

Dog aware fact



The law and your responsibility

All wild dogs (including dingoes, hybrids and feral dogs) are declared Class 2 Pests under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Management) Act 2002*. It is illegal to keep, feed, release, introduce, or sell them.

Legally, the primary responsibility for wild dog control lies with landowners. Biosecurity Queensland, part of the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, coordinates wild dog control through local governments and key landholders once or twice a year in rural areas. In closely settled areas, local government and Biosecurity Queensland may help coordinate control programs.

Your responsibility

As a landowner you are obliged to take reasonable steps to keep your land free of wild dogs. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to determine and implement control practices appropriate for your property, and to be mindful of the possible impacts of your action or inaction on other landholders in the area.

The dingo is defined as both 'wildlife' and 'native wildlife' under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, and is regarded as a natural resource in protected areas such as national parks. Under this Act, protected areas have prescribed management principles for protecting and conserving the natural resource and the natural condition. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service manage dingoes within protected areas according to this rationale. However, they are not protected wildlife outside protected areas.

Other laws

Besides the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Management) Act 2002*, the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*, the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996, and the *Weapons Act 1990* also relate to control of pest animals. You will need to see how each applies to your individual situation. Your local council can provide you with advice on which methods are the most suitable for your area, the conditions you may need to comply with, and what permissions or licences you may need to obtain.

Local government area pest management plans

Each local government has a local government area pest management plan, which specifies the priority and actions for each stakeholder in the shire area with regard to pests. All plans have wild dogs as a high priority and require landholders to take reasonable steps to keep their land free of wild dogs, and encourage them to work in syndicates with neighbours in coordinated control programs.

If you are dog aware:

You know you must abide by all laws with regard to managing wild dogs.