



# Nightwing News



The Newsletter of the Southeastern Bat Diversity Network



Volume 112, Number 2

Fall/Winter 2022





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**Cover Photo: by Alison McCartney.**

**Rafinesque's Big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii*)**

This picture was taken in an abandoned building next to St. Catherine Creek NWR in southwest MS.

# President's Address:

## Nightwing News Presidential Address – Fall 2022

Biodiversity loss is commanding more attention than ever before from world leaders. In December 2022, the United Nations Biodiversity Conference, commonly known as COP15, will take place in Montreal, Canada. The intent of the event is to bring together representatives from governments across the globe to develop a set of goals to protect biodiversity, which will be acted upon over the course of the next decade. The focus of the event will be the conservation, protection, restoration and sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystems, recognizing that urgent policy action is needed at global, regional, and local levels to transform the pervasive trends of exacerbated biodiversity loss.

We can each do our part to make advances in conservation and management of bats and their habitats at whatever scale we operate. One of the best ways to conceive of innovative solutions is through the sharing of ideas and the building of partnerships and coalitions. These are some of the most valuable aspects of gathering at conferences. Such events allow us to meet new people, reconnect with those we have not interacted with in a while, increase the depth of our understanding within our niche field, and expand our knowledge beyond our primary area of expertise. All of this can lead to thinking outside the box and encourage the adoption of new approaches to lingering problems. Conferences also provide excellent opportunities to find out from prospective employers about new positions, and from vendors about new products and services, again leading to new minds and new materials addressing pressing concerns.

That said, it is with great delight that we announce with certainty that the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Bat Diversity Network and the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Colloquium on the Conservation of Mammals in the Southeastern US will take place in Jonesboro, AR. Tom Risch and the SBDN Executive Committee originally planned the annual meeting to occur in Jonesboro in 2021, but ultimately decided it would be best to pivot to a virtual format. The team re-envisioned the event to occur in Jonesboro in 2022, and again reached a decision that the event should return to a virtual format a second time. We're now glad to report that the upcoming meeting will truly take place in person in Jonesboro in March 2023. They say *the third time is the charm!* Registration will open shortly. We hope to see you there.

Holly K. Ober

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# Executive Committee Meeting

## Southeastern Bat Diversity Network Executive Committee Minutes of the Mid-Year Board Meeting September 28, 2022

### Attendees

Holly Ober, President

Steve Samoray, Past President

Scott Bergeson, Incoming President

Luke Dodd, Treasurer

Sue Cameron, Secretary

Jennifer Kindel, Member at Large

Tom Risch and Kari Harris joined for the conference planning portion of the call.

### Action Items

**AI1:** Ober to contact John Chenger regarding AV for the 2023 meeting.

**AI2:** Dodd will look into what's needed for tax exemption for government employees staying at the convention center.

**AI3:** Cameron will reach out the staff at the WSFR Program in the USFWS Regional Office to see if it's possible to learn about tribal SWG/WNS projects.

**AI4:** Samoray will reach out to contact at the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians about the plenary and to see if they have tribe contacts in AR and/or OK.

**AI5:** Bergeson will email Petric for ideas for plenary speakers.

**AI6:** Risch will look into a possible speaker for the red wolf and will reach out to Richard Stark (OKFO, USFWS) who might have a contact with OK Native Americans.

**AI7:** Ober will look closely at bylaws to see if the Treasurer position mentoring/transfer period is explained. If not, the EC should add it.

**AI8:** Bergeson will reach out to Burnett to see what he'd like to continue to handle student travel awards.

*Call to order: 1:01PM EDT, President Ober*

### February 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Action Items

**AI1: Complete.** Ober check with Pete Pattavina on where are we with bat blitz this summer.

**AI2: Ongoing.** Bergeson and Ober will continue to engage with other regional groups on Bat Research News and will come back to the EC when they have more information.

**AI3: Complete.** Ober will send an official request to Rada Petric to see if she's willing to take on a DEI working group. She will also ask Petric if she thinks it should be a committee or subcommittee of the membership committee.

## **2023 SBDN Meeting**

### General Planning

The 2023 SBDN Meeting and Mammal Colloquium will be held in Jonesboro, Arkansas at the new Embassy Suites Red Wolf Convention Center on March 8-10, 2023. Dr. Tom Risch of Arkansas State University is the meeting host. Kari Harris is helping with registration and taking in money and asked how it works with our website. Dodd explained that payment is directly linked to SBDN Stripe account so there is nothing else needed. If there are items they pay for directly (e.g., social), they can invoice SBDN, and Dodd can reimburse them.

Risch asked if we heard back from John Chenger regarding AV. The EC has not heard back following Ober's 8/25/22 email. Ober will reach out to Chenger to make sure he will be covering AV for the meeting. If not, the planning committee will work with the venue for AV assistance.

The contract with the convention center mentions the need for an AR specific tax exception form to except hotel tax for government employees. Dodd will look into this.

### Plenary Topic

The EC began discussing the 2023 plenary with input from Risch and Harris. Everyone is interested in having a DEI component to the plenary and discussed ways to identify potential speakers. The group decided to focus on Native American culture this year and other underserved communities in future years. Talks about how bats and/or other mammals are of cultural significance to tribes as well as research/monitoring efforts by tribes are of interest. It might be possible to identify research/monitoring projects and contacts by looking into SWG and WNS grants to tribes. Cameron will reach out the staff at WSFR Program in the USFWS Regional Office to see if it's possible to learn about projects this way. Samoray will reach out EBCI contact to get their thoughts and see if they have a contact with AR or OK tribes. Risch offered to look into a possible speaker for red wolf and to reach out to Richard Stark (USFWS) who might have a contact with OK Native Americans. Bergeson mentioned it would also be great if a Native American student could present. Bergeson will reach out to Petric for ideas for potential speakers. Risch mentioned that there is an active Native Land and Decolonization Committee on campus and they could be helpful in planning the agenda/plenary. The Committee chair is the museum director. If we're unsuccessful with these leads, Risch will reach out to his museum contact, who might be able to help us find someone for mammals in AK. The EC will follow up via email or phone to see where things stand in a month. The plenary is usually 1 ½ hours, which allows for ~3 speakers. However, we could have two plenary sessions with a break if additional time is needed.

Bergeson also mentioned the need to discuss the tricolored bat listing and other policy updates. This could be part of an update from USFWS.

### **Student Travel Awards**

The EC discussed the best approach to offering student travel awards, including one or two DEI awards. In the past, student award applications have been evaluated by the awards committee with winners announced at the meeting. SBDN then reimbursed them for travel costs. However, the EC recognizes that this might make it hard for some to attend. Steve Burnett was in charge of awards in the past. The EC will check with him to see if he'd like to continue in this role.

The EC would like to add a DEI travel award in time for the 2023 meeting, but given the DEI committee isn't up and running yet, it might have to wait until the 2024 meeting. The DEI committee should select the award winner and this might be a good way to get people involved in that committee. We could make an announcement about the award at this year's meeting and then implement at next year's meeting in Hilton Head. NASBR offered a DEI award this year and the EC can borrow their language for the SBDN award. NASBR has an application form and requires attendance at this year's or next year's meeting. Rada Petric could talk about the diversity committee and this award at the annual meeting. This might be a good fit for the business meeting vs. plenary session.

### **2024 SBDN Meeting**

The 2024 SBDN Meeting and Mammal Colloquium will be held in Hilton Head, South Carolina. Lydia Moore from the Palmetto Bluff Conservancy and Jen Kindel from SC Department of Natural Resources will be hosting the meeting.

### **2025 SBDN Meeting**

The EC needs to think about who might be able to host a joint meeting in 2025 in a central location. Lexington, KY might be a good option.

