

Fraser Island Dingo Conservation and Risk Management Strategy



A quick guide

Conserving wild dingoes on Fraser Island, ensuring their welfare and safeguarding people are the outcomes being sought from the Queensland Government's new Fraser Island Dingo Conservation and Risk Management Strategy.

Fraser Island (K'gari)—located off the south-east coast of Queensland, Australia—is a section of the Great Sandy National Park and a World Heritage area. The island's outstanding natural and cultural heritage attracts around 400,000 visitors each year. The dingo is an important part of this ecosystem, functioning as a top predator that keeps the natural system in balance. Due to their iconic status and having rarely interbred with domestic or feral dogs, Fraser Island dingoes also have significant conservation value. Sightings of wild dingoes can enrich the visitor experience. However, managing human interactions with these wild animals is challenging.

What is the purpose of the new strategy?

The strategy sets out an overarching framework for the management of Fraser Island's dingoes and their interaction with people who live on and visit the island. The strategy builds on the positive aspects of the past to advocate a new approach to adaptive management of wild dingoes on Fraser Island.

The strategy provides for a range of management objectives to enhance human safety, wildlife conservation and dingo welfare on Fraser Island. It focuses on building knowledge; adopting high standards of animal welfare practices; and engaging with Traditional Owners, local communities, tourist operators and wildlife researchers to improve management of Fraser Island's dingoes. The Queensland Government will monitor the strategy's success by tracking progress towards its objectives. This will provide for continual improvement in conservation outcomes for wild dingoes on the island, while also minimising the risks to human safety and taking into consideration dingo welfare.

How does the new strategy differ from the old one?

Based on the recommendations from an independent scientific review, the new strategy will better reflect the dual management focus on dingo conservation and human safety. In addition, a key element is an emphasis on dingo welfare. The new strategy draws and builds on previous management to include initiatives that address concerns identified in the independent review.

What are the main features of the new strategy?

The strategy sets a vision for Fraser Island's wild dingo conservation and risk management, and provides the framework for managing Fraser Island's wild dingoes. Priority objectives highlight the core challenges for Fraser Island's dingo management program and the results being sought.

Four key programs are identified, including:

- risk intervention
- communication and education
- research; and
- evaluation and review.

Importantly, the strategy takes an integrated approach to management. For example, community feedback informs research, conservation management and evaluation processes.

How will the new strategy be delivered on-ground on Fraser Island?

The strategy will be delivered through an implementation plan based on the four programs. The implementation plan will contain detailed actions and will be delivered by the Queensland Government in partnership with interested parties.

Where can I find out more about the new strategy?

The strategy is available online at www.ehp.qld.gov.au and www.nprsr.qld.gov.au.

For further information

Contact the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection or the Department of National Parks, Recreation Sport and Racing

Phone: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)
Email: info@ehp.qld.gov.au qpws@nprsr.qld.gov.au
Website: www.ehp.qld.gov.au www.nprsr.qld.gov.au

Report negative dingo encounters—circling, lunging or being chased or bailed up by one or more dingoes, tearing tents or stealing property, nipping, biting or worse—to 13 QGOV (13 74 68) as soon as possible.

For all emergencies, phone Triple Zero (000).
Try 112 from a mobile phone if you have no reception.

Vision

A future where Fraser Island (K'gari) supports a sustainable and healthy wild dingo population that is safely appreciated by Butchulla Traditional Owners, residents, tourism operators and visitors alike.


Strategic directions

critical components of change required to achieve desired outcomes



Priority objectives and desired outcomes

provides focus for efforts and outlines intended achievements

Objective	Ensure the conservation and preservation of a sustainable wild dingo population on Fraser Island	
Desired outcome	A viable population of wild dingoes is maintained on Fraser Island	
Objective	Minimise adverse animal welfare impacts caused by people to dingoes on Fraser Island	
Desired outcome	Human behaviour promotes improved outcomes for the welfare of wild dingoes	
Objective	Minimise the risk posed to people by dingoes on Fraser Island	
Desired outcome	People are empowered to practice responsible, dingo-safe behaviour	
Objective	Provide people on Fraser Island with a safe, enjoyable opportunity to see dingoes in an environment as near as possible to their natural state	
Desired outcome	Fraser Island provides a safe environment for visitors to see wild dingoes in their natural setting	

Programs

strategic pathways to achieve desired outcomes

Risk intervention

Communication and education

Research

Evaluation and review

Targets and performance indicators

measuring progress towards desired outcomes