

Save Fraser Island Dingoes Inc.

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MEDIA RELEASE.

28 Feb2013

Good News for Fraser Island Dingoes..

The Minister for the Environment, Andrew Powell, has released his recommendations following the review of the Fraser Island Dingo Management Strategy. In an announcement attended by Media and SFID Inc. the Minister outlined some of the changes anticipated in the revised FIDMS.

Dingo Welfare will be a priority and all hazing is to cease immediately. Vet checks on the health of the animals would be undertaken and the possibility of a Wildlife Care Facility was mentioned.

Animals will no longer be tagged unless they are considered a problem and the Government will be looking into other alternative methods of identification. SFID would prefer tagging cease completely, but this is a step in the right direction.

Data collection was another important issue, a comprehensive population study is now on the agenda and is well overdue.

The Ecosure report stated that it is important QPWS staff have a thorough understanding of dingo behaviour to ensure consistency in reporting. Correct interpretation of dingo behaviour has always been a contentious issue, it is hoped this will be thoroughly reviewed.

The current Education program is examined in the report and improvements have been suggested, this is another step in the right direction.

The Minister stated some recommendations would be implemented in the near future but others would be in the long term. It is hoped that strategies to protect the dingo from further interference will be implemented in the immediate future.

The report requires more comprehensive investigation, but at this stage the recommendations are promising for the future of the Fraser Island dingo. The new management strategy is expected to be released in May.

Cheryl Bryant. Publicity Officer. SFID Inc. & SFID Committee.