### **Recap of the 2022 Bat Blitz in Alabama**

Samoray shared his experience from 2022 bat blitz. The event proved to be low on bat captures as predicted by Nick Sharp, but high on fun and worthwhile. The blitz was well organized and executed and everyone is excited to do it again next year. Prescott Weldon won the David Saugey award for most bats captured. Samoray estimated that 60-70 people attended. Samoray will follow up with Sharp to get a blitz summary. Dodd mentioned that SBDN is still waiting on a check for \$14,700 from USFS. Dodd will work with Pete Pattavina to compare and finalize records.

### **Soliciting nominees for elections**

The EC needs to alert the membership that elections are coming up and we are looking for nominations. The treasurer is a six years position and all others are two year positions. Dodd will stay on until 2024 to mentor the next treasurer, so SBDN will elect a treasurer this year. Dodd also mentioned that he might be willing to consider running for president-elect. Ober will look closely at the bylaws to see if there are details about the transfer period for the treasurer position. If not, information should be added. The call for nominations should go out by Nov 15th and ballot by Jan. 15th. The EC will brainstorm about potential candidates for various positions.

### **Treasurer's Report**

As of 28 Sept 2022, a total of \$131,676.71 was distributed across SBDN accounts. Of that, \$7,085.77 was allocated to our general account. Membership dues remain our primary source of operating income, and notably this has increased in the last two years given the optional linkage of membership with registration for the 2021 and 2022 Virtual Meetings. The largest expenses to be incurred this past year are related to tax preparation (\$600, as in past years) and website maintenance (\$548.56 in 2022 to date). There have been 64 transactions from 2022 to date. The inflow of funds for 2022 to date totaled \$78,572.80, whereas outflows totaled \$28,330.12. The treasury is becoming more active since the COVID pandemic, with notable recent activity related to the 2022 SBDN Bat Blitz in AL, and funding activities are already occurring for the 2022 SBDN Bat Blitz in GA. We continue to serve as a bank for 6 different state bat working groups (AL, FL, GA, KY, NC, TN). As is readily apparent from the amount of money moving through our bank account, and the funds held on behalf of various functions and groups, we still perform a valuable service to the bat community. Respectfully submitted: 22 Sept 2022 – By Luke Dodd – SBDN Treasurer.

The EC will meet again in late fall/early winter.

*Meeting adjourned at 2:14 PM EDT.*

# Committee Contact Information

## BAT BLITZ COMMITTEE

Member	Affiliation	E-Mail
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## BYLAWS COMMITTEE

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## WEBSITE COMMITTEE

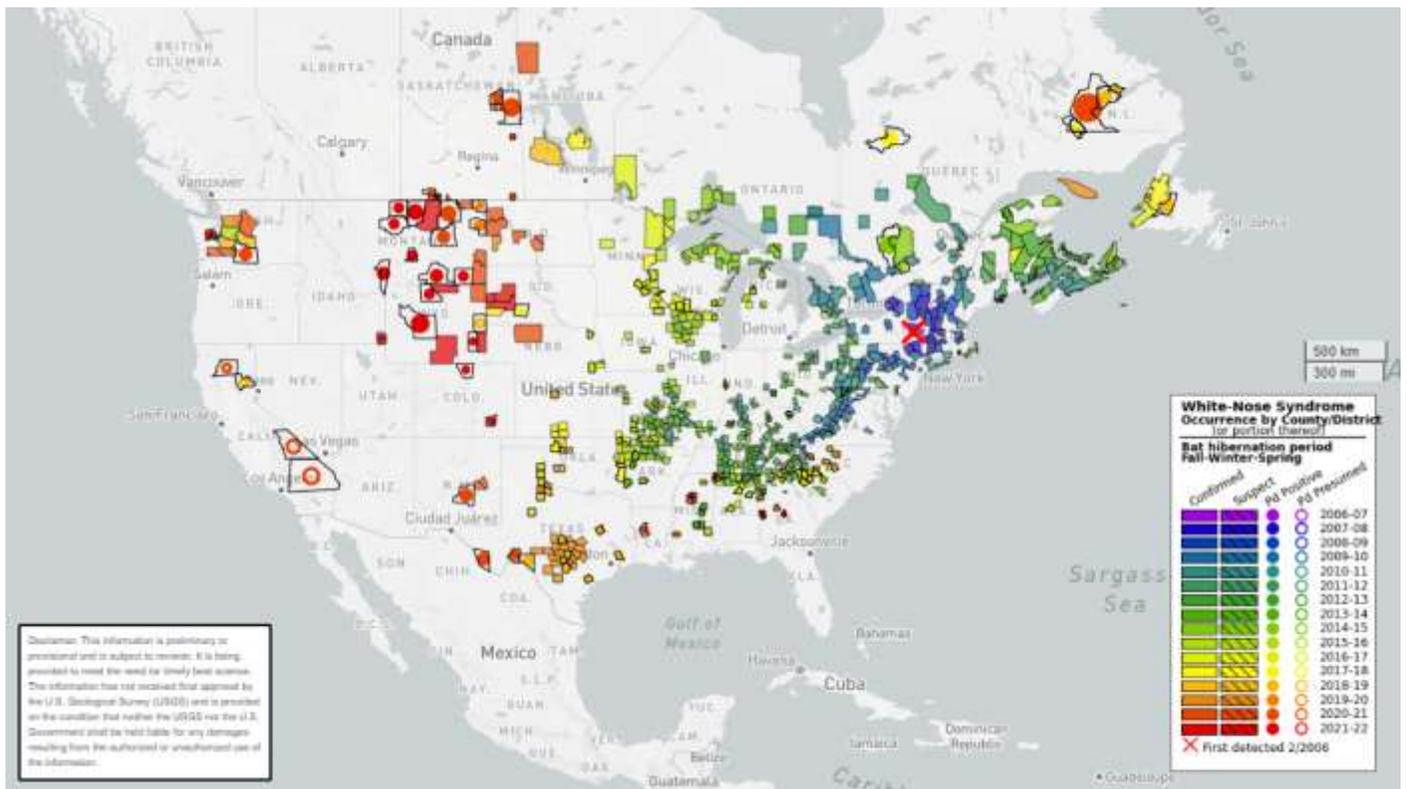
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# White Nose Syndrome Update

## 2022 White-Nose Syndrome Occurrence Map



# 2022 SBDN BAT BLITZ



## Southeastern Bat Diversity Network's "Bat Blitz" Successful in Bankhead National Forest



During the first week of August 2022, the Alabama Bat Working Group hosted a successful Southeastern Bat Diversity Network's Bat Blitz (SBDN) on the Bankhead National Forest. Biologists from across the southeast United States and abroad gathered in the national forest to sample bats over roads, streams and caves using mist nets and harp traps. They also banded and radio-tagged the bats known as an important part of night-time wildlife. A Bat Blitz is a coordinated, intensive survey designed to sample the bat community in an extensive area.

The event generally involves a substantial, voluntary contribution of time and materials from bat experts. An educational event was hosted to raise awareness about the value of bats and their role in our environment. For instance, did you know that bats consume insects that would have caused billions of dollars in agricultural damage in the USA every year? Bats also prey on insects that are vectors of diseases to other animals and humans.

The goal of the 2022 Alabama Bat Blitz was to conduct a comprehensive survey of the bat community of Bankhead National Forest and surrounding environments. One of the goals is to continue learning where bats occur on the national forest, their habitat use and about trends in presence.



SBDN held its Bat Blitz at Bankhead in 2008, prior to the advent of White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) in Alabama, a disease that has devastated bat populations in the United States. WNS was first documented at Bankhead in 2014.

The 2022 Alabama Bat Blitz replicated the 2008 Blitz and will directly compare the composition of the bat community at Bankhead 6 years before and 8 years after the arrival of WNS. Importantly, the intensive survey, along with other ancillary data collected in the State, revealed the impact of the fatal WNS bat disease on once prevalent federally

listed Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*) and Northern long-eared bats (*Myotis septentrionalis*), in a critical forest habitat like the Bankhead NF.

