



Northeast Bat Working Group

2014 Annual Meeting

AGENDA

Unless noted, all sessions & activities will take place in the Holiday Inn Clinton's Hunterdon Ballroom.

Day 1: Wednesday, January 8th

8:00 am – 6:00 pm Registration open

Pre-meeting Free Workshop

9:00 am – 12:00 pm Acoustic Survey “Geek Session”: Using Auto-classifiers to Determine Occupancy –
What Do the Outputs Really Mean? – *John Chenger, Bat Conservation and Management*

1:00 pm Welcome and Announcements

General Session 1: Member State Updates – Moderator: *Al Hicks*

- 1:15 – Vermont – *Scott Darling*
- 1:25 – Rhode Island – *Charles Brown*
- 1:35 – Connecticut – *Kate Moran*
- 1:45 – New York – *Carl Herzog*
- 1:55 – Pennsylvania – *Cal Butchkoski*
- 2:05 – New Jersey – *Mick Valent*
- 2:15 – Delaware – *Holly Niederriter*
- 2:25 – West Virginia – *Craig Stihler*
- 2:35 – Virginia – *Rick Reynolds*
- 2:45 – Maine/New Hampshire/Massachusetts/other absentees – *Susi vonOettingen*
- 3:00 – Questions/Discussion

3:15 pm – 3:45 pm Break – snack & re-caffeinate – *Sponsored by Titley and the Save Lucy Campaign*

Hotel check-in is at 3:00 pm

General Session 2: Federal Updates – Moderator: *Mick Valent*

- 3:45 – Current status of WNS and the collaborative response – *Jeremy Coleman, USFWS*
- 4:00 – Tracking white-nose syndrome and other threats: a population monitoring program for North American bats – *Jonathan Reichard, USFWS*
- 4:15 – Indiana Bat summer survey guidance – *Robyn Niver, USFWS*
- 4:30 – Questions/Discussion

4:45 pm Closing remarks for the day

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Dinner (on your own)

Evening Sessions

5:00 pm – 9:00 pm State/Federal private break-out session, with group pizza order (*Off-site at NJDFW Hedge Haven office: 26 Route 173 West, Hampton NJ. Meet at registration table for directions & carpool.*)

7:00 pm – 10:00 pm Spirited networking at Holiday Inn's One-11 Bar & Lounge (*1st floor, by entrance*)

Day 2: Thursday, January 9th

7:30 am – 12:00 pm Registration open

8:00 am Welcome and Announcements

General Session 3: WNS Monitoring – Moderator: Trevor Peterson

- 8:15 – Long-term population trajectories of PA hibernating bats – *Brent Sewall, Temple U.*
- 8:30 – The influence of environmental variables on the demography of little brown bats (*Myotis lucifugus*) – *D. Scott Reynolds, St. Paul's School*
- 8:45 – Fat Bats: the new norm for the fall swarm – *Cynthia Hauser, PA Game Commission*
- 9:00 – UV light as a diagnostic and research tool for WNS investigations – *Greg Turner, PAGC*
- 9:15 – Estimating little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) winter mortality rates using pit tag technology – *Morgan Ingalls, Antioch University & Alyssa Bennett, VT Fish and Wildlife*
- 9:30 – Disease and community assemblage: WNS alters spatial and temporal niche partitioning in sympatric bat species – *W. Mark Ford, Virginia Tech*
- 9:45 – Questions/Discussion

10:00 am – 10:30 am Break – stretch & re-caffeinate – *Sponsored by Fishermen's Energy*

General Session 4: Other Monitoring, Wind Energy & Migration – Moderator: Jeff Gruver

- 10:30 – Survival of the little brown bat in NJ's Hibernia Mine – *Brooke Maslo, Rutgers U.*
- 10:45 – Forty years of bat speciation in a rabies diagnostic laboratory; prospects for data analysis – *Carl Herzog, NYDEC*
- 11:00 – PA Game Commission wind energy voluntary cooperative agreement: moving forward – *John Taucher, PGC*
- 11:15 – Tracking bats offshore using nanotag technology – *Trevor Peterson, Stantec*
- 11:30 – Bat migration along the North Atlantic Seaboard: historical evidence from Maine to Maryland – *Tim Divoll, Biodiversity Research Institute*
- 11:45 – Questions/Discussion

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch (provided, in hotel restaurant) – *Sponsored by Wildlife Acoustics*

Poster Session 1

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Poster session & networking

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm Wildlife Acoustics demo of new bat recording equipment

Panel Discussion: The Northern Long-Eared Bat: Planning for the Future – Moderator: Susi vonO.

2:00 pm This discussion will focus on a collaborative approach to addressing information needs, such as life history, population assessment, and management of the species.

Panelists include:

- Robyn Niver, *USFWS*
- Scott Darling, *VT Fish and Wildlife*
- Craig Stihler, *WV Division of Natural Resources*
- James Kiser, *Stantec*
- Mark Ford, *Virginia Tech*

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm Break – stretch & re-caffeinate – *Sponsored by Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.*

General Session 5: Miscellaneous on Acoustics, Modeling & Monitoring – Moderator: Barb Douglas

- 3:30 – Effect of passive acoustic sampling methodology on detecting bats after declines from WNS – Laci Coleman, Virginia Tech
- 3:45 – Habitat models for Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*) at multiple spatial scales in the southeastern Ontario Lake plain, New York – Michael Fishman, SUNY ESF
- 4:00 – Band retention and band-related mortality in the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) – Al Hicks, Vesper Environmental LLC
- 4:15 – Questions/Discussion

4:25 pm Closing remarks for the day

4:30 pm Group photo

Poster Session 2

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Poster session, Innovation Station, & networking

5:00 pm Deadline for submitting business meeting topics (drop-box at registration table)

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm Dinner (on your own)

Evening Sessions

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm NEBWG Board Meeting (closed session)

7:00 pm – 10:00 pm Spirited networking at Holiday Inn's One-11 Bar & Lounge (1st floor, by entrance)

Day 3: Friday, January 10th

8:30 am Announcements

General Session 6: Habitat Management – Moderator: Chris Sanders

- 8:45 – The influence of forest management practices on bat species activity in hardwood forests – Amber Nolder, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- 9:00 – Utilizing geophysics and biology to identify bat habitat on a proposed right-of-way – David Tompkins, Kleinfelder
- 9:15 – Using maximum entropy (MAXENT) to approximate habitat associations and distributions of bats of the Monongohela National Forest – Jason Collins, Eastern Michigan University
- 9:30 – Questions/Discussion

General Session 7: Outreach – Moderator: Alyssa Bennett

- 9:45 – Bats in buildings and strategies surrounding the heave-ho – MacKenzie Hall, Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ
- 10:00 – Teaching bats – Leslie Sturges, the Save Lucy Campaign

10:15 am – 10:30 am Break – snack & re-caffeinate – Sponsored by Speleobooks & Copperhead Environmental Consulting

Hotel check-out by noon

NEBWG Business Meeting (Open to All) – Moderator: Scott Reynolds

10:30 am – 11:45 am

- Status of NEBWG Inc. and adoption of the Bylaws
- NEBWG 2015 location selection
- NASBR: Oct 22-25, 2014 in Albany, NY
- New business (items submitted by members; other)

11:45 am Wrap-up & Closing remarks