

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mr Rodney Bridges

Date Received: 10 July 2026

10 July 2026

To: The Animal Welfare Committee

RE: Submission to the Inquiry into Dingoes in National Parks in NSW

I write to the Inquiry as an owner of two freehold properties and one forestry lease property as evidenced by the attached rate notices. On these properties, I run 400 cross bred breeder cattle along the Cataract River and in the Gilgurry State Forest, and on my property "Biddys Gully" at _____, which is adjacent to _____.

The Morgans Creek Station freehold and forestry lease properties along Main Camp Road, Rivertree Fire Trail are adjacent to the Cataract National Park. The Biddys Gully property is very close to State Forestry leases and National Parks that occupy the area along Lindrook Road between Boorook Road and Mount Lindsay Road. Often when driving along Lindrook Road, I see feral dogs.

In the twenty years that I've run cattle in this country I've had many experiences with dingoes and wild feral dogs that populate the entire region. My stockman and I regularly find calf carcasses on my properties. I lose up to 20 calves a year from predatory dog attacks over the 18,000 acres that I graze with cattle. This has a serious economic impact on the commercial aspects of my grazing enterprise, known as Morgans Creek Pastoral. I estimate these losses at \$35,000 per annum. Furthermore, the loss of these calves impacts my breeding program, providing more negative commercial impact.

I've also experienced the loss of five expensive, well trained, well bred, working cattle dogs that have been killed by feral dogs. On three occasions, my working dogs were on chains at my Morgans Creek hut and were attacked and killed by wild dogs at night. After the 2019 bushfires in which this property was burnt out, the native and feral dogs were so hungry they attacked and killed two of my working dogs that were unchained at the time and proceeded to eat them. I was distraught and managed to shoot only one of the feral dogs. Upon inspection, this dog was a cross breed ie a cross between a dingo and a feral dog. Every year I shoot 6 to 8 feral dogs.

I work closely with _____ from Local Land Services (LLS) and do significant ground baiting and support the aerial baiting programs. I fully support the LLS 1080 baiting program, especially on my properties and within the national parks surrounding my properties as my livelihood depends on maximising the number of calves I have survive. The loss of expensive, well-trained cattle dogs is something I will never recover from.

The feral dog dingo eradication program in National Parks must be continued, and funding and action needs to be ramped up, otherwise ongoing commercial losses will be experienced by legitimate grazing enterprises.

Furthermore, the impact of feral dogs killing native fauna (possums, wallabies, quolls, birds, kangaroos) is not to be underestimated. Feral dogs are out of control and are on par with the feral pig population problem. Urgent positive action is needed.

Morgans Creek Pastoral

ABN 676 145 11632

This document is prepared from many years of practical experience from trying to keep my cattle and working dogs alive. One needs to take urban lobbyists' opinions with a degree of scepticism as they have no practical experience or little first-hand experience with the threat feral dogs and dingos have on legitimate livestock enterprises.

Yours faithfully

Rod Bridges

Owner

Morgans Creek Pastoral