



WILDLIFE CARE: Marcia Arnott gives a dummy to this grey-headed flying fox in her care. In February 2002, this flying fox will be released into a colony in an aviary in Brisbane.

Picture: JENNY GERSEKOWSKI

Signs to help protect Crows Nest's wildlife

Crows Nest Shire Council hopes to stop the serious impact of road kills on native wildlife with a new sign program to begin early next year.

Council plans to erect signs where remnant vegetation corridors cross major roads and highways as native animals are being hit by vehicles and either killed or seriously injured.

The corridors provide vital habitat for native animals such as koalas, birds, bats and kangaroos including the threatened brushtailed rock wallaby.

A council spokesperson said this species was being pushed to the brink of extinction in the shire as they were being hit by cars on the Perseverance Dam Road.

Wildlife carers play an invaluable role in rescuing and rehabilitating injured and orphaned native animals.

Marcia Arnott has been a wildlife carer for

four years after completing a "Caring for Wildlife" TAFE course.

At present she has three grey-headed flying foxes in her care as well as two small wallabies.

The flying foxes are being fed on Nan human baby formula until they are 12 weeks old when they are fed on fruit.

In February, they will be introduced into a large colony in an aviary in Brisbane.

Council's natural resource manager Mr Bruce Boyes urged anyone who accidentally hits a native animal to stop and provide assistance.

With prompt care, the animal may be able to recover from its injuries.

There could also be an uninjured baby in the mother's pouch that would soon die without urgent care.

For information on carers please contact Marcia Arnott on 4698 2096 or a veterinarian.