

**INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW
SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Dingoes are a native apex predator and play a critical role in maintaining healthy, balanced ecosystems. By maintaining populations of invasive species, dingoes help protect biodiversity and support the health of Australia's unique landscapes. Protecting this iconic native species is not only an environmental responsibility but also a crucial in restoring ecological balance.

Despite their importance, only three of Australia's seven states and territories currently recognise dingoes as a protected species. New South Wales remains one of the four where dingoes are classified as unprotected wildlife. As a result, widespread culling and baiting programs continue to be carried out, including within New South Wales National Parks.

Scientific research has repeatedly shown that widespread culling and baiting are ineffective as long-term management strategies. These practices can disrupt dingo social structures, potentially increasing conflicts with livestock while also causing unnecessary suffering. They also pose significant risks to other native wildlife and can have damaging effects on the broader environment.

Our national parks exist to protect Australia's native wildlife and natural heritage. It is contradictory to permit the routine killing of a native apex predator within areas established for conservation. Dingoes deserve meaningful protection, particularly within our protected landscapes, where they play a vital ecological role.

The New South Wales Government should immediately end routine culling and poison baiting of dingoes in national parks, grant dingoes protected status across the state, and invest in evidence based, non lethal management strategies where genuine conflicts arise. Greater education and support should be provided to landowners and local communities to improve understanding of the ecological importance of dingoes and promote effective coexistence.