

Flying-fox conservation and camp management in New South Wales

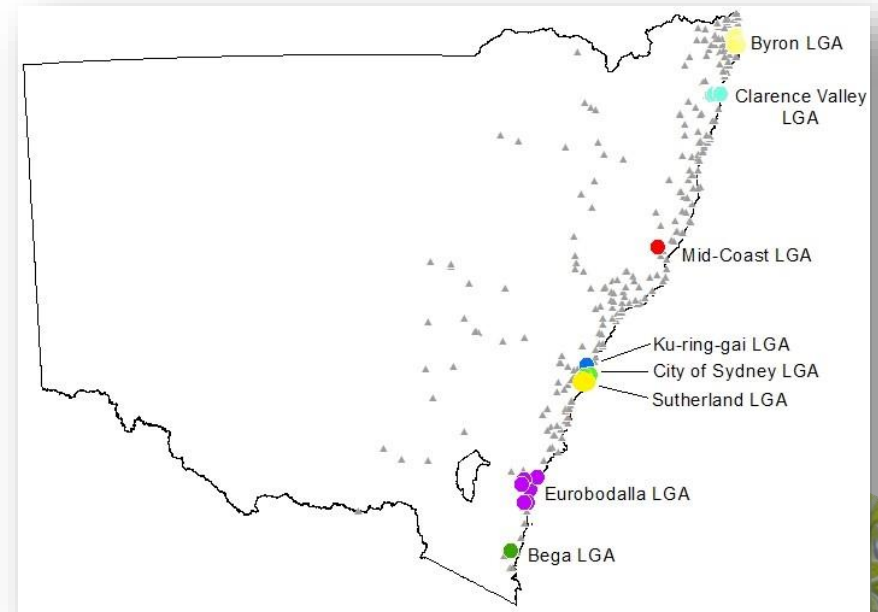
National Flying-fox Forum 2019



Grey-headed flying-fox conservation project

Key threats addressed in action toolbox:

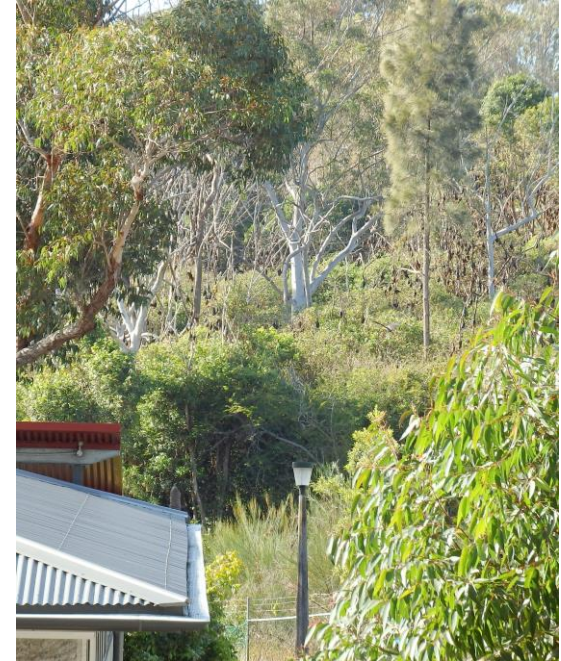
1. Loss of foraging habitat
2. Loss of roosting habitat
3. Conflict with humans at camps
4. Heat stress
5. Incidental mortality
6. Shooting
7. Limited understanding of population trends



