

## MEMO

**TO:** Michael Terrett  
**FROM:** Josie Stokes  
**SUBJECT:** Targeted Microbat Surveys- Qantas Flight Training Project  
**OUR REF:** PS113050-ECO-MEMO-002  
**DATE:** 12 September 2019

---

### BACKGROUND

This memo has been prepared for APP to address concerns from Environment, Energy and Science Group (EES, formerly the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage) dated 5/09/19 about the integrity of the BioNet Desktop Searches undertaken prior to commencing targeted microbat surveys for the Qantas Flight Training Project.

Specifically, EES state that “a search of the same area of fauna records held by BioNet at 23 July identified 13, not four, records of Large-footed Myotis (*Myotis macropus*) since 2000; and 90 records of Large (Eastern) Bent-winged Bat (*Miniopterus orianae oceanensis*), of which 45 have been recorded since 2005. EES would appreciate an explanation of why the Large Bent-winged Bat was not identified or considered for survey”.

EES further explains that more current records of Large Bent-winged Bats within 2km of the subject site have been added to BioNet since July 23, 2019.

### WSP RESPONSE

1. The first draft memo (RevA) sent to APP, highlighted the Large-footed Myotis and Large Bent-winged Bat as species to target for survey based on desktop searches for a specific date range. Given both of these species utilise similar roosting habitat, if either species had been present on site, they would have been detected.
2. It is general convention in the consulting industry to *not* use BioNet database records older than 10 years as they are often problematic (and in some cases, locally extinct). I used July 2009 as the oldest date range for the original database search (which equals 10 years' worth of data). This is one of the reasons BioNet provides the function to search for records within a particular date range. I have personally recorded two Large Bent-winged Bats at Tempe in a toilet block in 2006, and I took this into consideration when preparing for the targeted survey, based on my knowledge of the species' roosting requirements.
3. I have re-run a BioNet Atlas search this evening (12/09/19) in response to the EES queries, with no specific date range selected this time, and the numbers that EES provided still don't match what I have provided below. Perhaps EED has special access to sensitive records or can interrogate data further than consultants? You can see from my BioNet output below for the same search area I used before the numbers are:  
Large-footed Myotis – 5 records  
Large Bent-winged Bat – 21 records

I would be more than happy to discuss any of the above with the relevant EES officer.

Yours Sincerely,

Josie



Level 27, 680 George Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
GPO Box 5394  
Sydney NSW 2001











Tel: +61 2 9272 5100  
Fax: +61 2 9272 5101  
[www.wsp.com](http://www.wsp.com)

