

## Question on Notice

No. 942

Asked on Wednesday, 23 August 2023

**MR J LISTER** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS (HON L LINARD)—

### QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) if the department, or any contractor, group or agency funded or supported by the department, traps and releases dingoes or other wild dogs in Queensland and (b) if so, where such dingoes or wild dogs are released?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

Media reports about the relocation of dingoes/wild dogs by the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), within the Department of Environment and Science, and/or others acting with their consent are entirely without foundation.

The dingo is classified as a restricted invasive animal under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. As such it is unlawful to keep, feed, give away, sell, or release a dingo into the environment and penalties may apply.

QPWS recently released the results of a pioneering genetic study of DNA material collected from 144 K'gari dingoes between 1996 to 2020. The findings demonstrate that “There is no evidence of recent connectivity between dingoes on the mainland and the Island, or no evidence that dingoes are moving on or off the Island and assimilating into local populations”.

QPWS undertakes trapping on K'gari for management purposes including for example, for ear tagging, collaring, DNA sampling and veterinary treatments. Animals trapped for these purposes are always released at the site of capture.

QPWS have also at times authorised the trapping and release of dingoes/wild dogs from other lands under its management to facilitate important scientific studies, such as the work done on Taunton National Park (scientific) where 10 dogs were fitted with GPS collars as part of a trial into the effectiveness of lethal baiting. In all cases, these animals are released back to the point of initial capture after fitting the GPS collars.

QPWS activities relating to dingoes and wild dogs are compliant with the Biosecurity Act.