

Am I your Bush Bud?

Grey Headed Flying Fox

About me:

Grey Headed Flying Foxes are one of the world's largest bats. They are sometimes called a fruit bat as they feed in the forest canopy and eat a diverse range of plant blossoms, nectar and fruit. As ecosystem engineers, the Grey Headed Flying Fox plays an essential role in dispersing seed and pollen over large distances, assisting forest ecosystems to remain healthy by spreading genetic material across the landscape.

Grey Headed Flying Foxes have been seasonal visitors to the ACT since 2003. Arriving around October each year, breeding from October to January and then moving to warmer areas in late April. Over the last 20 years this species which was once contained to the coastal belt has begun moving further inland, establishing camps near Dubbo, Tamworth, Cowra, Wagga, Ballarat as well as Canberra. It is thought that this is a reaction to climate change.



Threats:

Populations of the Grey Headed Flying Foxes are in steep decline due to loss of habitat, hunting by humans, and increased extreme weather events. It has been estimated through regular census counts that the national Grey Headed Flying Fox population has declined by as much as 30% since 1989.

Become my Bush Bud!

Take a stand for Canberra's Nature and sign up to get the chance to walk with an expert in the habitat of the Grey-headed Flying Fox!

