

Workshop on Bat Ecology, White-nose Syndrome Status, and Implications on DoD Mission



**August 30 – September 1, 2011
Tucson, AZ and Fort Huachuca, AZ**

Bat Conservation International, in collaboration with the Department of Defense's Natural Resources Conservation Program, invites you to attend a workshop discussing impacts of White-nose syndrome (WNS). This workshop will focus on challenges and opportunities unique to military installations and will provide a Department of Defense perspective on managing for bats and WNS within the context of the military Mission. In this workshop we will discuss bat and cave ecology, landscape management for bats, WNS state of knowledge, federal and state responses to WNS, options for inventory and monitoring for both WNS and bats, and implications for installations trying to manage for both wildlife and their mission. Our field trip hosted by Fort Huachuca will provide participants with opportunities to view and discuss on-site tools and management techniques for conserving healthy bat habitats and will highlight potential issues that may arise with possible listing of additional species as a result of WNS induced declines. We will visit bat roosting and foraging sites in an Agave management area, grasslands, oak woodlands, riparian zones, and nearby caves to demonstrate and discuss management options in the field. There will be ample opportunity to discuss tactics and scenarios both within the workshop as well as during the field trip.

**Dates: August 30 – September 1, 2011
Location: Hilton Tucson East, 7600 E. Broadway, Tucson, AZ 85710
Field Trip: August 31 to Fort Huachuca**

Please submit registration materials to Mylea Bayless at Bat Conservation International at mbayless@batcon.org

Workshop organizers

*Mylea Bayless, Bat Conservation International
Eric Britzke, Environmental Lab, US Army Engineer Research and Development Center
Chris Dobony, Fort Drum, US Army
Sheridan Stone, Fort Huachuca, US Army*

Funding for this workshop is provided by the DoD Legacy Program.

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Agenda**

Tuesday, 30 August 2011

- 0815 - 0820 **Welcome and Housekeeping**
Mylea Bayless, Bat Conservation International
- 0820 – 0830 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Kristin Altieri, Department of Defense Natural Resources Program
- 0830 – 0845 **Bats and WNS are important to the Dept. of Defense Mission**
Chris Dobony, Fort Drum, U.S. Army
- 0845 - 0945 **Bat Natural History Basics**
Ronnie Sidner, University of Arizona
- 0945 - 1015 **Break**
- 1015 - 1045 **Cave/Mine Ecology**
Jason Corbett, Bat Conservation International
- 1045 -1145 **White-nose Syndrome (WNS): Current State of Knowledge**
Jeremy Coleman, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- 1145 – 1315 **Lunch** (on your own)
- 1315 - 1415 **Lab investigations of Gd and specimen submission**
Kevin Keel, Southern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study
- 1415 - 1445 **Federal Response to White-nose Syndrome**
Scott Richardson, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- 1445 - 1515 **Break**
- 1515 - 1530 **State Responses to White-nose Syndrome**
Angie McIntire, Arizona Game and Fish Department
- 1530 - 1615 **Inventory and Monitoring**
Eric Britzke, US Army Engineer Research and Development Center
- 1615-1645 **Introduction to Fort Huachuca**
Sheridan Stone, Fort Huachuca
- 1645 **Wrap-up**
- 1830 **Optional:** bat viewing at bridge near hotel. *Details will be provided at meeting.*

Wednesday, 31 August 2011 Field Trip

Depart Hilton Tucson East at 0730 am

Leave Hilton Tucson East		~1.5 hr
Enter Fort Huachuca Main Gate	(arr 0900)	~10 min
Rest stop at Thunder Mountain Activity Center		~15 min
Drive along base of Huachuca Mountains		~15 min
- Drive through grassland & oak woodland habitats to cave site(s)		
Visit Pyeatt or Manila Caves		~1.25 hr
- Multi-species bat roost		
- Prevention & detection of intrusion into cave		
- Techniques for monitoring & cave bat exit counts		
Visit Agave Mgmt Area		~.75 hr
- Endangered, nectarivorous bats foraging habitat in training lands		
Rest stop at Sportsman Center	(on road to Garden Canyon)	~15 min
Visit Garden Canyon creek & montane riparian habitat:	(arr 1200)	~2 hr
- Lunch break		
- Decontamination demonstration, techniques & discussion		
- Hibernacula characteristics in southeastern Arizona		
Return to hotel		~1.75 hr

Thursday, 1 September 2011

0815-0915	Ft. Drum Case Study Chris Dobony, Fort Drum, US Army
0915-0930	WNS Communications and Opportunities for Involvement Mylea Bayless, Bat Conservation International
0930 - 1000	Break
1000 - 1200	Open discussion (Topics TBD based on participant interest and need – please plan to stay this will be your opportunity to discuss topics that YOU propose) <i>Discussion will include (but is not limited to) funding opportunities for WNS, opportunities for collaboration, open discussion about balancing military mission with environmental concerns.</i>
1200	End of Workshop

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