The partners also documented feeding activity and roosting sites of bat species of concern using radio-tracking. Rare bats and species in decline from the WNS were tagged with lightweight (0.25 grams) radio transmitter that emits a radio signal to portable radio receivers for radio tracking the bats' locations night and day. This information will guide the future management of Bankhead National Forest by the US Forest Service (USFS).

# 2022 SBDN BAT BLITZ

Ten teams of biologists surveyed bats over a three-night period. The biologists netted or trapped 29 sites across Winston and Lawrence counties, including both upland and riparian sites, pine, hardwood and mixed pine-hardwood forests, and caves. Bats were captured with a fine-mesh mist net and were then quickly removed by a trained biologist. They were weighed, measured, identified and health status was quickly assessed. Most bats were released within a few minutes where they were captured.

The biologists captured 189 bats of five species, including red bat, big brown bat, tricolored bat, evening bat, and Seminole bat. No federally listed bats, Indiana, Gray, or Northern long-eared bats were captured this year. The biologists attached radio transmitters to four rare tricolored bats in attempts to conduct a radio telemetry project to learn more about their use of the forest. A small team of biologists attempted to radio-track the four bats from the ground and the air for the life of the radio transmitters, a period of about 12 days. One radio-tagged tricolored bat was located over eight miles from its initial capture point.

In comparison, in 2008 before the arrival of white-nose syndrome, at the same sites and with less netting effort, biologists at the Bat Blitz captured 385 bats of seven species including big brown bat, red bat, gray bat, Northern long-eared bat, Indiana bat, evening bat and tricolored bat. The impact of WNS on the northern long-eared bat was especially evident when 101 were captured in 2008, but none were captured in 2022. The declines in other federally-listed bat species that hibernate in northern Alabama caves demonstrates the need to protect these species and their critical habitats.



About 70 individuals including biologists and students from around the southeast and representing multiple federal and state agencies, power companies, consultants, and universities participated in the Bat Blitz. Camp McDowell graciously served as Bat Blitz headquarters. Generous donations from sponsors helped defray participant registration, supplies, refreshments and other costs associated with conducting a Bat Blitz. Sponsors of the event include the US Forest Service, Alabama Bat Working Group, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Alabama Power Company, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, Copperhead Environmental Consulting, TVA, Alabama Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Northwest RC&D Council, Vanasse-Hangren-Brustlin, Inc, CCR Environmental Consulting, and Alabama Conservation Enforcement Officer Association.

*(All photos provided by the US Forest Service - Bankhead National Forest)*

# 2022 SBDN BAT BLITZ



Above: Silviculturist Jason Harris waiting on dusk and looking forward to his first mist-netting event!



Above: Some members of the Alabama Bat Working Group who ensured a successful and well-planned SBDN blitz.



Above: Bat Blitz attendees visit Bankhead's picturesque and refreshing Caney Creek waterfall.

Below: Bat Blitz attendees fellowship over a hearty brunch.



Below: Gary Libby leads a team to net a site at Camp McDowell.



Right: Emily Ferrall leads a netting team on the Bankhead National Forest, where several local guides, including District Ranger Andy Scott (pictured) observed their first red and big brown bats in hand.

# State Updates

## Submit Your State Updates

Thank you for your submissions! We love reading about all of the research and outreach you are conducting in your regions. From those regions that didn't contribute this year, we look forward to hearing from you for next year's state updates.

Send in your reports and photos anytime from the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

**Send summaries and photos to [nightwingnews@gmail.com](mailto:nightwingnews@gmail.com)**



*Blake Sasse  
Nongame Mammal  
Furbearer Program Leader*

Anneka Lamb, a MS student at Arkansas State University, organized a culvert blitz in January, 2022. Volunteers from multiple agencies surveyed a significant number of culverts for bat use in southern Arkansas. As part of her project, which will be continuing in 2023, transmitters were placed on 3 Rafinesque's big-eared bats to further study their winter roosting ecology.

This summer, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission contracted with Ron Redman, of Mitigation Surveying Services, to net sites on the Ouachita National Forest, most of which were ones where northern long-eared bats were captured as part of the 2003 and 2005 SBDN Bat Blitzes. Unfortunately, no bats of these species were captured, which is consistent with work recently published by Dr. Roger Perry, USFS showing a 98% decline in summer populations of northern long-eared bat in the eastern Ouachita's. Redman will be returning to the Ouachita NF this winter as part of a separate project to search for mine portals.

Other Arkansas Game and Fish Commission projects this summer included monitoring of bridge-roosting colonies of small-footed bats, and mist net surveys of AGFC-owned Wildlife Management Areas conducted by Environmental Solutions & Innovations and by Commission-staff. This winter AGFC staff will continue searching for caves on WMAs. In the first year of a cooperative project between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service, Ozark big-eared bats were netted and tracked using radiotelemetry to study their foraging ecology and the possible impact of different forest management strategies.

Winter hibernacula monitoring in 2022-23 will focus on tricolored bats and Ozark big-eared bats and funding has been obtained to continue searching for new caves in the vicinity of known Ozark big-eared bat colonies.



# Florida

*Lisa Smith  
Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission*

## White-nose Syndrome Monitoring and Surveillance

Last winter, FWC biologists surveyed 32 caves and 54 culverts to monitor Florida's cave roosting bats and conduct surveillance efforts for Pd. No physical sign of WNS was observed on any of the roosting bats and all sites swabbed for the fungus came back negative for Pd. Florida appears to remain negative for WNS for another year. Despite this, overall numbers of tricolored bats in caves have been declining significantly since regular monitoring began in 2014. However, surveys in 2022 seem to show that the number of cave bats has stabilized. Monitoring efforts will continue this upcoming winter to continue to monitor trends in Florida's cave bat population.



# Florida

*Lisa Smith  
Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Commission*



## Florida Bat Festival

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Florida Bat Working Group joined Lucee Bat Conservancy at their Annual Florida Bat Festival. Members of both groups presented information on native Florida bats, bat houses, white-nose syndrome, and other Florida critters. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission was also able to show off some of their new signage, custom tent, enlarged model of a bat skull, and other outreach material recently purchased with the help of a small grant!

# Florida

**Lorraine Ketzler**

**USFWS Fish and Wildlife Biologist**

On October 25th and 26th, Hurlburt Field (USAF in Florida) Natural Resources and MayRoad Housing hosted two events to celebrate BatWeek.

On the 25th, with Ms. Julie Crowell, we installed 2 bat houses in base housing.

On the 26th, we demonstrated how bat researchers can learn about bats by capturing toy bats in a mist-net and identifying live bats acoustically with SonoBat Live. Base residents learned about why and how Hurlburt Natural Resources and the US Fish and Wildlife Service work together, and the importance of conserving bats in our ecosystem.



Julie Crowell, Hurlburt Field MayRoad Housing Manager, and Alex Mense, USFWS Biologist, standing in front of the new bat houses in base housing.

# Florida

**Lorraine Ketzler**

**USFWS Fish and Wildlife Biologist**



Lorraine Ketzler, USFWS, demonstrates bat acoustic monitoring for residents in base housing.



*Report Submitted by:  
Maggie Hunt  
Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Conservation  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources*

*GA DNR Mobile Acoustic Routes & NABat*

Annual acoustic surveys for the GA DNR Mobile Acoustic Project and the North American Bat Program (NABat) continued in 2022. Project volunteers drove 17 DNR mobile route and 9 NABat mobile route transects across the state. DNR and U.S. Forest Service partners drove another 14 routes for these surveys. DNR volunteers have been collecting bat call data since 2014 ([www.georgiawildlife.com/AnabatProject](http://www.georgiawildlife.com/AnabatProject)), and DNR has hired seasonal technicians to assist with collecting and analyzing NABat data since 2017. Results from past survey seasons are available on the DNR website and the NABat Website (<https://sciencebase.usgs.gov/nabat/#/home>).



