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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **POOR TIMING FOR FLYING FOXES**

In what must be one of the worst cases of poor timing, the Queensland government has chosen today, Threatened Species Day, to introduce legislation allowing threatened species of flying foxes to be shot.

Despite being listed as vulnerable under national biodiversity conservation law, Grey-headed and Spectacled flying foxes can now be shot by farmers under damage mitigation permits. Overall, permits will be given to allow for the killing of 10,500 flying foxes in Queensland.

These threatened species which will now be destroyed are incredibly important for pollination and seed dispersal. In addition, the shooting of flying foxes is seen as cruel and inhumane.

"Some of those shot will die slowly of their wounds, and many young, deprived of their mothers, will die of thirst or starvation" said North Queensland Conservation Council coordinator Wendy Tubman.

"Damage to fruit crops can be mitigated by netting – a system that many fruit growers already use. There is no need for this legislation" she said.

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