

Inquiry into Crocodile Control and Conservation Bill 2025

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Submission re. the proposed Crocodile Control and Conservation Bill 2025

I live in Croc Country. There are crocs in my river, the creeks, in the floodwaters during the wet.

I have even spotted a croc from my veranda! When I go to the beach, or the river, or go fishing, I follow the Croc Wise rules... it's not that hard.

As a resident who is adjacent to crocodiles on a regular basis, I wish to express my opposition to yet another proposed croc Bill, which once again politicises the future of this species.

I oppose the proposed Bill for the following reasons:

1. The bill **addresses a fictitious problem**. The ABS Cause of Death stats¹ for QLD show:
 - a. 3 deaths from **dogs**
 - b. 4 deaths of **bees & wasps**
 - c. 4 deaths from **marine mammals**
 - d. 1 death (one!) from **crocodiles**... are we going to see a bill for the **culling of dogs and dolphins**? No, because the croc problem is a purely political and media invention.
2. We already have a science-based, structured crocodile management plan: **Queensland Crocodile Management Plan (QCMP)**. The QCMP plan is working. Deaths from human-crocodile interactions are vanishingly infrequent and almost always the result of deliberate risk-taking on the human end. The proposed bill would undermine our existing plan with something much less rigorous, less scientifically supported, and less effective.
3. Culling of large crocs (read: dominant males) may actually make **our waterways less safe**. Both in terms of animal behaviour (increased migration & territorial behaviour) and human behaviour (complacency after removal of a highly visible croc).
4. Crocodiles are a native animal and subject to protection under Australia's **Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act**. This Bill directly contradicts that status. As native wildlife in their natural habitat, the focus should be on **education not eradication**.
5. Commercialisation of this protected native species for trophy hunting purposes could be a breach of international law, specifically the **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)**

In conclusion, this bill aims to solve a non-existent problem, by weakening our existing, effective science-backed program, and replacing it with something that is in contravention of Australian and International law re. this iconic native species.

Please reject this misguided Bill in its entirety.

Sincerely,

Irene Rix

1. Source: <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/causes-death/causes-death-australia/2023#data-downloads> retrieved 2 April 2025, Latest Release is data for 2023 released on 10 October 2024.