*Jordan Ellison (front) and Rachel Pack (back), Georgia's NABat 2022 Survey Crew, prepare to run a mobile route*



Report Submitted by:  
Maggie Hunt  
Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Conservation  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

White-nose Syndrome (WNS) Winter Monitoring & Surveillance in Culverts

Annual sampling of caves, mines, and culverts for WNS surveillance continued during 2022. A total of 207 culverts and three caves were surveyed in the winter of 2021-2022 as part of a graduate research project by DNR biologist Emily Ferrall. GA DNR biologists also conducted cave colony counts at an additional three caves in north Georgia and two caves in south Georgia. The caves in south Georgia were also sampled for Pd/WNS, and both sites remain negative. These counts and monitoring are part of a biennial sampling protocol and will be surveyed again in 2024.



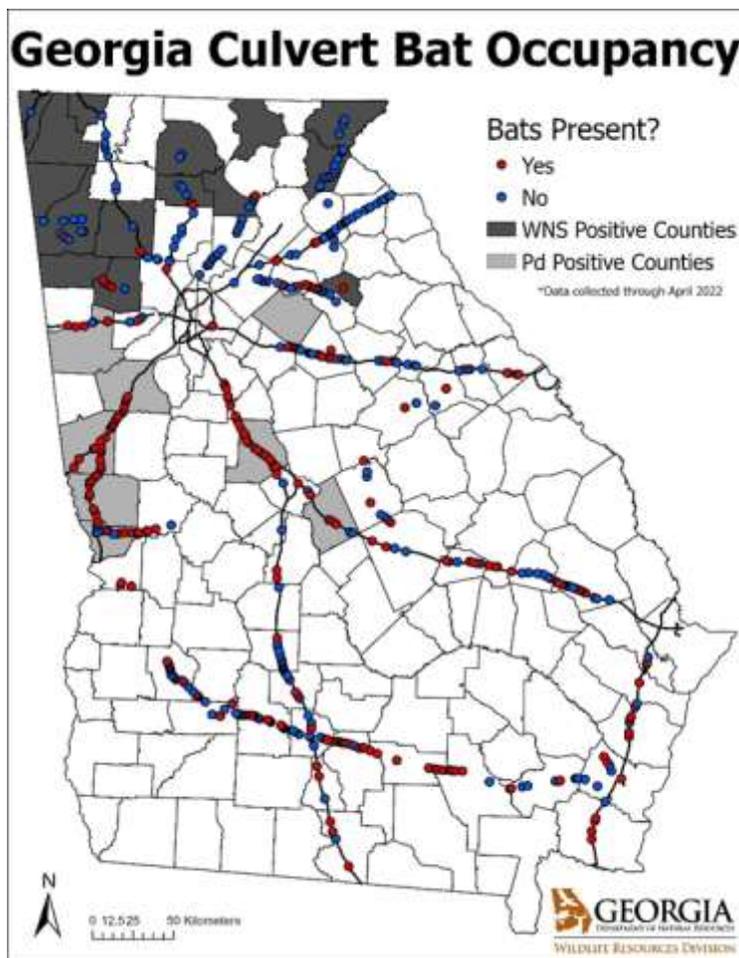
*DNR biologist Emily Ferrall assesses the condition of a tricolored bat during a WNS+ cave survey in north Georgia.*

# Georgia



Report Submitted by:  
Maggie Hunt  
Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Conservation  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Georgia now has WNS cases confirmed in 14 counties across the northern region of the state, and an additional 11 counties were confirmed to have positive detections of *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*. Four of these counties are new records for Pd detections in previously negative areas. Most notably, the first documented case of WNS in a culvert in Georgia was recorded in a northeastern county that had displayed positive detections of Pd in previous years of sampling. The site, as well as other significant culvert hibernacula, will continue to be monitored this winter to track potential disease progression in culverts. The southernmost Pd detection remains in Muscogee County



Results of concerted survey efforts for bat occupancy and Pd/WNS status of culverts in Georgia.



Report Submitted by:  
Maggie Hunt  
Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Conservation  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

### GA DNR Bats in Transportation Structures

GA DNR, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) continued statewide efforts this year to survey transportation structures for bats. Environmental surveys conducted by GDOT ecologists and consultants for roadway maintenance and improvement projects provide the majority of the data collected on bats' use of transportation structures in the state. Georgia has increased efforts to survey structures that are not scheduled for maintenance or other construction work. This past year saw revisits of culverts and bridges considered significant hibernacula or maternity roosts for species such as the gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), and southeast-

ern myotis (*Myotis austroriparius*). In addition to culvert site visits, DNR biologists also visited two bridges scheduled for GDOT work to survey and monitor maternity colonies of big brown bats (*Eptesicus fuscus*) and Mexican free-tailed bats (*Tadarida brasiliensis*).



*DNR biologist Maggie Hunt all geared up, courtesy of GDOT, to survey a large maternity colony of Mexican free-tailed bats in a bridge.*



Report Submitted by:  
Maggie Hunt  
Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Conservation  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

DNR and USFWS also held three sessions of the “Bats in Bridges” field training this year. This training ensures more survey coverage throughout the state by qualified surveyors and provides valuable data for Georgia’s bats in transportation structures database. The Federal Highway Administration, USFWS, and DNR also collaborated on and released a training video for surveying transportation structures for bats, “[Bats and Transportation Structures Survey Training](#),” now available for viewing on YouTube.

**Georgia Bat Working Group (<http://www.gabats.org/>)**

The Georgia Bat Working Group is pleased to announce a return to in-person meetings in 2022! The working group will be meeting in Athens, Georgia, on December 13 for its first in-person meeting since 2019. The Georgia Bat Working Group did not host a bat blitz in 2022; we are preparing to help host the SBDN Bat Blitz at Fort Mountain August 2023. We hope to see you out there!

*GBWG board members:*

Maggie Hunt GA DNR, [maggie.hunt@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:maggie.hunt@dnr.ga.gov) – Chair  
Emily Ferrall, GA DNR, [emily.ferrall@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:emily.ferrall@dnr.ga.gov) – Secretary  
Trina Morris GA DNR, [katrina.morris@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:katrina.morris@dnr.ga.gov) – Treasurer  
Laci Pattavina, USFWS, [laci\\_pattavina@fws.gov](mailto:laci_pattavina@fws.gov) – Board  
Pete Pattavina USFWS, [pete\\_pattavina@fws.gov](mailto:pete_pattavina@fws.gov) – Board  
Chris Cornelison, Kennesaw State University, [ccornel5@kennesaw.edu](mailto:ccornel5@kennesaw.edu) – Board  
Nikki Castleberry, GA Museum of Natural History, [neotoma@uga.edu](mailto:neotoma@uga.edu) – Board

# Mississippi



## Updates from the Mississippi Bat Working Group

### Sixth Annual Culvert Blitz

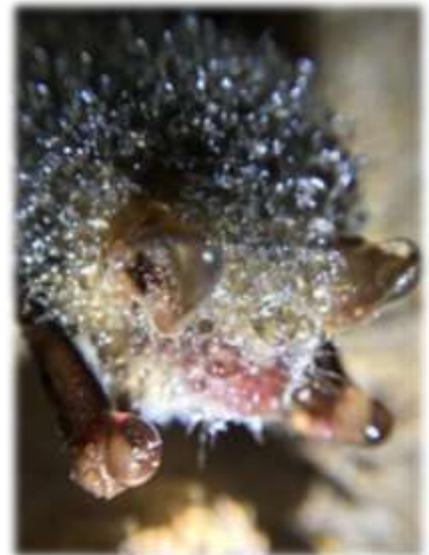
The sixth annual culvert blitz was held on 7-9 January 2022. Surveyed culverts were primarily associated with interstate highways and major (4-lane) state highways, with routes (typically consisting of 8-12 culverts) spread across the state. We had 24 volunteers cover 14 routes for a total of 215 culverts surveyed in 12 counties. For new volunteers, training in survey techniques and identification was provided. All inexperienced surveyors were paired with experience surveyors.

