

File Note

File Reference: TBA

Date: 10/12/2013

File Name: Charters Towers Regional Council (CTRC) Flying– Fox dispersal

Subject (Detail): EHP compliance of CTCRC flying fox dispersal under permit WIFF13807313, Lissner Park, Charters Towers – Matthew Brien (EHP)

I (005 Wildlife Ranger Matthew Brien) arrived at Lissner Park, Charters Towers, along with wildlife ranger Sally Morris (004), at approx. 6:00 to undertake compliance during the dispersal of Flying foxes (reds and blacks) from Lissner Park by CTCRC who were operating under permit WIFF13807313. Upon arrival, CTCRC had cordoned off the park and prevented public access. Police were on hand, along with dozens of people operating under the guidance of CTCRC within the park. We had a brief conversation regarding compliance with CTCRC Mark Crawley, Ramon Jayo, and council appointed vet. Dispersal activities at Lissner Park included 2 helicopters, 2 fire hoses and rounds of fireworks (no shells). A sweep of the park on foot did not reveal any injured or freshly dead flying foxes. As most flying foxes had left the park and some had apparently moved into the neighbourhood, we decided to monitor events in the streets at around. At 6:25, we headed over to Plant Street (North of Lissner Park) where 2 smoke machines were used along with helicopters. At 33 Hackett Terrace, CTCRC staff were using paint ball guns (noise only no paintballs) and a fogger machine to try and move approx. 200 bats from backyards. No flying foxes were observed injured or dead. We returned to Lissner Park at 6:55 to sweep the park again for injured, orphaned or freshly dead bats, none could be found. At 7:00, CTCRC ceased dispersal activities.

At no time did I observe a flying fox get injured or die as a result of dispersal activities. At no time was I provided with evidence that a flying fox had been injured or killed by dispersal activities. Charters Towers City Council was compliant with the conditions of their permit (WIFF13807313) throughout the dispersal.

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