



Airside Wildlife Rescue

Environmental Practices at Cairns Airport
AAWHG 2018



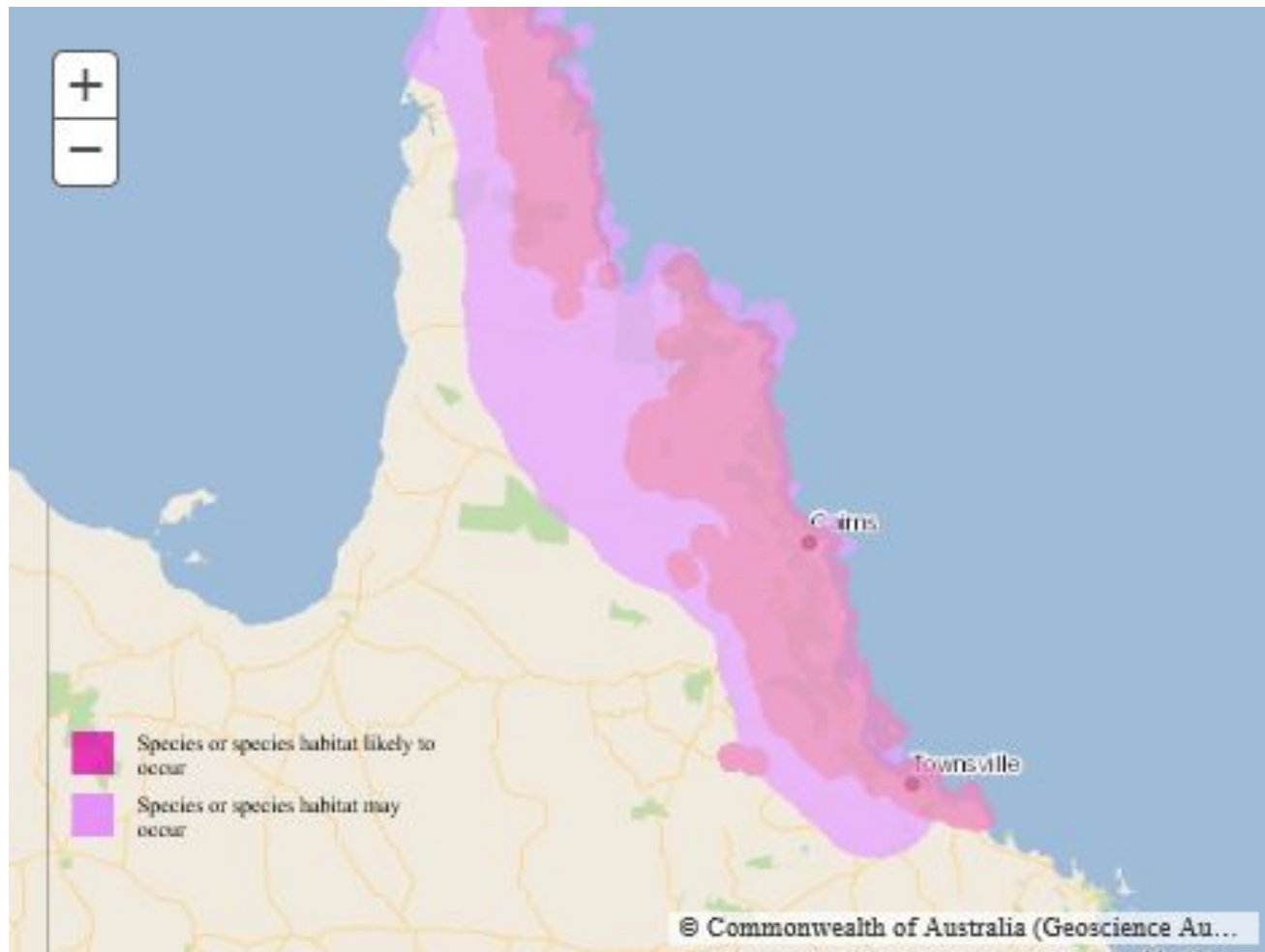
Why Rescue?

- Social license to operate (it's the right thing to do)
- Listed Species (vulnerable, marine, migratory) can not be culled
- Foreign Object Debris (Potential for aircraft ingestion)
- Injured animals attract predators (birds of prey)
- Reduce exposure to public (bites and scratches)
- Often afterhours

Dominant Species Struck

- **Birds of prey:** Black Kite and Nankeen Kestrel
- **Waders:** Pacific Golden Plover (EPBC listed marine, EPBC listed migratory – CAMBA, JAMBA, ROKAMBA) and Red-capped Plover
- **Aerial insectivores:** Fairy Martin, White-rumped Swiftlet, Australian Swiftlet and Welcome Swallow
- **Ibis:** Australian White Ibis and Straw-necked Ibis
- **Egrets:** Cattle Egret, Intermediate Egret and Little Egret
- Bush Stone-Curlew
- Pied Imperial Pigeon
- **Bats:** Eastern Free-tailed Bat, Little Bentwing Bat, Little Red Flying Fox and Spectacled Flying Fox (EPBC listed vulnerable, Nature Conservation Act listed vulnerable)

Spectacled Flying-fox Distribution



Other Species

- **Chicks** (Masked Lapwing, Bush Stone-Curlew, Pacific Black Duck, Radjah shelduck, Magpie Goose)
- **Wallabies** (*Macropus Agilis*)
- **Snakes and Monitor Lizards**
- **Bandicoots**
- **Echidnas**
- **Crocodiles**





Preparedness

- **Equipment**

- PPE (long pants and sleeves, closed shoes)
- Welding gloves
- Large towels/ blankets
- Holding cages
- Pliers and side cutters (fences)
- Spray bottle with water (flying fox wings on fences)

Feeding

- Water
- Ribena (flying foxes)
- Glucodin Powder or Lectade (other wildlife)

Procedure

Annual wildlife rescue **training** for Airside Safety Officers

Flying fox rescue from barbed-wire fences

- Throw towel over flying fox and fence
- Uncover once section at a time
- Wet wing membrane with spray bottle to soften
- Untangle (consider direction of impact)
- Cut barbs if required
- DO NOT cut wing membrane



Rescue from the ground

- Wear appropriate PPE and welding gloves
- Check for signs of life (sometimes just temporarily unconscious)
- Throw towel/ blanket over entire animal from a distance
- Scoop animal and place in holding cage (still in towel)
- Cover cage with a blanket and place in a quiet, dark place
- Contact FNQ Wildlife Rescue to collect or take to Vet

Questions?