Subsidies for conflict reduction

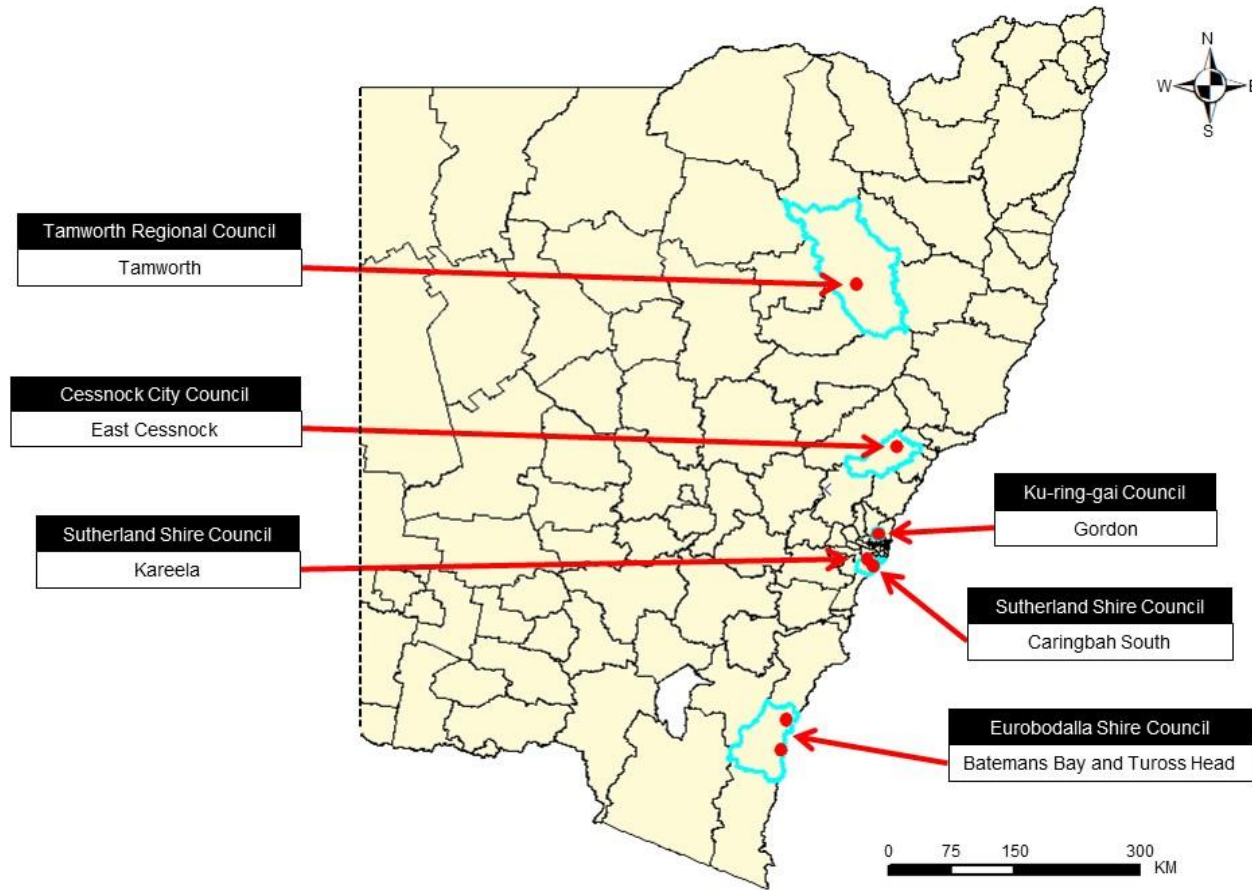
KEY FINDINGS

- Subsidy programs vary in their design to suit the community's needs.
- Programs may offer a broad range of equipment and services to allow the resident to choose what would help them.
- Alternatively, programs may specialise in one equipment/service to achieve a specific goal.