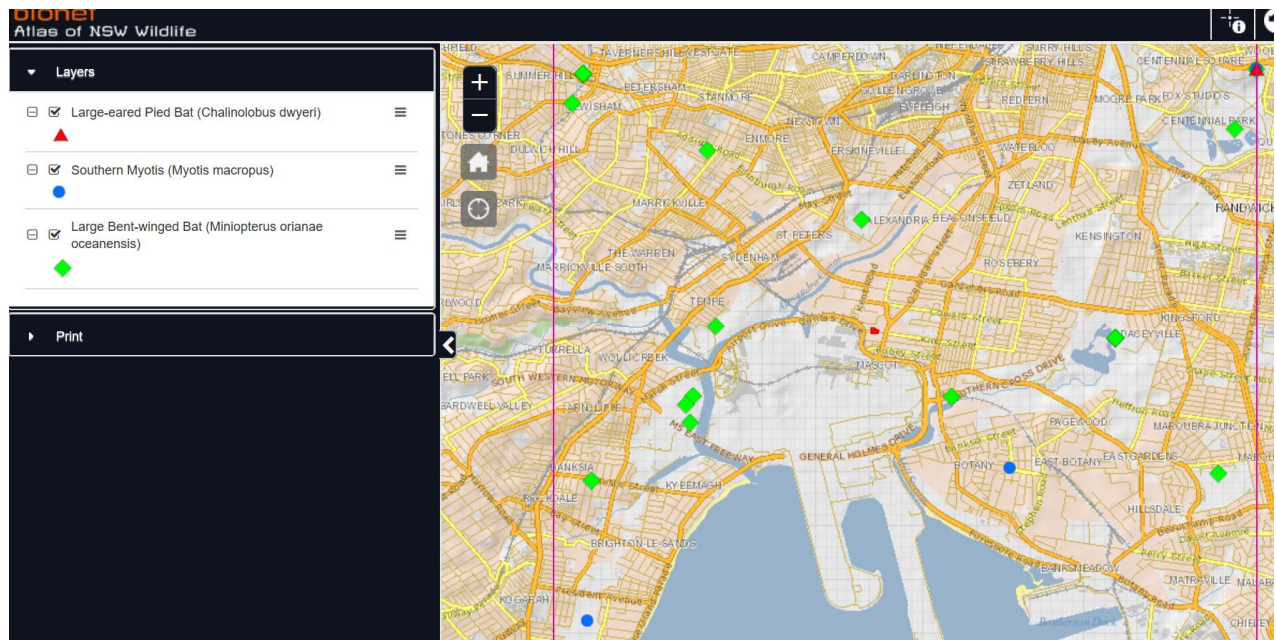
**Search criteria:** Licensed Report of all Valid Records of Threatened (listed on TSC Act 1995) or Commonwealth listed Animals in selected area [North: -33.88 West: 151.14 East: 151.24 South: -33.98] returned a total of 1,943 records of 46 species.  
Report generated on 12/09/2019 10:01 PM.

### Displaying 1-46 of 46 species below

To map records for individual species, select up to 5 species then click "view map".

To map all records, click on "view map" (without selecting any species first).




<b>Mammalia</b>	Long-nosed Bandicoot population in inner western Sydney	<i>Perameles nasuta</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	E2,P		19	
<b>Peramelidae</b>	Koala	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	V,P	V	1	
<b>Phascolarctidae</b>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	V,P	V	959	
<b>Pteropodidae</b>	Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail-bat	<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	V,P		1	
<b>Emballonuridae</b>	Large-eared Pied Bat	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	V,P	V	1	
<b>Vespertilionidae</b>	Southern Myotis	<i>Myotis macropus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	V,P		5	
<b>Dugongidae</b>	Dugong	<i>Dugong dugon</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	E1,P		1	
<b>Otariidae</b>	Australian Fur-seal	<i>Arctocephalus pusillus doriferus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	V,P		1	
<b>Balaenidae</b>	Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	E1,P	E	1	
<b>Miniopteridae</b>	Large Bent-winged Bat	<i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	V		21	



Red spot indicates subject site.

Data from the BioNet BioNet Atlas website, which holds records from a number of custodians. The data are only indicative and cannot be considered a comprehensive inventory, and may contain errors and omissions. Species listed under the Sensitive Species Data Policy may have their locations denatured (^ rounded to 0.1°; ^^ rounded to 0.01°). Copyright the State of NSW through the Office of Environment and Heritage. Search criteria : Licensed Report of all Valid Records of Threatened (listed on TSC Act 1995) or Commonwealth listed Animals in selected area [North: -33.88 West: 151.14 East: 151.24 South: -33.98] returned a total of 1,943 records of 46 species.

Report generated on 12/09/2019 10:01 PM

Animalia	Mammalia	Emballonuridae	✓ 1321	<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>	Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail-bat	V,P		1	
Animalia	Mammalia	Vespertilionidae	✓ 1353	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat	V,P	V	1	
Animalia	Mammalia	Vespertilionidae	✓ 1357	<i>Myotis macropus</i>	Southern Myotis	V,P		5	
Animalia	Mammalia	Miniopteridae	✓ 3330	<i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	Large Bent-winged Bat	V		21	