

Living with flying-foxes



Australasian Bat Society Flying-fox Expert Group

Vital pollinators

Noisy neighbours

Flying-fox Management
A Wicked Problem

Wildlife conflict

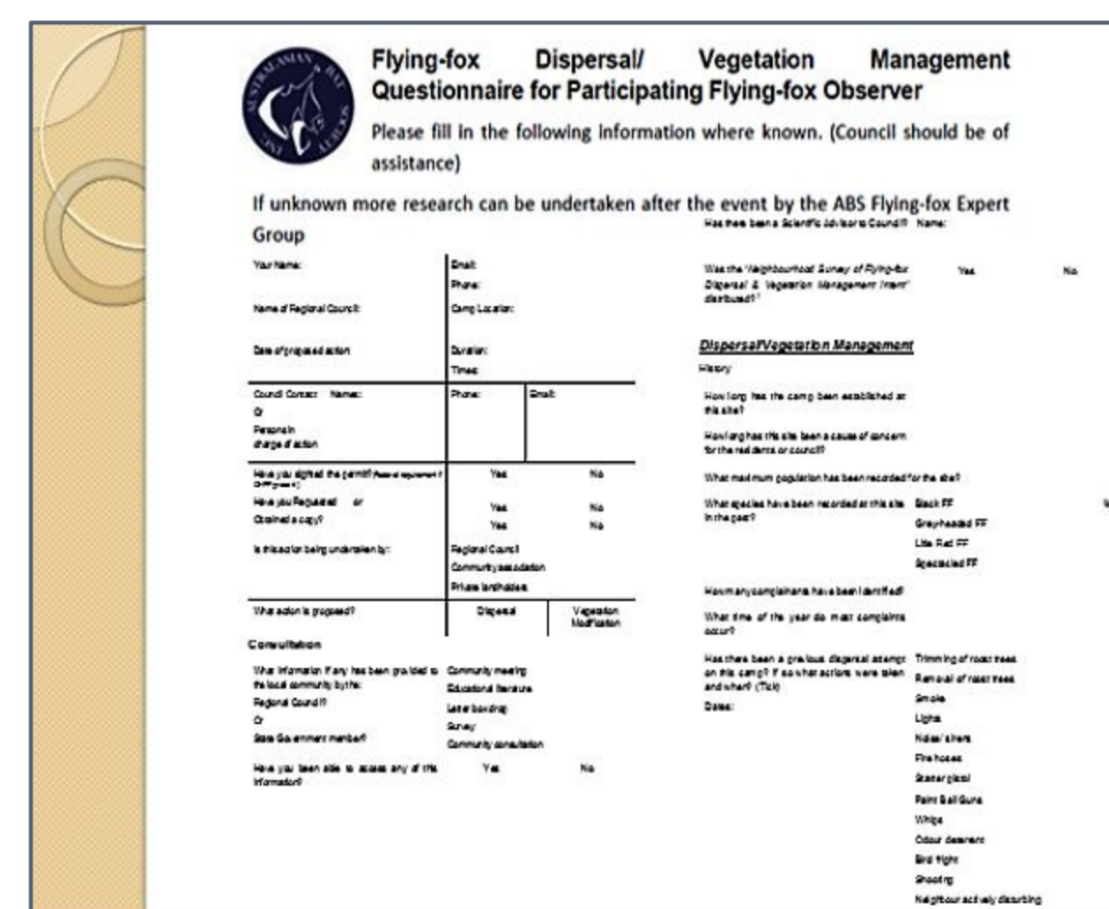
The Australasian Bat Society (ABS) is the peak body promoting bat conservation in the Australasian region. The ABS Flying-fox Expert Group (FFEG) is the primary source of reliable, accurate information on Australian flying-foxes for all levels of government and managers. With expertise in research, government, environmental assessment, advocacy, education and animal welfare, the FFEG is in a unique position to encourage a scientific, sustainable and ethical approach to the conservation and management of flying foxes.

Our Resources



Scientific research

Research shows that most flying-foxes are nomadic using camps like "backpacker hostels", and that dispersals usually fail. New studies are researching further into movements, choice of camp sites and urbanisation of flying-foxes.



Information collation

The FFEG has created a reporting form for camp dispersal and vegetation modification activities and heat events. Standardisation of monitoring of these activities will assist in the development of evidence-based management practices.



Education: Bat Pack, Bat Facts and Fast Facts on Flying-foxes

Surveys show limited knowledge of disease risk and flying-fox ecology among members of the public. ABS resources include a *Bat Pack* for schools, *Bat Facts* for community events, and *Fast Facts* to help address concerns of residents.



Raising public awareness - Australasian Bat Night

Providing information alone does not resolve conflict. The ABS Bat Night program aims to engage with people and raise awareness of bats through community events in partnership with local councils and community organisations.

Flying foxes do not recognise local or state boundaries nor do they discriminate between urban and wild resources.

Flying-fox issues cannot be successfully managed at a local level.

Only by working together, using evidence-based methods, can governments, ecological consultants and community groups achieve a nationally coordinated management plan for the benefit of both people and flying-foxes.