

**Submission
No 345**

INQUIRY INTO DINGOES IN NATIONAL PARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Ms Fiona Craigen

Date Received: 17 July 2026

Dear Committee Members,

I am a concerned member of the public formerly born in and residing in the Blue Mountains NSW for over 20 years. Now living in Victoria less than 10 kms from a NFP Dingo Sanctuary.

In 1988, I cycled across Australia with a group in celebration of Australia's Bicentennial. For the most part I travelled two days behind the group, didn't carry a tent choosing to sleep simply in a sleeping bag on a mat. On this slow journey from Perth to Sydney via Melbourne and over the Australian Alps I saw most common Australian native wildlife. Later, a further cycling journey took me up the coast from Sydney to Brisbane.

I have also done my fair share of bushwalking, wild camping and been exposed to sheep farms. My maternal grandparents and aunt/uncle having a sheep farm and I went on to be a farm worker for a time. I also worked in remote alpine areas in NSW mostly working at night.

I am nearing 60 years of age, in outlining some my experience I reflect that I have never seen a wild dingo, nor personally had any negative interaction from a dingo. Nor do I know of anyone citing a negative experience. My knowledge of dingoes for most part comes from the media, and it mostly negative in relation to livestock lost and tourist harmed. I think most Australians have not seen dingoes and further have not had a negative experience.

Despite this our native Canidae, the dingo is out of mind, out of sight and vulnerable to humans, particularly to the most powerful, the most influential and those with the deepest pockets.

My concerns are general and at this late stage need to be (submitting on the last day), further they can be applied to every section of this inquiry into the treatment, and the cultural and ecological significance of dingoes in national parks in New South Wales.

As a member of the community, a concerned Australian it is my wish and many other Australians I would imagine, who have not been aware of the dingo's ongoing fate in NSW (and elsewhere in Australia), so in part I write for many others.

It is my opinion that the current classification of dingoes; their non protection from NSW laws; blatant non application of scientific evidence and research from many experts (from many fields), non-application of cultural knowledge and use of their expertise in any meaningful way; the non-exploration, again in any meaningful way, of use of other means (eg donkeys) to protect livestock (rather than baiting, etc) as one example; the non-recognition of the very important role this apex animal plays in the ecosystem.

I could go on but these are all generalisations from a person who has limited knowledge on the matter. However, I am knowledgeable about the importance of applying science and recent peer reviewed research and the knowledge of experts to how we treat our native animals or any in fact any issue.

It is my wish that our international standing is elevated as consequence of this inquiry. That our dingoes fate isn't left in the hands of outdated, indiscriminate and cruel law and management practices that reflect popular politics, out of date practices and who has the loudest voice, most influence and deepest pockets.

Represent most Australians if they were informed, listen and apply science, knowledge and best practice for our dingoes. Perhaps then we may hear more widely of some good news about them and their fate.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Craigen