

Dingoes in Crisis

Quote, from the Department of Environment, Australian Government,

“After a wild dog has ingested 1080 there is a latent period of around 30 minutes to 3 hours before initial signs such as hyperexcitability, vocalisation, manic running and retching are observed. Although the precise nature and extent of suffering after ingestion of 1080 is unknown, it is likely that the animal will experience distress and possibly pain during this initial stage.” Document prepared by and for the government by Trudy Sharp and Glen Saunders, NSW Department of Primary Industries - Model Code of Practice for the humane control of wild dogs, Australian Government <http://www.deh.gov.au/biodiversity/invasive/publications/humane-control/>

How could anyone read or write this and continue to condone the use of this toxin?

Australia needs to know. I just got it and I am sick.

LYN WATSON

The WA Dingo people have major issues. Firstly they want legal ownership of Dingoes under the Wild Life Act. The Govt wants to put them into the Dog Act - which they don't want at all. (editor's note: thank heavens, witness the appalling situation in NSW where Dingoes are classified under the Companion Animals Act, and have been advertised for sale in the Trading Post, although thankfully I have not seen such an advertisement for several months.) Hard to get the the public interested as there are so few of them. They are seen as a crackpot minority group. However, the aerial baiting of National Parks has upset them all, and the raptor people too, so they are joining forces to campaign in an effort to alert all Australians who own the parks and all the animals in it of what is going on. **A small voice crying out on the far side of Australia will hopefully grow to a multiferous roar across the entire country over the eco-vandalism occurring everywhere, mostly unknown to the public.**

They are, like all of us, totally appalled by the use of 1080, in State and National Parks to exterminate “wild dogs”. This disgusting super toxin has been banned everywhere else in the world. where carnivores exist in the wild. The Nazis invented it as a potential exterminant to be used against the Jewish people, but found that they lost so many of their own people before getting it near the Jews, that they abandoned it. There was and remains - no antidote. If a crow picks up a bait and drops it in your yard and your dog gets it (or child) it will suffer up to 4 days of painful convulsions before it dies. If it vomits on you, you too will die, as it is absorbed through the skin.

NZ manufactures and uses 80% of the product for possums - BUT BIG DIFFERENCE - NZ has no carnivores in nature, so they don't experience the devastating effects Australia does. The hideous stuff also kills secondarily - if an eagle, owl, hawk or a goanna feeds on the carcass of a primary victim it too will die.

These creatures play the role of “lion-king” in our ecosystems. They are our only hope against feral goats, foxes, pigs, wild cats, and over populations of wallabies and kangaroos. Before the arrival of the sheep farmer they did the job admirably.

Every winter, before lambing time, since 1975 Australia has bombarded the areas surrounding sheep grazing country with this toxin. It is totally for the convenience and the pockets of the farmers, Our record of diminishing wildlife since '75 has escalated.

Those controlling Govt Departments using it claim it saves wildlife. The records clearly show it does the opposite.

Federal law clearly states that Dingoes and all native animals are protected in National Parks. It is a blatant disregard of that law that sees the NSW Conservation Dept carrying out these incursions into national parks to want only to destroy wildlife. All Australians who respect nature and love animals should be made aware of what is going on and be canvassing politicians to have these practices stopped and the substance BANNED from our country - as it has been done everywhere else in the world.

Wouldn't it be good if the dog world could use their capacity to love animals to push home this awareness and get something done by raising their voices and alerting their neighbours to the carnage?



That would indeed be a good thing in history and for Australia.

Regarding 1080 (monosodiumflouroacitate) the Dingoes and wild dogs and our ecosystem;

The public only had a warning of two days after it was announced an aerial baiting of the Kosciusko National Park would take place. It was a hurried activity, but we managed to get 30 people together on the steps of Perth's Parliament House with their companion Dingoes to protest this irresponsible aerial baiting. The TV stations turned up and Channel 9 featured a segment in the News Sunday night, 24 June 2006.

There are Desert, Tropical, and Alpine Dingoes - all vary a little in their appearance, however they all share the same DNA. There are only approximately 100 Alpine Dingoes living in the wild (in the world) in the Kosciusko National Park. Once these are exterminated they are lost forever!

There is no problem with pastoralists protecting their stock on their land but the objection is any aerial baiting in the National Parks.

It is a total irresponsibility that the public have a 'right to know about', these National Parks are OUR National Parks!

The Dingo and wild dog are keystone ecosystem modulators in Australia. This fact is poorly understood at present by Australians, but scientists are proving its truth daily.

The practice of 1080 baiting of our Australian carnivores must be stopped immediately if Australian wildlife is ever to regain any kind of equilibrium. 1080's effects are totally negative for Australia's natural systems, and extend beyond the target species as secondary lethal poison to RAPTORS, REPTILES, and many seriously endangered creatures. It also poses a danger to HUMANS in the neighbouring areas.

THERE IS NO ANTIDOTE

It has been banned in every developed country in the world where carnivores exist. A justifiable request is that the practice of baiting within the boundaries of National Parks, which belongs to all Australians equally, be ceased forthwith and forever. It is not up to a few neighbouring sheep farmers to dictate what happens in our Parks.

