

**Submission
No 187**

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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SUBMISSION

DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NSW

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the above inquiry.

NSW dingoes are the only native animal not protected under the Biodiversity Conservation Act. This is a travesty. I trust that when you hear from the many people in NSW and the rest of Australian who want to see dingoes protected and not destroyed by the cruel scourge of 1080 poison, you will protect our dingoes.

Over the years I have advocated for the banning of 1080 poison, baiting, trapping, and shooting to manage dingoes and other so-called 'pests' in national parks. These extremely cruel and harsh methods are being applied to sentient animals! They have no place in modern wildlife or pest animal management.

Dingo Genetics Research findings

Recent dingo genetics research exposes how current management practices do not reflect contemporary science.

Lethal control methods - poisoning, trapping and shooting - disrupt stable dingo pack structures, increasing the likelihood of interbreeding with domestic dogs. Dingoes are apex predators and play a vital role in ecological balance.

Dingoes in many ways differ from domestic dogs - because of their ecological role, social structure, breeding patterns, and behaviour.

For example, Australia's feral domestic dogs do not live independently across our continent like dingoes. There is no continent-wide feral domestic dog population living independently across ecosystems. Ecologists now understand that the wild canids occupying these landscapes are dingoes performing important ecological roles.

Under existing law dingoes are not recognised as ecologically important wildlife. They are included in the definition 'wild dogs' which also includes domestic dogs and hybrids.

It is wrong that dingoes are classified as 'priority pest animals'.

Dingoes play an important role as apex predators

- They regulate kangaroo and wallabies

- They predate on goats

- They suppress foxes and cats – which in turn protects smaller native animals

Thus, the removal of the apex predator upsets the ecosystem balance and allows the degradation of the habitats of threatened species

Cultural significance of dingoes for First Nations communities

Dingoes are important for First Nations communities – they play a role in lore, kinship, Songlines, storytelling and Caring for Country practices.

The cultural custodians have a deep connection with dingoes. I refer the Committee to the **National First Nations Dingo Declaration**, which was written by Traditional Owners and provides their cultural perspective on dingoes

Impact on dingoes of current cruel eradication methods

Management programs now rely on lethal control methods including despicable 1080 poison baiting, trapping and shooting.

This disrupts stable dingo family groups and packs and increases the likelihood of dingoes breeding with domestic dogs. It leads to increasing numbers of introduced predators such as cats, pigs and goats.

There are serious animal welfare concerns associated with 1080, animals being left to suffer in traps and die without food, water or shelter.

Current practice focuses on agricultural protection rather than biodiversity outcomes. That is wrong.

Funding must be allocated for research and development into non-lethal coexistence strategies for agricultural properties neighbouring National Parks.

To summarise:

- 1. No more dingo killing in New South Wales National Parks - and that will protect the ecological function of dingoes and support biodiversity conservation.**
- 2. More research on humane solutions and the abolition of 1080 and other cruel methods of killing.**
- 3. 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.**

CONCLUSION

Although we do not live in NSW, we care how this country treats **all** animals and native wildlife. Regardless of where we live, we care about NSW dingoes. My family and I urge the committee to recommend that dingoes be given full legislative protection and that lethal management methods be replaced with humane, non-lethal alternatives.

Jan Kendall and family (14.7.2026)