Of the 215 inspected culverts, 145 had at least one bat, for an occupancy rate of 67%. The most abundant species encountered was the tricolored bat (n=2,036), followed by southeastern myotis (n=1,846). Other species reported were Brazilian free-tailed bats (n=365), big brown bats (n=76), and Rafinesque's big-eared bat (n=9). There was only one bat encountered that was not visible enough for identification.

The seventh annual culvert blitz will be held 6-8 January 2023. If you are interested in participating or have additional questions, please contact the Mississippi Bat Working Group at [msbats@hotmail.com](mailto:msbats@hotmail.com).

### Annual Meeting

The Mississippi Bat Working Group held its 19<sup>th</sup> annual meeting on March 24, 2022 at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science in Jackson. This year marked the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the working group. Twenty-four people attended, representing a variety of agencies, universities, and private individuals. Participants included staff from the museum, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, MS Band of Choctaw Indians, Bureau of Land Management, MS Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, MS Department of Transportation, Mississippi State, National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, USDA Wildlife Services, and the Mississippi Master Naturalist program. Talks included updates on bat work conducted by the state, updates on projects (culvert blitz, mist net event, and bridge blitz) organized by the working group, several projects in which researchers used data the MBWG had made available through NABat, and a Master's project investigating the effects of prescribed fire, mulching, and timber harvest on bat use along the Mississippi coast. In addition to presentations, we also had a bat photo contest and presented several awards.



Katelin Cross won Best in Show with her photo of a tricolored bat from Land of Caves.

# Mississippi



## Bat Photo Contest Results

- Best in Show – Katelin Cross
- Funniest bat – Katelin Cross
- Best photo for a field guide – Alison McCartney
- Best habitat picture – Alison McCartney
- Bats that make you go “hmmmm...” – Katelin Cross
- Caption contest – Mitzi Reed

## Service Awards for 2021

- Amber Floyd
- Katelin Cross



Alison McCartney won “Best photo for a field guide” with her picture of a Rafinesque’s big-eared bat from St. Catherine

Mitzi Reed’s winning caption was “Will you move over?!” (Photo: tricolored and southeastern myotis in a culvert crevice, B. Rosamond)

## Mist Net Event

The Mississippi Bat Working Group held its 19<sup>th</sup> annual mist net event on Holly Springs National Forest in Benton, Marshall and Lafayette Counties, July 26 – 28. The 14 participants netted six sites in two nights, and caught 26 bats representing five species. This included 17 eastern red bats (*Lasiurus borealis*), four evening bats (*Nycticeius humeralis*), three tricolored bats (*Perimyotis subflavus*), one southeastern myotis (*Myotis austroriparius*), and one Rafinesque’s big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii*).

# Mississippi



## **Bioblitz – Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge**

Members of the working group participated in a bioblitz on May 21, 2022 on Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge. Through mist-netting efforts and roost checks, the group was able to add seven bat species to the list including: Rafinesque’s big-eared bat, evening bat, tricolored bat, southeastern bat, eastern red bat, Seminole bat (*L. seminolus*), and big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*).



Tricolored bat. (Photo: B. Rosamond)

## **Outreach and Education**

Members of the group presented educational programs and invited talks throughout the state at schools, festivals, and to various civic organizations, reaching over 2,500 individuals across the state. Additionally, MBWG staffed booths at several festivals in the Jackson area and along the coast. Members involved in education and outreach include: Mandy Sartain (MSU Extension); Deb Davis, Jackie Henne-Kerr, Nicole Hodges, and Katelyn Cross (MMNS); and Amber Floyd, Alison McCartney, and Becky Rosamond (USFWS).



Mandy Sartain speaking with students.

## **Other Items of Note**

Four drawings originally prepared by Chester Martin as t-shirt designs for annual MBWG mist net events were used as cover illustrations for Bat Research News (volume 63, numbers 1-4).

Eric Britzke was put in charge of developing a Bat Conservation Strategy for the Department of Defense.

## **Upcoming Events**

Culvert Blitz – throughout the state, January 6 – 8, 2023.

Annual Meeting – Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, March 23, 2023 (tentative)

Mist Net Event – southwest Mississippi, July/August 2023 (exact date TBD)

*Watch our website ([msbats.org](http://msbats.org)) for more information, or follow us on Facebook!*

# Mississippi



## Updates from the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science

### WNS Surveillance

White-nose syndrome surveillance continued for winter of 2021-2022. A total of 16 culverts, six caves, and one mine were test for Pd. Swabs were submitted to Foster’s Lab at Northern Arizona University. On 8 February 2022, while surveying a culvert in Montgomery County, the first case of WNS was observed. The tricolored bat was collected and submitted to National Wildlife Health Center for confirmation. No other bats in the culvert had visible fungal growth. Nine out of the 25 bat swabs collected in this culvert tested positive for Pd. An additional three culverts, two caves, and one mine tested positive for Pd including two newly positive sites in two new counties, Tishomingo County and Grenada County. A bat swab from a big brown bat tested positive representing the first bat swab other than a tricolored bat to test positive in Mississippi. Surveillance for 2022-2023 winter will continue and expand to find new tricolored bat hibernaculum and test new sites.



Katelin Cross examines a tricolored bat for Pd. (MMNS photo)



### Nanah Waiya Cave Gating

Another cave was gated in Mississippi to prevent vandals from entering the site as well as protecting the colony of tricolored bats and occasional southeastern myotis that use this roost in the winter. This cave is located in Neshoba County on tribal lands of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. It is considered sacred grounds and is an important part of the Tribe’s history. This effort would not have been possible without funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as the hard work provided by Kristen Bobo, Jessica Lewis, Mitzi Reed, and Brad Young.

Kristen Bobo welds the gate at Nanah Waiya Cave. (Photo: B. Young)

# Mississippi



Alison McCartney, Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## First Gray Bat (*Myotis grisescens*) and Indiana Bat (*M. sodalis*) Bridge Roost Located in Mississippi

Alison McCartney, Wildlife Biologist with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mississippi Ecological Services Office, developed and began implementation of the Bats and Bridges Initiative in April 2021. For this project, 362 bridges and culverts in 32 counties throughout Mississippi have been surveyed so far for bat usage. As part of this survey effort, two gray bats (*Myotis grisescens*) were observed under a bridge in

Tishomingo County in the northeast corner of the state. This is only the fourth location record for this species in Mississippi and the first bridge roost documented. The bridge is 450 feet long and 35 feet wide and is surrounded by a tupelo brake on the north side and mixed hardwoods on the south side. The individuals flew before they could be captured, so measurements and wing punches could not be obtained. However, pictures of the individuals were taken, and guano samples were collected underneath the bridge in several locations. Samples were submitted to the Bat Ecology and Genetics Lab at Northern Arizona University where they are currently being analyzed.



# Mississippi



Alison McCartney, Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## First Gray Bat (*Myotis grisescens*) and Indiana Bat (*M. sodalis*) Bridge Roost Located in Mississippi

The site was revisited on August 5, 2022. Gray bats were not observed however, ten Indiana bats (*M. sodalis*) were found together under the bridge. Six were captured with standard measurements taken along with wing punch and guano samples. All six individuals were identified as juvenile females. Samples were submitted to Northern Arizona University for genetic analysis. Results were obtained on September 25, 2022, confirming the identification. This is the third location record in Mississippi for Indiana bats and is also the first bridge roost documented.

A total of 3,512 bats representing seven species have been observed under bridges and culverts in 15 counties during this survey effort since 2021. Totals for each species are as follows:

- Brazilian free-tailed bats (*Tadarida brasiliensis*): 1,683 individuals under seven bridges/culverts in six counties (with one containing 1500 individuals).
- Southeastern myotis (*Myotis austroriparius*): 1, 233 under 21 bridges/culverts in eight counties.
- Big brown bats (*Eptesicus fuscus*): 383 under 23 bridges and culverts in nine counties.
- Rafinesque's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii*): 107 under 17 bridges/culverts in seven counties.
  - Tri-color bats (*Perimyotis subflavus*): 94 under ten bridges/culverts in five counties.



