

**Submission
No 354**

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Lindy Stacker

Date Received: 17 July 2026

Subject: Fwd: OUR DINGOES NEED PROTECTION

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Dear Minister Watt, It is absurd to think that our native Dingo, that has blended Ecologically for some 5,000 yrs ago should STILL be demonised & hunted down. This is 19th Century thinking & needs to stop. The Dingo plays a significant role in our natural environment (what's left of it) and is our only remaining mamallian Apex predator. Consider this Tasmania actually PROTECTS introduced deer to appease hunters, yet our own indigenous wildlife is not protected & hunted down. We MUST find ways to co-exist with Dingoes and all of our diminishing wildlife . Time is running out.

Sentient

Dingoes are intelligent, social animals who experience pain, fear, and distress. But they are continually, cruelly killed by traps, shooting, and poison.

Vast conservation areas are blanketed with 1080 poison baits specifically targeting dingoes across New South Wales national parks.

“Experts have warned that the government's continued use of 1080 poison could drive dingoes towards local extinction.” – AJP NSW, 16.06.26

Healthy ecosystems

Ecosystem Biologist and Dingo expert Dr. Daniel Hunter says this is despite the vital ecological role dingoes play as Australia's largest land predator.

Dingoes' presence helps regulate large herbivore populations, reducing grazing pressure on native vegetation, while also suppressing—and in some circumstances eliminating— introduced species such as foxes, cats, goats, and pigs.

Cultural significance

For Ngarigo Cultural Custodian Aunty Gail Neuss, the killing of dingoes on Country represents a deep cultural pain.

For Narigo woman, Gayon News: Dingoes carry our knowledge. Something so spiritual for me and my family.

Like many Cultural Custodians across New South Wales, dingoes are a culturally significant species.

Coexistence

People and dingoes have shared landscapes for thousands of years. There are practical ways to reduce conflict without widespread lethal control:

- 1 Incorporate indigenous knowledge and leadership into dingo conservation and management.

2 Governments to assist landholders to coexist with dingoes while protecting livelihoods and biodiversity.

The dingo (*Canis dingo*) is an iconic, Australian native wild canid, which is loved by a huge majority of the populace. A marked shift in the public and scientific communities' attitude toward the role, and protection of dingoes in Australia has been officially recognised over the past decade. This is primarily due to their important ecological function as Australia's *only terrestrial top predator*, where regulation and suppression of many species such as kangaroos, rabbits, foxes and cats, naturally promotes ecosystem balance.

Unfortunately, the dingo has suffered the same fate as the grey wolf (*Canis lupus*) by coming into conflict with graziers, and becoming a convenient scapegoat for profit losses. It's a cultural issue, where the fear of what may be possible is more real than what does, or is likely to occur.

On the contrary, many studies are finding a case for the re-introduction of the dingo into previously occupied habitat ranges, in order to return some balance to environmentally degraded areas, as a result of unregulated and out-dated farming practices. Each day, more credible evidence of this is made available in the face of what has largely been unsubstantiated conjecture by the rural lobby that has been exaggerated by the media.

Dingoes have faced ongoing cultural persecution via bounty hunts, trapping and 1080 baiting. Consequently, they are under severe threat of eradication, particularly along the south-eastern seaboard of Australia, where agricultural and urban developments dominate. Dingoes are currently considered *threatened* by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), but it has been largely left up to sanctuaries / animal welfare groups to fight for the protection and future of the dingo.

Information reference : Australian Dingo Foundation website

I forward these statements to you in the hope that your committee will seriously consider this tragedy & the relentless persecution that has impacted our native dog for centuries. Unsustainable farming of sheep & cattle (largely sheep) has made the Dingo a fugitive in its own land. Dingoes have been largely vindicated for NOT causing major conflicts with pastoralists as they prefer native 'game' ie: Macropods/ lizards/ snakes etc. Although they are a successful predator when it comes to introduced feral animals namely rabbits. Stomach contents of Dingoes have substantiated this fact. It is long overdue for our species to show some tolerance & co-existence with our maligned & under valued native animals.

Sincerely
Lindy Stacker
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