

Submission
No 356

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 18 July 2026

Partially
Confidential

SUBMISSION: Inquiry into Dingoes in National Parks in New South Wales

To: The Committee Secretariat, Animal Welfare Committee

1. Introduction

I am writing as a concerned citizen to participate in the Inquiry into the management of dingoes within New South Wales National Parks. I believe this inquiry is a critical step toward modernizing our state's relationship with this iconic species.

2. The Issue: Current Management Practices

Dingoes are currently the only native mammal in NSW exempt from protection under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act*, which permits them to be trapped, poisoned, and shot in our National Parks. These lethal control methods are not only cruel but often ineffective in achieving their stated goals. As a member of the public, I am deeply concerned that these practices are causing significant harm to fragile dingo populations and failing to reflect our current scientific and cultural understanding of their value.

3. Ecological and Cultural Importance

Dingoes are vital apex predators that have naturally regulated Australian ecosystems for thousands of years by suppressing introduced predators like foxes and cats. Beyond their ecological role, they hold immense cultural significance as a totem of Indigenous culture and an icon of the Australian bush. Current management approaches, often driven by outdated "wild dog" monikers and industry lobbying, ignore these critical factors.

4. Impact on Wildlife and Resources

The routine killing of dingoes leads to the unnecessary creation of orphaned pups, which frequently end up in the care of limited-resource wildlife rescues. By protecting dingoes within our National Parks, we can reduce these preventable casualties and allow rescue organizations to direct their energy toward other animals in urgent need.

5. Recommendations

I urge the committee to consider the following recommendations in its final report:

- **End Lethal Control:** Implement an immediate cessation of dingo killing (trapping, poisoning, and shooting) within NSW National Parks to support biodiversity and ecological function.
- **Adopt Humane Alternatives:** Transition to non-lethal, science-based deterrents, such as guardian animals, to protect livestock and promote coexistence.
- **Strengthen Indigenous Leadership:** Increase the involvement of Cultural Custodians in decision-making and place-based management to ensure dingo conservation reflects Indigenous knowledge.
- **Support Landholders:** Provide financial support and extension services to landholders near National Parks to implement non-lethal coexistence strategies.

6. Conclusion

This inquiry is a pivotal opportunity to move away from outdated persecution and toward management strategies that align with modern ecological values and community expectations.

Thank you for your time and for considering my views on this important matter.