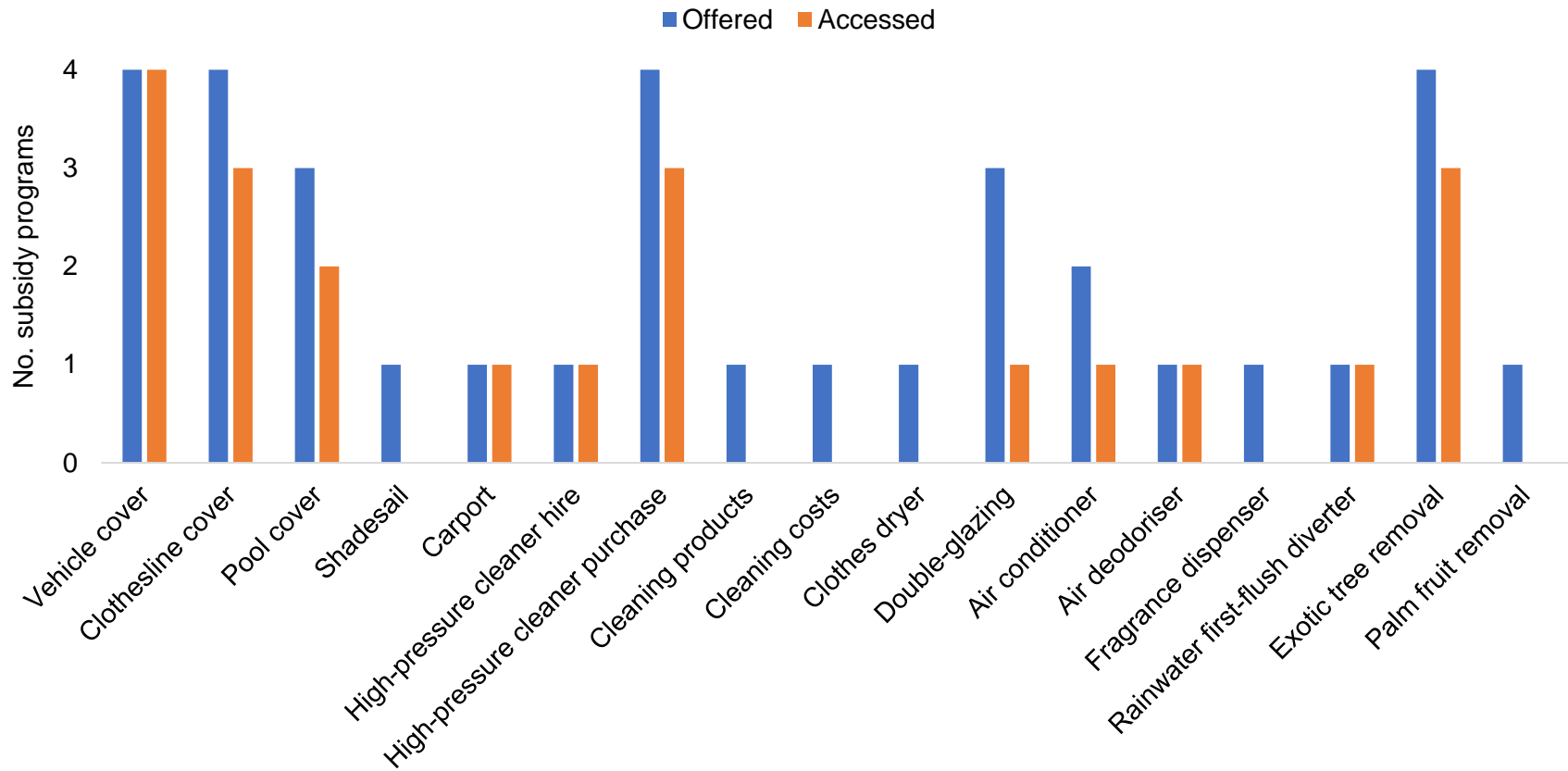


Flying-foxes in Kareela

- The study examined six subsidy programs from five local councils.