The Bats and Bridges Initiative is funded by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mississippi Ecological Services Office. This is a long-term study effort with no specific end date. Surveys will continue to occur year round throughout the state.

# North Carolina

*North Carolina Department  
of Transportation*

NCDOT were collecting guano for some work we are doing in culverts in NC. One of the culverts is a known gray bat summer roost and we observed two bats mating on September 22, 2022. While it has been presumed that gray bats are mating in NC on the way to their fall swarming locations (cave hibernaculum in TN), to our knowledge, this behavior has not been observed or documented in NC. One of the bats was banded, although we were unable to see the band number from our location.



Gray bats mating in Culvert.



Tricolored bat under a bridge in Haywood County, NC.

Submitted by USFWS Asheville Ecological Services field office.

# North Carolina

*Katherine Etchison  
Wildlife Biologist  
NC Wildlife Resources Commission*

## **Little Brown Bat Tracking Results in Largest Known Colony in North Carolina**

The once common little brown bat has become exceptionally rare in western NC due to impacts from white-nose syndrome (WNS). Mist net captures of this species are down 92% compared to surveys occurring before the arrival of WNS; however, little brown bats are still consistently found at a mist net site in Avery County. NC Wildlife Resources Commission, NC State Parks, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy personnel gathered for the annual mist net survey of this site in August. The team caught five little brown bats and applied radio-transmitters to four of them. The objective of this effort was to locate the bats' roost and begin to learn about the survivor population in the area. Since little browns commonly roost in artificial structures, which can be subject to modification, it was imperative to find the roost and ensure bats have access to a suitable roost for the future.



*A radio-tagged little brown bat.  
Photo by Katherine Etchison.*



One tagged individual was found roosting solitarily under the wooden siding on a house about 2.8 miles from the mist net site. The other tagged bats were found roosting in a privately-owned building about 2.5 miles from the mist net site. An emergence survey on the building resulted in a count of 86 bats exiting the building at sunset, making it the largest known little brown bat roost in the state. Only one additional little brown bat roost is currently known, and the highest count is five individuals. All other known roosts for this species were extirpated in the years since WNS arrival.

Efforts are underway to develop a partnership with the property owner and add bat houses to provide an array of roosting options for the colony. The next step in learning about this survivor population is to plan a second telemetry effort when the bats head to their hibernaculum in 2023.

*A little brown bat found roosting in an Avery County building.  
Photo by Katherine Etchison.*

# North Carolina

*Katherine Etchison  
Wildlife Biologist  
NC Wildlife Resources Commission*



NC State Parks Mountain Region Biologist, Sharon Becker, Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy Land Protection Associate, Kyle Shute, and NC State Parks Inventory Biologist, Ed Corey, determine morphological measurements of a little brown bat. Photo by Katherine Etchison.

NC Wildlife Resources Commission Technician, Joey Weber, searches for a radio-tagged little brown bat. Photo by Katherine Etchison.



# North Carolina

Gary Jordan  
USFWS  
Raleigh Ecological Field Office

## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Gary Jordan with the Raleigh Ecological Services Field Office increased the known range of the northern long-eared bat in eastern North Carolina by an additional five counties in 2022. Beginning in February, northern long-eared bats were mist-netted in Sampson, Chowan, Halifax, Northampton, and Onslow Counties (Top Left to Bottom Right Pictures Below). This range extension occurs within the Coastal Plain where northern long-eared bats exhibit substantially different winter behavior and are likely not vulnerable to WNS. These bats forgo hibernation, are active during most of the winter, and roost in trees in swamps during winter. The species has now been documented in 27 Coastal Plain counties in eastern North Carolina. Several North Carolina Department of Transportation staff assisted Gary with surveys.



# Tennessee

*Catherine Haase, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Austin Peay State University*



Photos taken at Fort Campbell Army Installation this July in Kentucky by Sean McCully/APSU. All photos taken by the PR department at APSU who joined to field crew for this survey.

Red bats being processed by APSU students at Fort Campbell.



# Tennessee

*Catherine Haase, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Austin Peay State University*

Photos taken at Fort Campbell Army Installation this July in Kentucky by Sean McCully/APSU.



Photo of two bats caught during the mist-net survey. Gray bat on the left and tri-colored on the right. Photo taken by the PR department at APSU.



*Kitty McCracken*

*Natural Resources Management Team*

*Oak Ridge National Laboratory*

**Tennessee Bat Working Group - Bat Blitz**

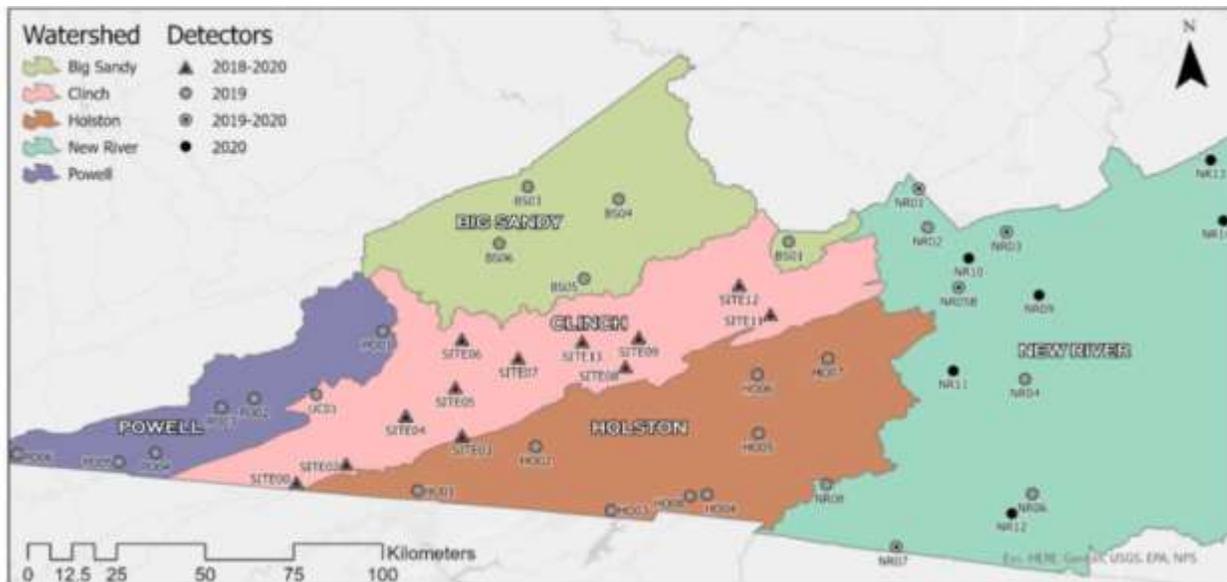
A very successful Bat Blitz was held by the Tennessee Bat Working Group on August 22 and 23, 2022 on the U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Reservation in East Tennessee. This Bat Blitz was sponsored by Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Natural Resources Management Program and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. Ten teams comprised of 46 bat experts and volunteers mist netted 17 sites across portions of the Oak Ridge Reservation during the 2 day Bat Blitz. A total of 64 bats were captured and released during the Blitz. Species captured included Big Brown Bat, Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Gray Bat, Evening Bat and Tricolored Bat. A good time was had by all!



Gray Bat (*Myotis grisescens*) Summer Roosts, Emergence Counts and Acoustic Passage Rates: The VA Dept. of Conservation Recreation – Division of Natural Heritage (VDCR) with assistance from Radford University (RU), Virginia Tech – USGS Coop Unit, and VA Dept. of Wildlife Resources (VDWR) continue to monitor gray bat bachelor and maternity sites using Bat Call Data Recorders (BCDR). These data (passage rates) provide an index of activity at sites as well as a phenology of site use. Recorders are deployed at 5 gray bat bachelor colonies and 1 maternity colony. In addition, 10 HOBO U23 Pro v2 External Temperature/Relative Humidity Data Loggers (Part # U23-002A) are distributed throughout the anthropogenic roosting structure being utilized by the maternity colony. These data will help inform the repair or replacement of the roost structure.

