



Incident on K'Gari (Fraser Island.)

There has been a very unfortunate start to the New Year with a young child being bitten by a dingo on K'Gari. The incident occurred Saturday 19 Jan. around 6PM near the Govi campsite north of Dilli Village..

Reports suggest the 6 year old boy ran up a sand dune out of sight of parents and straight into a family of four animals. The dingoes were obviously startled and acted instinctively, we believe it was a female with juvenile pups, one animal bit the child on the leg and he was taken to Hervey Bay hospital with puncture wounds where he is recovering.

This incident could have been far worse if the dingoes had actually been intent on attacking the child. It is a reminder to all who visit the Island that parents must be vigilant at all times.

QPWS have indicated that the dingoes involved in the incident are currently being monitored and to date no decision has been made to destroy any animal. We hope that reason prevails and the animals are not held culpable.

Since 2013 the protocol for euthanasia has changed considerably and animals cannot be arbitrarily destroyed, there must be due process and evidence presented that the animal poses a risk to human safety. We certainly hope this wont be the case, but since the long weekend is upon us we have concerns for the dingoes involved as hordes of tourists will again descend on the Island.

The campground has been closed and visitors advised to camp further north, we remind people that the lives of these animals could be in your hands. If you do see them or any dingo, enjoy the experience from a distance and don't get out of a vehicle or encourage them to approach. This weekend will be a crucial time, **we don't want to see any more negative incidents making headline news.**

For those visiting the Island please be observant, if you do see anyone acting inappropriately take a photo or video if possible and report to QPWS. There is contact info on the Island, or alternatively phone (07) 4127 9150 or email dingo.ranger@des.qld.gov.au

Cheryl Bryant. Publicity Officer (Save Fraser Island Dingoes Inc.)