

Submission
No 299

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

Submission to the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Dingoes in National Parks

To the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to this important inquiry.

As someone who deeply cares about the protection and welfare of Australia's native wildlife, I am profoundly concerned about the ongoing treatment of dingoes in New South Wales. It is deeply troubling that our native wild dog continues to be managed primarily as a pest, including within our national parks—places that should exist first and foremost to conserve and protect our unique biodiversity.

Dingoes are an integral part of Australia's natural heritage. As our apex terrestrial predator, they play a vital ecological role in maintaining healthy ecosystems by regulating prey species and suppressing invasive predators. Their ecological importance is well established, yet they continue to be subjected to lethal control measures that are not only inhumane but can also undermine the ecological balance they help maintain.

I am particularly concerned by the continued use of 1080 poison, trapping and shooting. These methods inflict significant suffering on sentient animals and raise serious animal welfare concerns. The destruction of stable dingo family groups can also have unintended ecological consequences, disrupting natural social structures and potentially increasing conflict rather than reducing it.

I also believe we have an ethical responsibility to protect Australia's native wildlife. Dingoes evolved on this continent thousands of years ago and are part of Australia's living natural heritage. They deserve to be valued and protected as native wildlife rather than persecuted under outdated pest management approaches. Our management of native species should reflect modern scientific understanding, compassion, and respect for the important role they play in healthy ecosystems.

The continued use of the broad term "wild dog" is also problematic, as it fails to adequately distinguish between dingoes, feral domestic dogs and hybrids. Decisions about management should be based on robust scientific evidence, including appropriate genetic identification where relevant.

I also acknowledge the deep cultural significance of dingoes to many Aboriginal peoples. First Nations knowledge and perspectives should play a central role in future dingo management, recognising the enduring relationship between dingoes, Country and culture.

I recognise that livestock predation presents genuine challenges for some landholders. However, I do not believe that broadscale lethal control within national parks is the most effective or ethical long-term solution. Greater investment should instead be directed towards proven, humane coexistence measures, including exclusion fencing, guardian animals, improved husbandry practices, education, and targeted support for affected landholders.

I respectfully ask the Committee to recommend:

- greater legal protection for dingoes in New South Wales;
- an end to routine lethal control of dingoes within national parks;
- a comprehensive review of the use of 1080 poison, trapping and shooting, with animal welfare given significant weight in decision-making;

- management based on contemporary ecological science and genetic evidence;
- meaningful involvement of First Nations communities in policy development and management decisions; and
- increased investment in humane, non-lethal coexistence strategies.

How we treat our native wildlife reflects our values as a society. Future generations should inherit national parks where native species are protected, not persecuted. Dingoes are not simply animals to be controlled—they are an irreplaceable part of Australia's natural environment and deserve management that reflects both the best available science and our shared responsibility to care for the wildlife that belongs to this country.

I sincerely hope this inquiry results in a more compassionate, evidence-based and ecologically responsible approach to dingo management in New South Wales.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Kind regards,

17/07/2026