Hila Taylor (Virginia Tech) completed her work on gray bat activity in the Tennessee watershed of Virginia and presented her findings at the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (citation below).

Taylor, H., K.E. Powers, W. Orndorff, E.M. Hallerman and W.M. Ford. 2022. Sources of Yearly Variation in Gray Bat Activity in the Clinch River Watershed, Virginia Journal of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (in press).

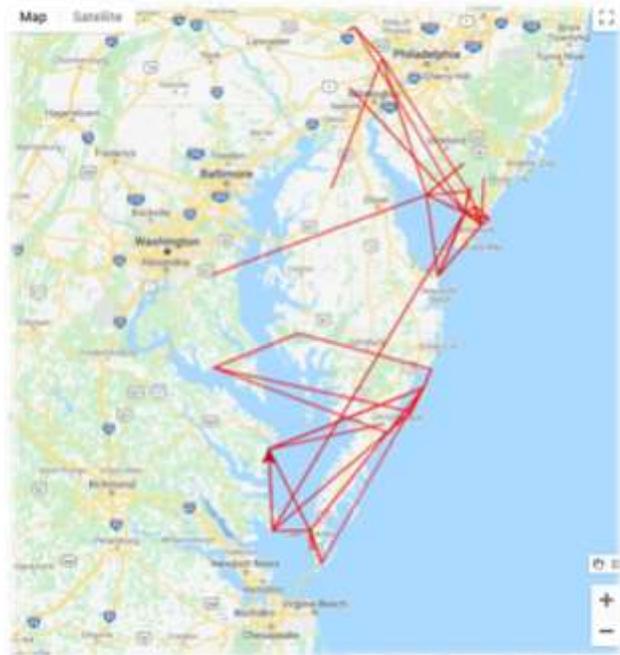


Acoustic sample sites in the Tennessee and New River watersheds.

# Virginia

Coastal Bat Migration: Virginia Tech Master's student Mike True, under the direction of Dr. Ford, completed a nano-tag study on tree bats in conjunction with the Motus Wildlife Tracking System. Tagging predominately red bats in Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Virginia, Mike tracked red bat movements in relation to climatic conditions during fall migration. Mike's thesis is available through Virginia Tech (citation below).

True, M.C., North American Tree Bat (Genera: *Lasiurus*, *Lasionycternis*) Migration on the Mid-Atlantic Coast—Implications and Discussion for Current and Future Offshore Wind Development.



Mike True and crew setting up Motus tower. Movements of red bats along the Mid-Atlantic in late summer and early fall.



Eastern Shore Acoustic Survey: Virginia Tech student Mike True, under the direction of Dr. Ford, with funding from VDWR has completed the analysis of acoustic data collected from five locations off the Eastern Shore of Virginia including: Chincoteague Island, 2015-2019 (791 nights), Cedar Island, 2012-2019 (1586 nights), Hog Island, 2014-2019 (1268 nights), Silver Beach, 2014-2017 (762 nights) and Smith Island, 2014-2018 (1328 nights). Because acoustic calls of tree bats (red, *Lasiurus borealis*; hoary, *Lasiurus cinereus*; and silver-haired, *Lasionycteris noctivagans*) were the predominate calls identified, analysis of bat activity in relation to temporal, climatic, and habitat conditions were conducted on these three species. The results of this study have been published in the journal *Animals*, citation below.

True, M.C.; Reynolds, R.J.; Ford, W.M. Monitoring and Modeling Tree Bat (Genera: *Lasiurus*, *Lasionycteris*) Occurrence Using Acoustics on Structures off the Mid-Atlantic Coast—Implications for Offshore Wind Development. *Animals* 2021, 11, 3146. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani11113146>



Installing acoustic unit on Hog Island tower (BatHat and Anabat SD2).



*Small-footed Myotis (M. leibii) Survey:* Dr. Moosman and Dr. Manjerovic (Virginia Military Institute) continues to assess the importance of non-karst rock formations as bat overwintering sites and for potential prevalence of *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* (P.d.), using a combination of acoustics, visual monitoring, and genetic surveillance as well as continuing *M. leibii* population monitoring at summer sites.

Summer population monitoring using circular plots was conducted at 6 long-term sites. A boroscope was used to re-examine crevices that observers could not adequately inspect with the naked eye to determine if doing so improves population estimates. Additionally, 3 bats were radio-tagged and visual searches using naïve observers were conducted to quantify rates of false negatives. Visual surveys were consistent with those from previous years indicating there was no significant effect of year, although there were differences between sites and based on plot area.

Winter activity was monitored at two sites, a rock ledge in Rockbridge County and a talus slope in Augusta County. Acoustic detectors were deployed between November and March, and manual searches were conducted when visiting sites to service acoustic detectors. To assess the presence of P.d. and bat DNA, sterile polyester swabs moistened with deionized water were rubbed on the inside surfaces of roosts. Acoustic calls were classified to species using Kaleidoscope software. Of the 8003 bat calls, 6495 were classified to species and these were further sorted into phonic groups, low frequency (76.1%, e.g. *E. fuscus*), mid-frequency (15.2%, e.g. *Lasiurus borealis*, red bat), and high frequency (8.6%, *Myotis sp.*). Acoustic results generally support patterns of relative abundance observed during visual surveys. Analysis of DNA samples will be conducted at a future date.

Dr. Moosman and Nick Kalen (Virginia Tech) continued their work on maternity colony network and roost dynamics at Shenandoah National Park. They used temperature sensitive tags and a network of data logging telemetry receivers surrounding the roosting area to continuously monitor activity of pregnant and lactating bats within the colony, over a period of 2 to 3 weeks.



# Virginia



Two of Dr. Moosman's students searching for small-footed myotis in a talus slope (Kyser Samuel in the foreground and Whitney Tracy in the background).

# Virginia

## Little Brown Bat (*M. lucifugus*) Disease Survey:

No further demographic work is being conducted at the 3 known *M. lucifugus* maternity sites. The demographic data collected at the maternity colonies between 2012 and 2021 is being compiled and analyzed for submission to a peer reviewed journal. To assist Megan Moran (VA Tech grad student) with a separate project sampling *M. lucifugus* for presence of disease (SARS-CoV-2, *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*, etc.), we mist-netted a maternity site in Fauquier County and collected both swab and DNA samples. A total of 31 bats were captured including 1 adult male *E. fuscus*, 23 adult female, 4 juvenile female, and 3 juvenile male *M. lucifugus*. One objective of the study is to compare post-WNS genetic structuring across sites in the northeast. Of approximately 200 out of 400 little brown bats tested, all so far have been SARS-CoV-2 negative.



Harp trapping and mist-netting a little brown bat maternity colony.



*Hibernacula Phenology:* Virginia Tech – USGS Coop Unit and partners (VDWR, VDCR, RU) are studying activity patterns, using acoustic detectors, at 12 major hibernacula supporting threatened and endangered bats. The main objective of the study is to understand the temporal use of hibernacula during autumn and spring. The secondary objective is to assess habitat use during the fall swarm period at a subset of the sites. These data will help in developing conservation buffers around hibernacula, refining the time periods, distances, and habitat characteristics needed for protection. Data collection is complete, analysis will be conducted over the winter with a final report in spring 2023.

*National Park and DOD Surveys:* Long-term work continued at Prince William Forest Park whereas work and final reporting was completed for Richmond, Petersburg and Colonial NHS. No MYSE or PESU were caught at Prince William this summer which is an ominous first. Acoustics from the NHS indicated they may be important for MYSE during spring and fall migration but we found no evidence of summer use there.