It is an easy concept to understand when using the 'Lion King' story, this is exactly what the Dingo is in Australia, keeping the equilibrium in balance. There is no problem with pigs, goats, foxes and cats if the Dingo is left in peace without human intervention as Australias top land predator.

How can Australian politicians and the public be 'up in arms about the Japanese killing whales' when they condone and sanction the extermination of our top land predator which holds everything in the ecosystem in balance? It is hypocritical.

The Dingo has been much maligned in the media since the days of the Chamberlain case. Even today some ignorant people will link the Dingo to that case some 25 years ago where the Dingo was exonerated. Media sensationalism has in the past created stories round the Dingo cross (which is NOT a Dingo - when an attack has been reported, the 'heading title' is 'Dingo Cross Attacks', this sort of gutter journalism does nothing to vindicate a persecuted creature. In 200 years there have been but a few wild Dingo attacks (in the cases of Dingo attack it is always human mismanagement that has created the situation) compared to the annual 10,000 domestic dog attacks in this country. The Dingo is a shy docile and timid animal. The Dingo should be universally categorised under Canis Lupis to give it protection as wildlife with permits issued to the keepers of Dingoes in cohabitation whether in the rural or urban location for protection. All States should have the same category listing instead of the present Canis Lupis in some States and Canis Familiaris in other states.

We are working on a film around 'the Dingo and the Cane Toad' - the Dingo is more agile and better adept in the landscape than a domestic dog to tackle and locate the cane toad, the Dingo's senses are much more acute than a domesticated dog. It is NOT a new arrival to Australia, the Dingo has been here for thousands of years, unlike the sheep and farmers who have been here just a couple of hundred years. The sheep have desecrated the land. Much of the problems associated with the 'wild dogs' is a result of irresponsible behaviour by the farmers - pastoralists' dogs which were not sterilised ran free to join packs of Dingoes and create the problems the farmers complain about now!

I have had the pleasure of being associated with Dingoes, they are a learning experience. Definitely the most gentle of creatures!

The public would be outraged if the 'top land predator' in Africa - the lion, was to be the 'target of extermination' like the Dingo.

The public are mostly unaware of what these authorities are doing, as we the public are not generally consulted. This is changing with the continual justification of 1080 in areas that are NOT farm lands as well as our National Parks!

Pigs and goats devastate the rivers, lakes and landscape, if the Dingo is left 'to do what it does best as our Lion King', these problems do not happen.

The alternatives for farmers protecting sheep on their properties are many, Anatolian dogs, Maremma dogs. Dromedarius (feral) camels, Alpacas, Lamas. Reliable fencing programs and electricity.

The exhorbitant cost of aerial baiting with 1080 runs into millions annually.

There are many responsible actions which can be used instead of SUPER TOXINS which destroy the ecosystem. The 'powers that be' should be made more responsible and accountable when they resort to this eco-vandalism.

Recently across a Australia a survey clearly showed that 95% of the population wanted the Dingo protected and conservation of 'our forgotten Icon' given priority. The public; 'as a voice for the Dingo's survival' has not been heard.

The Dingo has been listed by the Canid Specialist Group as 'VULNERABLE'.

THE DINGO HAS ALSO BEEN **RED LISTED** AS VULNERABLE by Evaluators - Sillero - Zubiri, C and Hoffmen. M Canid Red List Authority 2004 Corbett L.

With the last one hundred pure Alpine Dingoes located in the Kosciusko National Park and all the publicity around the cane toad, the public are told that they must be one hundred percent positive it is not another variety of toad or frog before extermination, surely this should apply in the same terms for the Dingo and hybrid dogs! There is no justification of any Aerial baiting inside a National Park. It is a catastrophe for ALL wildlife!

If the Dingo is wiped out, it will create massive problems in the Ecosystem.

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Buffy the Cane Toad Slayer



Sarah Fyfe who is a brilliant and well credentialed trainer, is training her Dingoes to detect cane toads, which are creeping close to the WA border. She has just obtained a new Dingo pup which will be an exclusive canetoad buster - Buffy - and a great pic which appeared in a WA regional paper. She finds Dingoes way superior to any domestic breeds on this particular facet of tracking.

Fears aerial baiting could wipe out Dingo population

The resumption of aerial baiting in the Kosciuszko National Park could quickly lead to the extinction of the Dingo, a peak environment group says.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service resumed aerial baiting in southern New South Wales this week after a 10 year moratorium.

The practice was stopped a decade ago after fears that dropping baits from the sky would kill native wildlife.

Colong Foundation executive director Keith Muir says the Government's move will guarantee the Dingo's extinction.

"I would say less than a week," he said. "If you introduce aerial baiting into an area then the population will crash. They will be the first animals to eat the bait and be wiped out. That is a tragedy - these animals will become extinct.

How can the Department of Environment and Conservation exterminate an animal which is endangered and is becoming extinct?"