

Save Fraser Island Dingoes Inc.

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MEDIA STATEMENT.

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Dingo at Eli Creek, K'gari (Fraser Island) under scrutiny by Park Rangers.

A female dingo, identified by her tag (Ryellow18f) is again under intense scrutiny. This particular dingo (wongari) was fitted with a tracking collar for 15 months in order to track her movements and interactions with visitors.

The collar was released in August 2019 due to the fact she was in pup, but her pups did not survive.

The young dingo has been seen frequenting the Eli Creek area enticed by the scraps of food dropped by holiday makers, but the area is considered a 'no go' zone for dingoes. Unfortunately the dingoes are not aware of these restrictions.

Watching her forage in the sand she made no attempt to interact with the tourists, but there have been reports of tourists attempting to interact with her. Visitors have been seen either enticing her for a photo or attempting to kick or throw items at her. This would only cause confusion for the animal who is simply trying to survive in an environment overrun with vehicles, tents and people.

A park ranger at Eli Creek made it clear that she is becoming a nuisance to them.

It is disappointing to hear that she is considered a nuisance by those who's job it is to protect and conserve. There are now growing concerns for her welfare.

In the meantime children were climbing sand dunes unsupervised and 4 wheel drives were racing along the beach at excessive speeds.

Perhaps visitor behaviour rather than dingo behaviour should be the focus.

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