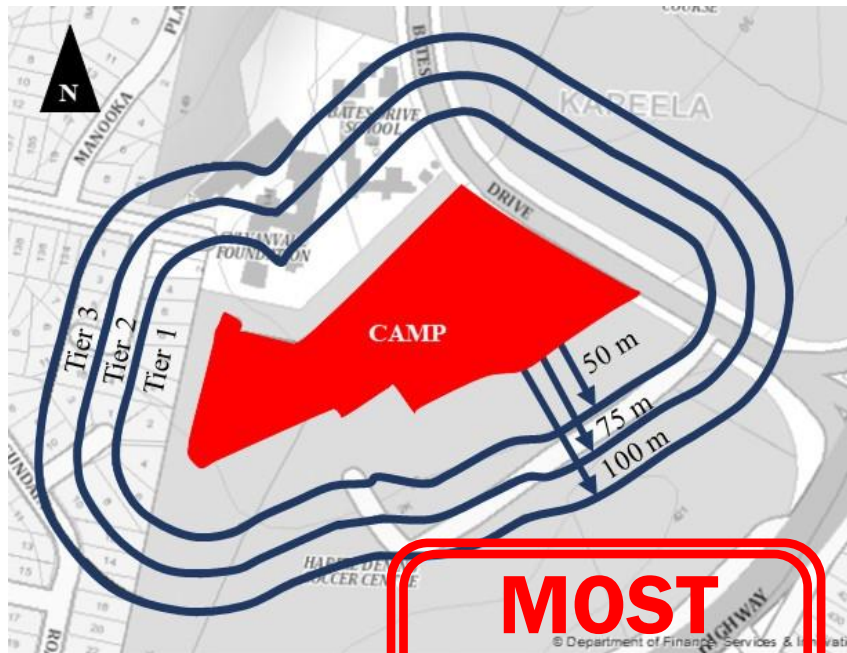
- The most frequently offered subsidies were vehicle and clothesline covers, high-pressure cleaners, exotic tree removal.



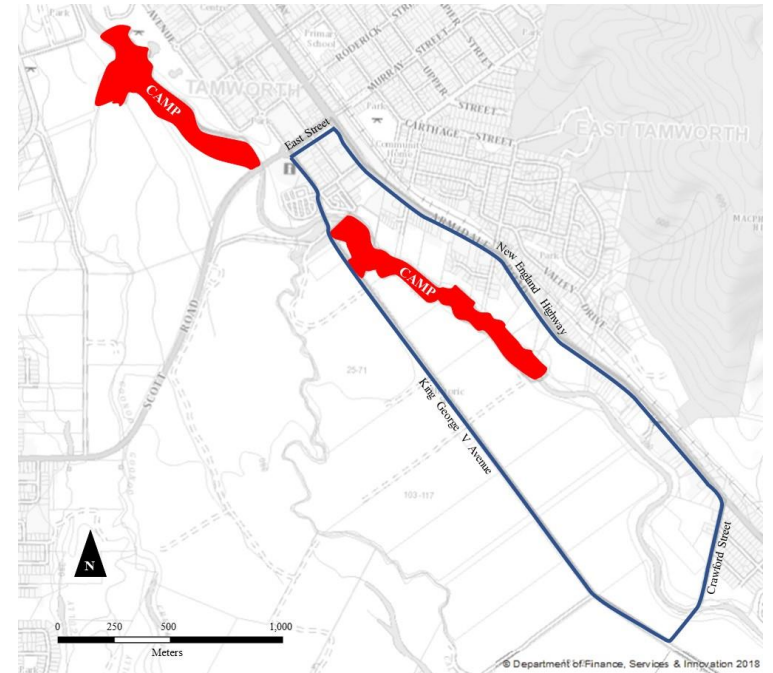
SUBSIDIES

- Eligibility for subsidies were defined by two methods

- Distance-based criteria



- Landmark-based criteria



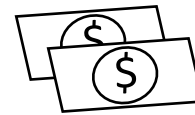
- Subsidies were delivered by four methods

- Reimbursements for part or all of the purchase of equipment and services

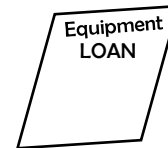


**MOST
COMMON**

- Upfront funding for part or all of the purchase of equipment and services



- Free hire of equipment



- Direct hand out of equipment



LESSONS LEARNT

- Subsidies represent a goodwill gesture to demonstrate Council action.
- They appeased residents in some cases, but not in others
- Programs should:
 - consider what mitigation equipment and services have the greatest impacts for addressing amenity issues
 - Design subsidies around those, subject to community input.



