

Are They Feral? I

Brush-turkeys, Dingoes & Sulphur-crested Cockatoos

At over 2kg the **Australian Brush-turkey** is large.

It's a ground-dwelling bird but flies into trees for roosting.

The breeding male has a long yellow neck pouch.

It is more common further north and along the coast and remains uncommon in the Blue Mountains but it would seem that its range is increasing.

Finding "scratched-up" earth was once a sign of a lyrebird but it may be a Brush-turkey - especially in gardens.



male Brush-turkey in Mt. Tomah, NSW in 2021
(Niel Carey)

Although the **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** has been recorded as being in the Blue Mountains since early times, its explosion in numbers, destructive nature and raucous call has alienated many residents.

The issue is more that it has displaced other species such as the endangered Gang-gang Cockatoo.

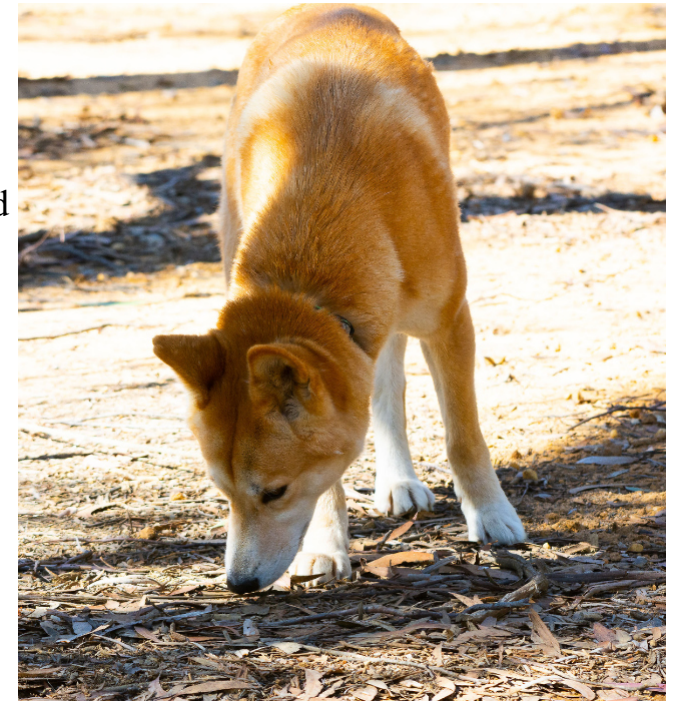


Feral? Who me?
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo

The **Dingo** has been in Australia for over 3,000 years.

It could be classed as Australia's first introduced species.

Being our largest land predator there has been conflict with graziers from the outset.



Dingo, Leura, NSW in 2021 (Niel Carey)

As with brumbies, opinions on where and whether they belong are divided.

Personally, I believe that the Dingo is misunderstood and I am fond of them.

Be on the look out for Brush-turkeys, flocks of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos and Dingoes. But keep your distance as they are wild animals.



Have you seen a Brush-turkey?

Have you seen and heard a flock of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos?

Have you seen a Dingo in the wild or at a sanctuary?