

PRESIDENT: MEREDITH RYAN
02 6585 6470
VICE PRESIDENT: ROD MILLER
02 6559 5073
TREASURER: BEVERLY ARTHUR-
PFEIL 02 6581 2996
SECRETARY: VACANT



ABN: 65 455 270 251
FAWNA (NSW) INC.
P.O. BOX 218
WAUCHOPE NSW 2446

E Mail:
fawna.nsw.inc@gmail.com
DUTY OFFICER: 02 6581 4141

1 December 2014

Office of Environment & Heritage—flyingfox.policyreview@environment.nsw.gov.au

Submission on the Flying-fox Camp Management Policy 2014: Consultation draft

F.A.W.N.A. (NSW) Inc is the licensed wildlife rescue rehabilitation release group operating in the LGAs of Port Macquarie-Hastings, Greater Taree, Kempsey, Northern Great Lakes, Gloucester and Dungog—an area of 18,000 square km. FAWNA's area includes the major flying-fox maternity camps of Wingham Brush and Kooloonbung Creek and regularly visited flying-fox camps at Red Hill, Brombin, Arakoon, Rudder Park Kempsey, to name just a few.

FAWNA's volunteers participated in the flying-fox camp counts prior to threatened species listing for the Grey-headed Flying-fox in 2001, and some of FAWNA's volunteers are current counters in the CSIRO National Flying-fox monitoring Program.

FAWNA has been aware over its 25 years operation that some camps' presence are not a cause for concern in their communities, and other camps are coming under increasing odium from their community.

FAWNA works with local Council's where appropriate and will continue to do so.

FAWNA supports the submission lodged on 30-12-2014 by the New South Wales Wildlife Council and in part the submission lodged by the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council on 19-11-2014.

We believe that until alternate appropriate habitat has been identified as suitable for individual flying-fox camps, that no approvals should be given for dispersal actions.

Government should take Direct Action to ensure suitable flying-fox camp habitat is created adjacent to appropriate rivers/streams, away from urban areas, and incentives offered to Landholders to plant, conserve and protect appropriate habitat.

If approvals are given for dispersal they must take place well away from the birthing season of Grey-headed flying-foxes.

Licensed wildlife rehabilitation groups should be offered a substantial discount on the cost of Rabies vaccinations for trained volunteer flying-fox handlers (currently in the vicinity of \$310 + cost of medical services for the 3 shot pre-exposure vaccine) to ensure there are sufficient vaccinated people on the ground to deal with unintended consequences of any camp dispersal activities.

FAWNA believes OEH must be the monitoring body for any flying-fox camp dispersal activities.

FAWNA thanks OEH for the good work it is doing to attempt to mitigate problems caused by human/flying-fox interactions in urban area.

Via email from Meredith Ryan, President

Licensed by Office of Environment and Heritage, NPWS MWL100327 to operate in Port Macquarie-Hastings, Greater Taree, Kempsey, Gloucester, Northern Great Lakes, Stroud and Dungog.
Member: NSW Wildlife Council

Wildlife Rescue Phone 24 hours: 02 6581 4141 Web: www.fawna.org.au