Photo, M. Mo

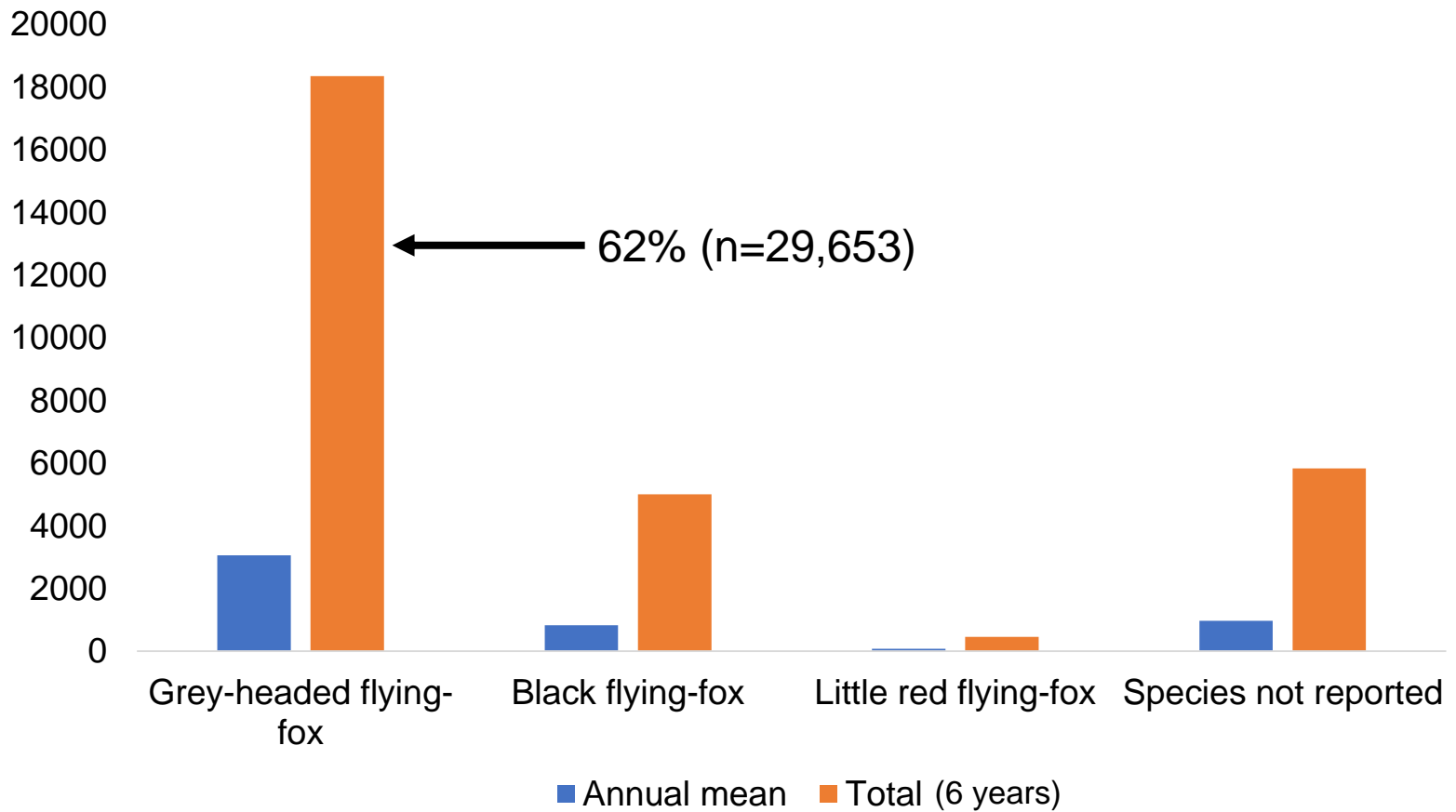
Trends in flying-fox rescues in NSW

KEY FINDINGS

- Grey-headed flying-foxes were rescued more frequently than the non-threatened flying-foxes.
- More rescues occurred in coastal regions.
- A large proportion of injuries were attributed to anthropogenic factors

