

**Submission
No 326**

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Caterina Morrison

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Caterina Morrison

17 Jul 26

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: Submission Regarding the Review and Reform of Dingo Management Practices

Please accept this formal submission advocating for an immediate shift away from lethal control and toward humane, modern, and coexistence-focused dingo management strategies.

As native animals and Australia's apex land predators, dingoes play an irreplaceable role in our landscape. The current regulatory reliance on eradication programs is outdated and heavily compromises both animal welfare and ecological stability.

I ask that you consider the following critical points during this review:

- **Urgent Need for Modern Animal Welfare Standards:** Dingoes are highly intelligent, social animals capable of experiencing profound pain, fear, and distress. Despite this, they are routinely targeted with distressing lethal methods, including aerial and ground poison baiting, trapping, and shooting. Our wildlife management frameworks must evolve to mirror contemporary ethical standards, placing a fundamental value on the lives and well-being of our native species.
- **Preservation of Vital Ecological Functions:** Decades of ecological research confirm that dingoes maintain the structural balance of healthy Australian ecosystems. As apex predators, they actively suppress introduced pests like foxes and feral cats, which protects vulnerable small mammals. Additionally, they naturally regulate grazing pressure from large native herbivores like kangaroos and wallabies, safeguarding native vegetation and soil health. Protecting dingoes safeguards wide-reaching ecological processes.
- **Respect for First Nations Culture and Leadership:** For First Nations peoples, the dingo holds deep cultural significance and remains intrinsically linked to Country, kinship systems, Dreamtime stories, and ongoing cultural responsibilities. Dingo management must respect and incorporate Indigenous knowledge, values, and leadership. Traditional Owners must be granted a definitive, self-determining role in shaping all future management frameworks.
- **Investment in and Support for Coexistence:** Widespread lethal control is an unsustainable approach to a shared landscape. Practical, non-lethal tools—such as the utilization of livestock guardian dogs, improved exclusion fencing, and updated animal husbandry practices—have proven highly effective at preventing conflict. I urge the government to heavily invest in financial and educational support for landholders, enabling them to transition to non-lethal coexistence strategies that protect both agricultural livelihoods and native biodiversity.

Thank you for considering this submission. I look forward to seeing a reformed management strategy that aligns with scientific evidence, humanitarian principles, and cultural respect. For further details regarding these recommendations, please refer to the resources hosted by [Humane World for Animals](#) and community advocates at [Defend The Wild](#).

Yours sincerely,

Caterina Morrison