genomic scientific data to have inhabited our country for over 5000 years. It is an Australian native animal and deserves to be treated as such. It is time to cease archaic inhumane dingo management practices and undertake contemporary evidence-based science.

I urge you to stop killing dingoes within New South Wales National Parks. By doing so, it will enable the true ecological function of dingoes and bring equilibrium to biodiversity, helping planet and people.

The dingo has played a significant role in First Nations songlines, rock art and cultural law for thousands of years. It is such a culturally important animal that it forms part of numerous Dreamtime stories, only second to the Rainbow Serpent. Dingoes represent connection to country, spirit and people.

Please allow greater involvement of First Nations people in decision-making and place-based management regarding dingoes in National Parks. The cultural significance of dingoes being reflected in legislation and management is long overdue.

Solutions that need to be implemented include financial support and extension services for landholders surrounding National Parks to implement non-lethal coexistence strategies, ensuring their interests are protected and dingoes can be maintained in the environment.

Current dingo management policies are largely based on outdated genetic research using only 23 genetic markers.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 hybridisation relatively uncommon in stable, undisturbed populations. In New South Wales, more than three-quarters of sampled wild canids showed over 93% contemporary dingo ancestry.

Dingoes differ from domestic dogs in their ecological role, social structure, breeding patterns and behaviour. It is now widely understood that the wild canids occupying Australian landscapes are dingoes performing important ecological functions.

It is time for contemporary policy that reflects the latest science and the cultural significance of the dingo. It is time to stop the killing - the inhumane methods of lethal control. Methods that take us backwards in time not forwards.

It is time to implement co-existence strategies. Non-lethal management strategies. First Nations' led strategies. It is time to acknowledge and put into practice, the essential role the dingo plays in our unique ecosystem.

Please make the positive change that is reflective of the latest science and the cultural history of the traditional owners of this country. Please cease the lethal management of dingoes in New South Wales National Parks.

Thank you for reading my submission.

Regards

Allison Manners