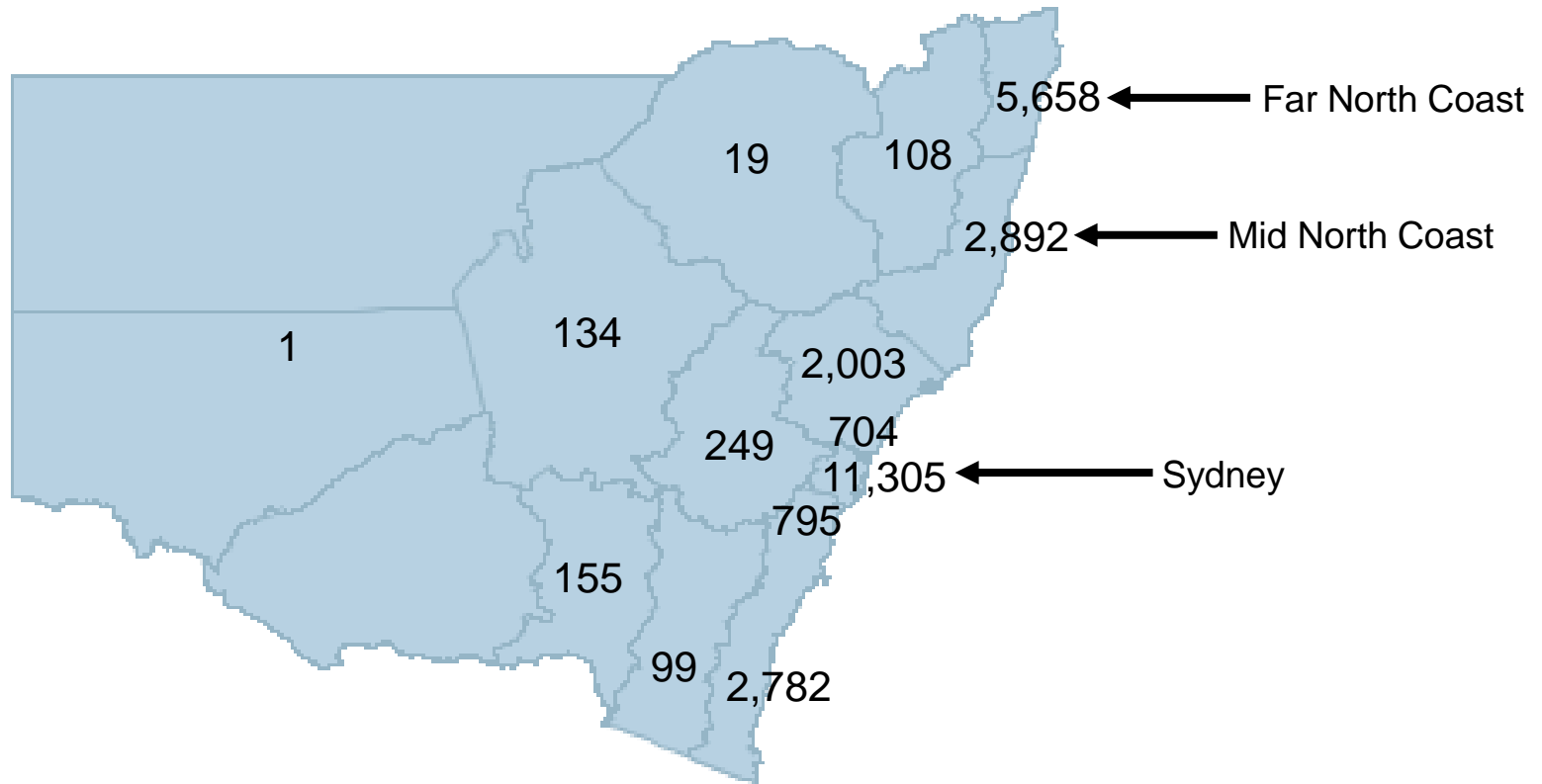


- The grey-headed flying-fox was the most frequently rescued species.



RESCUE TRENDS

- More flying-foxes were rescued in coastal regions than inland regions.

