

Letter to the Editor published in SMH 26.02.2010:

Flying Foxes in Botanic Gardens

The threatened grey headed flying fox is no longer welcome in the Sydney Botanic Gardens ("No sleeping in Botanic Gardens" SMH 26/2/10). Perhaps the Botanic Gardens Trust would have more success persuading the flying foxes to relocate if their habitat elsewhere in NSW were not being destroyed for woodchips.

At the same time as the Trust is devising more and more inventive ways to get rid of the animals, Forests NSW is logging a flying fox camp of the far south coast in South Brooman forest. Flying foxes are highly mobile and prefer native forest above all other food sources. They generally only annoy humans when there is insufficient native forest available. Incidentally, the native forest logging industry loses \$14.4million a year for NSW taxpayers, according to the Auditor-General.

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