

**Submission
No 325**

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Helen Saville

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I wish to comment on the management of dingoes in NSW. dINGOES ARE NOT "WILD DOGS"

I wish to comment on the management of dingoes in NSW, which needs a major review. Dingoes are not wild dogs and should never be classified as such or referred to in this way in any government documents. It is up to the NSW Government and all relevant departments to end this prejudiced view of dingoes and instead promote their importance as an established and long-standing native animal and an apex predator. In managing dingoes, it is now known that it is important to retain the structure of the family group. When mature dingoes are shot, this leaves young dingoes without the leadership that a full group provides and in this situation, they are a greater risk to flocks of sheep. Sheep graziers can use associate guard animals with flocks of sheep, including maremmas, alpacas and donkeys. These animals will deter attacks on sheep flocks. This allows dingoes to concentrate their hunting on kangaroos as well as feral animals including cats and foxes. Areas where dingo family groups are active, feral animal numbers can be reduced over time. Support and education is needed for everyone involved in rural industries to help recognise the value of dingoes in our environment. Rather than funding dingo baiting and shooting, the NSW Government could encourage the use of deterrent animals with flocks of sheep and provide funding and training where needed in the use of these animals. Dingoes must be recognised at all levels of Government for the important role they play in our environment as a key native animal.