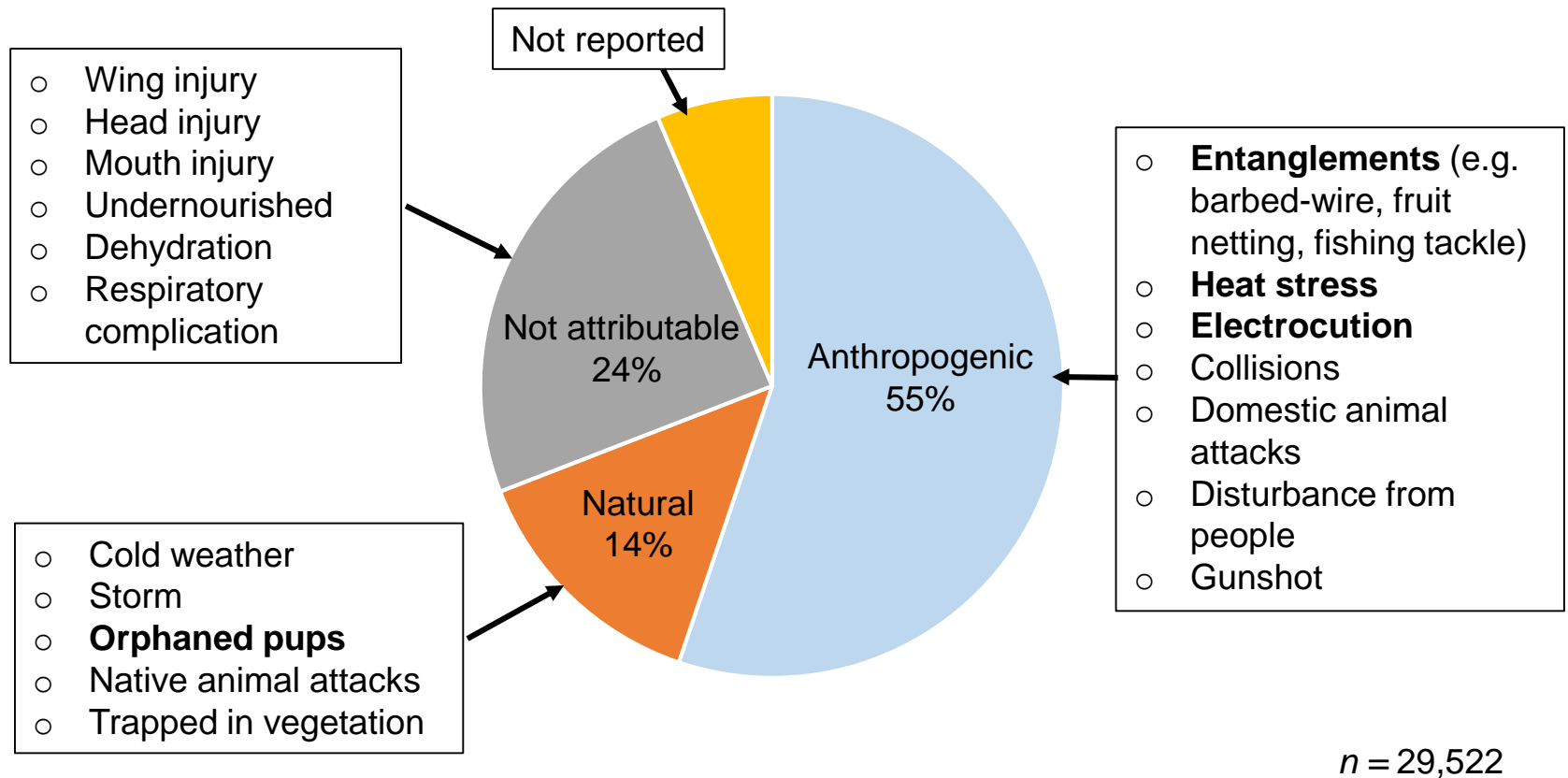


n = 27,164



RESCUE TRENDS

- Most flying-foxes were injured from anthropogenic factors.
- Top 4 causes of injury shown in bold.



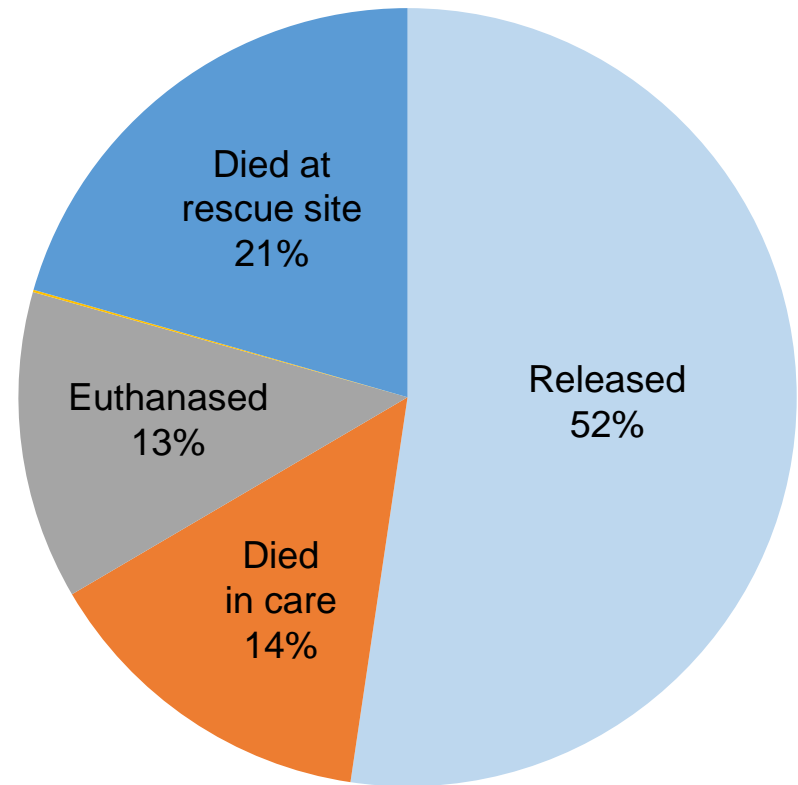
RESCUE TRENDS



- A fair proportion of flying-foxes attended by rehabilitators were eventually released.
- Release rates were higher in pups/juveniles (76%) than subadults (52%) and adults (52%).



Large numbers of pups/juveniles orphaned, but otherwise unharmed



n = 22,344

REFLECTIONS

- Rescue and rehabilitation is an important conservation tool for flying-foxes
- High numbers of rescues from entanglements, electrocutions, heat stress and orphaning indicate the significance of these threats



Photo, M. Ryan



Thank you

Please get in contact!

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Interested in helping with National Flying-fox Monitoring Program in NSW?

Contact ff.census@environment.nsw.gov.au