

# Wild dog facts

## The law and your responsibility

The dingo is a restricted invasive animal under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. It must not be moved, kept, fed, given away, sold, or released into the environment without a permit.

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The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical steps to minimise the risks associated with invasive animals under their control. This is called a general biosecurity obligation (GBO).

## Your responsibility

Landholders have a GBO to take reasonable steps to control wild dogs.

Control must be done in a humane way and in accordance with animal welfare, firearms and poisons legislation.

Contact your local government for your advice on appropriate control methods for your area, the conditions you may need to comply with, and what permissions or licences you may need to obtain.

## Legislation

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, everyone, including government agencies responsible for state lands, are obliged to take reasonable steps to control invasive animals on their land.

Under the same Act, local governments must have a biosecurity plan that covers invasive animals in its area. This plan may include actions to be taken on certain species. Some of these actions may be required under local laws. Contact your local government for more information.

The dingo is defined as both 'wildlife' and 'native wildlife' under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, and is a natural resource within protected areas such as national parks. Under the Act, protected areas have prescribed management principles, which refer to protecting and conserving the natural resource and the natural condition.

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), is responsible for administering the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and is obliged to manage dingoes within protected areas according to this rationale. Outside protected areas, a dingo is not protected wildlife. The Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Regulation 1994 (Schedule 5) specifically excludes dingoes from the common mammal (indigenous to Australia) category; therefore, dingoes are only protected *inside* protected areas.

Wild dogs and dingoes are defined as 'animals' under the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*. This legislation allows for the control of feral animals as long as the control is done in a way that does not cause the animal unnecessary pain and suffering.

Under the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996, the toxins 1080 and strychnine are classified as S7 poisons. The regulation of 1080 in Queensland is the responsibility of Queensland Health. Queensland Health can issue landholders with a permit for strychnine and 1080 capsules for canid pest ejectors for their own land only.

A person authorised under the Biosecurity Act and authorised by Queensland Health can supply landholders with 1080 baits for use on their land in accordance with detailed written instructions that comply with national requirements for the use of 1080.

In order to become an authorised 1080 or strychnine operator, an applicant (either a Biosecurity Queensland employee or an employee of another state government department, local government or approved business) must undergo a Biosecurity Queensland training course and pass a Queensland Health examination.

The *Weapons Act 1990* and laws covering trespass also relate to the control of pest animals.

## Further information

Further information is available from your local government office, or by contacting Biosecurity Queensland (call 13 25 23 or visit our website at [www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au)).

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