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Our Say



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AUTHORITIES have rightly warned people not to handle bats or flying foxes because they can carry the lyssavirus which has caused deaths. Only qualified carers should touch them.

Although many know flying foxes for their noisy and sometimes messy habits, scientists have said that these animals play an important role in the spreading of seeds in forests.

In recent years there have been cases of flying foxes making their camps in areas that conflict with people. It has been suggested that as native vegetation is cleared colonies have been forced closer to residences.

Even though flying foxes can appear overhead in vast numbers, concerns have been raised about the future of some species.

There have been many cases in history where animals have appeared in great numbers only for their populations to collapse due to disease or interference by humans. Koalas are an example.

The public should do all it can to assist the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service which is conducting a flying fox survey so it can better manage these forest seeders.

