

Bat Study Techniques Workshop

With Special Emphasis on the Federally Endangered Indiana Myotis (Myotis sodalis)

**Somerset County EEC, Basking Ridge, NJ
Picatinny Arsenal, Wharton, NJ**

Dates: 26-28 May 2009

Meeting

Location: Somerset County Environmental Education Center

Meals: Continental breakfast, lunch and one box dinner is included at Picatinny. All other meals on your own. *(Vegetarian needs can be accommodated with advance notice. See registration form for details.)*

Materials: Registration fee includes workshop materials, references, resources, and a curriculum that covers all agenda topics.

Fee: \$479.00

Lodging: Hotels within 20 minutes. See lodging options attached

Equipment: Participants need to bring appropriate field gear, including hiking boots, bat-handling gloves, a head-lamp with batteries, a personal pack, and a water bottle.

Registration Deadline—15 April 2009

This is an intense workshop with fieldwork that could last into the very early morning hours. A reasonable level of fitness is expected. Car pooling may be required for some field trips.

Meeting location on the morning of May 26 and 27:

For detailed driving directions from your area, please see the Somerset County Park website at:
<http://www.somersetcountyparks.org>
and select "Environmental Education Center: under "Parks", then select "directions" near the bottom of the page.

Meeting location May 28:

For detailed driving directions from your area, please see the Picatinny website and select "directions" at:
<http://www.pica.army.mil/PicatinnyPublic/about/index.asp>

Please be aware that all visitors, including those escorted by Picatinny or Contractor personnel with valid Picatinny I.D., are required to process in through the Visitor Control Center located at the Main Gate. You will be issued a pass and MUST have some form of valid photo ID, i.e. Drivers License, Passport, etc. This policy includes all vehicle passengers. In addition, individuals operating vehicles without a Picatinny decal affixed will be required to process in through the Visitor Control Center and must provide license and registration. All vehicles entering the gate will be subject to a full search for prohibited items and contraband. Prohibited items include: weapons, ammunition, drugs, alcoholic beverages, photographic equipment, and recording devices. These items will be confiscated and violators cited by the Picatinny Police. Please remember that Picatinny is a military installation, operated by government personnel trained in safe testing procedures. These guidelines are intended for your safety and operational security.

Lodging Options:

The first night of netting will be at the Great Swamp near Basking Ridge, NJ. The remaining two nights will be at Picatinny near Wharton, NJ. We recommend using Google to search for "hotels near Parsippany, NJ" and explore reviews of hotel options as the quality and cost can vary tremendously in this area. This location is at the junction of Route 287 and I-80 and is a strategic central location between the workshop activities. There are several hotel options starting around \$60/night in this area.

Mail form and payment to:

John Chenger
Bat Conservation and Management, Inc.
220 Old Stonehouse Road
Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17015

Questions:

Office and FAX: 717.241.2228
Mobile: 814.442.4246
E-mail: jchenger@batmanagement.com

Bat Study Techniques Workshop

With Special Focus on the Endangered
Indiana Myotis, *Myotis sodalis*



All too often, good general biologists have difficulty expanding into bat work because many clients only want to hire people with years of proven field experience. Unfortunately, this creates a bottleneck for much-needed bat conservation and research. So, Bat Conservation and Management, Inc. and Bat Conservation International Inc., in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Picatinny Arsenal, the Somerset County Environmental Education Center, and the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, have organized a workshop to provide interested technicians with opportunities to gain experience using time-tested field methods for studying bats. The workshop location is the likely home to all nine bat species found in the Northeast U.S., and is a hibernation and summer maternity site for the federally endangered Indiana myotis (*Myotis sodalis*). This workshop highlights current bat conservation and research techniques, especially those that will add to the body of knowledge regarding Indiana bat distribution, roosting, migratory, and overwintering behavior in the region.

*One 3-day, 3-night session.
26-28 May 2009
Limited to 25 people.*

New Jersey Bat Study Techniques Workshop May 26-28, 2009 -- Registration Form

Name: _____ Organization: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Cell: _____ Rabies titre: enclosed will bring not handling bats
Vegetarian: YES NO NO Prior Bat Netting Never Some Proficient

Prior Telemetry None Some Proficient I want to rig my vehicle (make, model) _____ for mobile telemetry
Terrain Navigator software Never heard of it Proficient (MUST have existing roof rack, working 12V outlets, and take at least 2 passengers)
My interest in acoustics is: None Basics Advanced System: Petterson Anabat Will Bring? Yes No
Willing to drive to field trips and take up to _____ # of passengers.

Registration Fee: \$479.00 (U.S. Dollars) Check or Money Order (payable to Bat Conservation and Management)
 Bill my credit card—MC/Visa/AmEx # _____ / _____ / _____ Exp: _____



Bat Study Techniques Workshop

Workshop participants will receive hands-on assembly experience with single-high, double-high, and triple-high mist nets as well as harp traps. Advanced capture techniques involving arrays of multiple nets and traps will be employed nightly. Evening activities include collecting, handling, identification, banding, echolocation recording, and data processing for captured bats. *Proof of current rabies titer is required for participants to handle bats.*

In addition, hands-on radio telemetry techniques will be highlighted, including a simulated tracking exercise to replicate what is currently known about Indiana myotis behavior. In the event of a suitable bat capture, interested participants will get to radio track the animal as it forages and to determine its day roost. Custom mobile telemetry platforms will be available for both activities.

John Chenger of Bat Conservation and Management, Inc., will be leading a team of BCM staff during all study and capture technique components at this workshop. He has been catching bats for over 15 years and radio tracking bats since 2000. In 2007 and 2008 alone, he and his staff have conducted over 700 nights of netting and trapping in conjunction with regional surveys and monitoring projects. This workshop is co-led by Janet Tyburec, Director of Education Programs at Bat Conservation International, Inc. for 15 years. She is currently a contract instructor for Bat Conservation International's weeklong workshops in Arizona, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and California where she teaches wildlife biologists, educators, and other professionals field skills for bat research and conservation.

Additional guest speakers include Ed Arnett, one of the leading experts in the world today studying bats and wind power interactions, and Marilyn Kitchell, Wildlife Biologist from the Great Swamp NWR.

The three-day, three-night agenda contains a comprehensive sampling of bat conservation and research techniques and Indiana myotis case studies.

Lecture & Discussions

- Identifying Northeastern Bats
- Assessing Bat Habitats and Hibernacula
- Capturing Bats with Mist-Nets & Harp Traps
- Data Recording and Bat Processing
- Using Acoustics for Monitoring
- Employing Advanced Research Techniques
- Studying Bats using Radio-telemetry
- Managing Underground Bat Habitats
- Wind Energy and Bats

Field Trips & Demonstrations

- Deploying Mist Nets
- Setting Harp Traps
- Demonstrating Radio-telemetry
- Viewing Indiana Bat Habitat Resources
- Nightly Netting, Trapping & Acoustic Sessions

Highlighted Case Studies

- Indiana Bat Migrations in the Northeast
- Mount Hope and Hibernia Mine Indiana Bats