

30th January 2026
The Hon. David Crisafulli MP
Premier of Queensland
Email: premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation
Email: environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Opposition to the Euthanising of Dingoes on K’gari

Animal Care Australia is a national incorporated association established to consult with government in advocating for real animal welfare by those who keep, breed and care for animals. Our goal is to promote and encourage high standards in all interactions with the animals in our care.

Animal Care Australia encourages continued development of animal welfare standards and Codes of Practice for animal husbandry, breeding, training, sale, and sporting exhibitions for a wide range of animal species, including pets, companion animals, animals used for educational or entertainment purposes or kept for conservation.

I am writing to express deep concern and strong opposition to the euthanising of dingoes on K’gari following the recent tragic incident.

While this situation is heartbreaking for all involved, particularly for the young life lost, for the family grieving, and for the dingoes that once again stand to pay the ultimate price for systemic failure of the responsible department, its rangers and now this government.

The previous government and its leadership left a lot to be desired, and we were hopeful that your government would provide a positive step in the right direction – and yet the actions taken by your government are abysmal.

To euthanise the entire pack of dingo without stakeholder consultation and prior to the full completion of an investigation and contrary to coroners’ autopsy finding of inconclusive cause of death’ – you should be ashamed.

It is essential to be clear: dingoes did not cause this tragedy—poor management did.

For years, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) has repeatedly fallen short of the responsibilities required to protect both visitors and wildlife. If news reports are true that the tourism industry placed on K’garri has an invested interest in your political party, then perhaps that is something that needs further investigation – and not just by the media.

To be clear, this government is shaping up to be no better than the previous, especially when your response to the interactions between humans and our native wildlife are to cull the animals involved and not make any attempt to change human behaviour or to penalise humans when they do the wrong prior to any natural instinctive reaction by the wildlife.

The culling of these dingoes after the fact does not equate to conservation. It is damage control to protect a tourism brand, not an evidence-based wildlife management strategy.

If public safety is genuinely the priority, then action must focus on the true causes, not the scapegoats.

What must change immediately:

- A strict and enforceable tourist cap on K'gari
- Mandatory education for all visitors before entering the island
- Real, consistent enforcement of food storage and interaction regulations
- Independent oversight of dingo management
- An end to lethal responses as the default strategy

Wildlife should not be managed according to fear, headlines, or profit margins. If QPWS continues to measure success by visitor numbers instead of ecological health, both people and dingoes will remain at risk.

This is not coexistence. This is mismanagement.

K'gari is currently mismanaged like a theme park instead of a globally significant, World Heritage-listed ecosystem and home to one of Australia's most important remaining dingo populations.

Sadly, if your chooses to continue to let this mismanagement continue while ignoring long-standing warnings from ecologists, local communities, and wildlife advocates, will make tragedies not only predictable but inevitable.

I urge your government to halt any further euthanising of these dingoes and commit to meaningful, science-driven reform of how K'gari is managed.

Should you require further details please do not hesitate to reach out as we would be happy to meet with you and further discuss this matter.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M Donnelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Donnelly
President and Animal Care Australia Native Mammal Representative.
0400 323 843
president@animalcareaustralia.org.au

About Animal Care Australia

As a nationally recognised animal welfare organisation, Animal Care Australia encourages continued development of animal welfare standards and Codes of Practice for animal husbandry, breeding, training, sale, and sporting exhibitions for a wide range of animal species, including pets, animals used for educational or entertainment purposes or kept for conservation, and in particular native birds, reptiles, and mammals.

Animal Care Australia was founded in early 2018 to establish an organisation run solely by volunteers to lobby for real animal welfare. With extreme animal rights and animal liberationist ideologies influencing government legislation, regulation, and policy at our expense and to the detriment of our animals and pets, it has become necessary to provide government with a balancing voice.

By uniting the broad spectrum of animal groups, collectively we offer an experienced, sensible approach to animal welfare.

By educating our members and the public about the importance of treating animals with kindness and respect for their needs and promoting the humane treatment of animals to improve animal welfare outcomes, Animal Care Australia is in the unique position of lobbying and advocating for all animals within our care.

Animal Care Australia provides priority to the following:

- advocating for stronger welfare outcomes
- advocating to increase education of the public in animal welfare and best care techniques
- educate the public on handling their animals with kindness & respect and the importance of their needs
- educate the public in the differences between animal welfare and animal rights