*North American Bat Monitoring Program (NABat):* Virginia Tech (Dr. Ford and Jesse De la Cruz) with funding from the VDWR continued acoustic monitoring in conjunction with NABat. Because of restrictions placed on hiring seasonal positions and the requirements of social distancing in occupied vehicles, the NABat sampling effort was reduced in 2022. Following the NABat grid-based sampling frame, 20 stationary points in 13 grid cells were sampled using Wildlife Acoustics SM4 zero-crossing acoustic detectors. Detectors were deployed for a minimum of 4 nights each according to NABat protocol. Because stationary transects provide a better representation of species diversity, we ran only stationary detectors during this period. Starting in 2022 the program expanded to incorporate volunteers from the Virginia Master Naturalist program. Volunteers were mailed pre-programmed detectors along with instructions for deployment. Acoustic units were deployed for a minimum of 1-week before being mailed back to the Coop Unit.

*Mine Portal Surveys on the Jefferson National Forest:* The VA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation – Division of Natural Heritage (VDCR) with assistance from Virginia Tech – USGS Coop Unit, harp-trapped and conducted acoustic surveys at mine portals on the Jefferson National Forest where northern long-eared bats historically occurred (pre-WNS). No northern long-eared bats were captured in the harp trap and acoustic files will be analyzed this winter.

# Awards and Recognition

## SBDN SERVICE AWARD

**Purpose:** To recognize outstanding service and contributions to the Southeastern Bat Diversity Network.

**Nomination Procedure:** The SBDN awards committee will call for nominations in September or October of each year through the SBDN mailing list. Nominations will be submitted to the committee by December 1. Nominations can be submitted by any SBDN member, including members of the Executive Committee and the Awards Committee. Nominations will consist of a letter that describes the nominee's service to SBDN. The committee will review the nominations and evaluate them based on significance of the contributions to SBDN. One name will be forwarded to the SBDN Executive Committee for final approval by January 1. If no worthy nominees have been submitted for consideration, no name will be forwarded to the Executive Committee.

**Award Process:** The awardee will be announced at the SBDN annual meeting, usually held in February. A plaque will be presented to the awardee by the previous recipient or the SBDN president. The Awards committee will be responsible for obtaining the plaque and funds will be provided by SBDN. A copy of the nomination letter and pictures of the award presentation will be deposited in the SBDN archive.

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## SBDN LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**Purpose:** To recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the conservation of southeastern bats through research, education, or management efforts. The intent of this award is to recognize more senior individuals who have amassed a variety of accomplishments throughout their careers. The award is SBDN's highest honor. The award may not be given every year.

**Nomination Procedure:** The SBDN awards committee will call for nominations in September or October of each year through the SBDN mailing list. Nominations can be submitted by any SBDN member, including members of the Executive Committee and the Awards Committee. Nominations will be submitted to the committee by December 1. Nominations will consist of: 1) a letter that describes the nominee's accomplishments and how they have impacted bat conservation in the southeast, and 2) the nominee's Curriculum Vitae. The committee will review the nominations and evaluate them based on the totality of the accomplishments and their impact on bat conservation and/or our understanding of bat ecology. The committee will forward one name to the SBDN Executive Committee for final approval by January 1. If no worthy nominees have been submitted for consideration, no name will be forwarded to the Executive Committee.

**Award Process:** The awardee will be announced at the SBDN annual meeting, usually held in February. A plaque will be presented to the awardee by the previous recipient or the SBDN president. The Awards committee will be responsible for obtaining the plaque and funds will be provided by SBDN. A copy of the nomination letter, the awardees' CV, and pictures of the award presentation will be deposited in the SBDN archive.

## History of the Mammal Colloquium and SBDN Meetings

COLLOQUIUM	SBDN	YEAR	LOCATION	HOST
32 <sup>nd</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>	2022	Virtual Meeting	SBDN Executive Committee
31 <sup>st</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>	2021	Virtual Meeting	SBDN Executive Committee
30 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	2020	Athens, GA	Georgia Department of Natural Resources
29 <sup>th</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	2019	Jacksonville, FL	Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission
28 <sup>th</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	2018	Roanoke, VA	Joint Bat Working Group Meeting
27 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	2017	Asheville, NC	Tim Carter, Mary Kay Clark, Katherine Caldwell
26 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	2016	Guntersville, AL	Tennessee Valley Authority
25 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	2015	St. Louis, MO	Joint Bat Working Group Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	2014	Nacogdoches, TX	Chris Comer
23 <sup>rd</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	2013	Fall Creek Falls, TN	Brian Carver
22 <sup>nd</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	2012	Louisville, MS	Darren Miller
21 <sup>st</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	2011	Louisville, KY	Tim Carter & Brooke Hines
20 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	2010	Asheville, NC	Mary Kay Clark
19 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	2009	Jonesboro, AR	Tom Risch & Blake Sasse
18 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	2008	Blacksburg, VA	Michael St. Germain
17 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	2007	Destin, FL	Jeff Gore
16 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	2006	Chattanooga, TN	Tim Carter & Troy Best
15 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	2005	Paris Landing, TN	John Nelson
14 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	2004	Helen, GA	Steven Castleberry
13 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	2003	Mississippi State, MS	Darren Miller
12 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	2002	Clemson, SC	Susan Loeb
11 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	2001	Memphis, TN	Michael Kennedy
10 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	2000	Guntersville, AL	Troy Best
9 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1999	Wytheville, VA	Rick Reynolds
8 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	1998	Hot Springs, AR	David Saugey
7 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1997	Black Mountain, NC	Mary Kay Clark
6 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	1996	Somerset, KY	Mike Lacki
5 <sup>th</sup>		1995	Cookeville, TN	Michael Harvey
4 <sup>th</sup>		1994	Athens, GA	Joshua Laerm
3 <sup>rd</sup>		1993	Mountain View, AR	Gary Heidt & Rick McDaniel
2 <sup>nd</sup>		1992	Guntersville, AL	Troy Best
1 <sup>st</sup>		1991	Memphis, TN	Mike Kennedy

## Upcoming Events

33rd Annual Colloquium on the Conservation of  
Mammals in the Southeastern U.S.

And

28th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Bat  
Diversity Network

Embassy Suites Red Wolf Convention Center



Arkansas State University



Jonesboro, Arkansas

March 8th—10th 2023

Yes, folks this is a live and in person meeting!

Stay tuned for more details on  
submitting abstracts and registration.



2023 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTHEAST BAT WORKING GROUP (NEBWG)

The Hilton Burlington Lake Champlain Hotel, Burlington Vermont

January 18-20, 2023.

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**13TH INTERNATIONAL MAMMALOGICAL CONGRESS**

A JOINT MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MAMMALOGISTS AND THE  
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MAMMALOGISTS

July 14th - 20th, 2023

DENA'INA CIVIC AND CONVENTION CENTER  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, USA

# **SAVE THE DATES:**

**August 6-10, 2023**

For the 2023 SBDN Bat Blitz,  
Located at Ft. Mountain State Park, Georgia.

The local host committee is working diligently to iron out details  
for next year's upcoming bat blitz.

We've reserved all the cabins that the state park has to offer,  
and we will attempt to re-survey the same netting sites from 2010.

We hope to see all of you bat blitzers in Georgia in August!



## **North American Society for Bat Research**

**51th Annual Meeting of the North American Symposium on Bat Research**

**October 11 - 14th, 2023**

**Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada**

**Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg, MB**

# Editors Closing Comments



**GOOD JOB EVERYONE!!**  
**ANOTHER GREAT NEWSLETTER!!!**



We are finely getting back to normal.  
That is if we ever really were “normal”.  
I’m sure there are some who would question that!.

**THANK YOU so much to all the contributors!!!**



As always, it is my wish that each of you has a truly Merry Christmas,  
and that we all will have a most prosperous and productive 2023.

