

# Wisconsin Bat Monitoring

Wisconsin Lakes Convention 2011



Zach Wilson

North Lakeland Discovery Center, Ma  
Waters, WI

# Wisconsin Bats

## Tree bats

7 species (possibly 8)



Hoary Bat

Silver-haired Bat



Red Bat



# Cave bats Wisconsin Bats



Little brown myotis



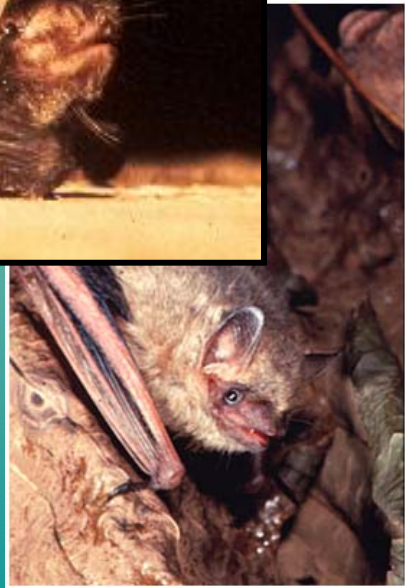
Northern long-eared myotis



Indiana bat



Big brown bat



Eastern Pipistrelle Bat

# Benefits of Bats



Agave plant



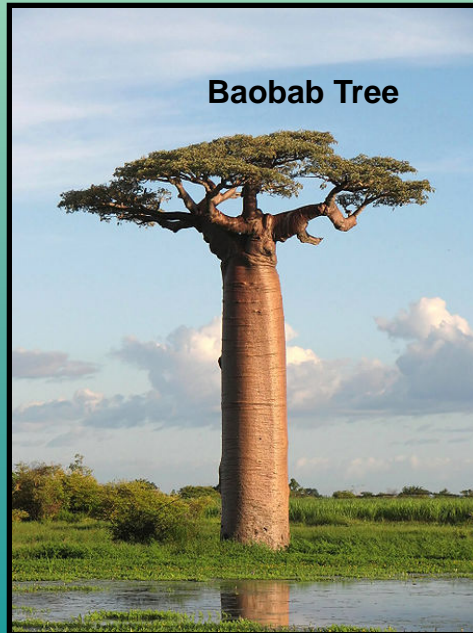
POLLINATORS

PEST CONTROL



Giant cacti

© Tom Dempsey  
Photoseek.com



Baobab Tree



SEED DISPERSAL



# Threats To Bats



# White Nose Syndrome



1/28/10  
**Bat White Nose Syndrome (WNS)**  
**Occurrence by County\***

○ Feb. 2006: 1st detected in Schoharie Co., NY

■ Mortality- Winter 2006-2007

**Fall/Winter/Spring**

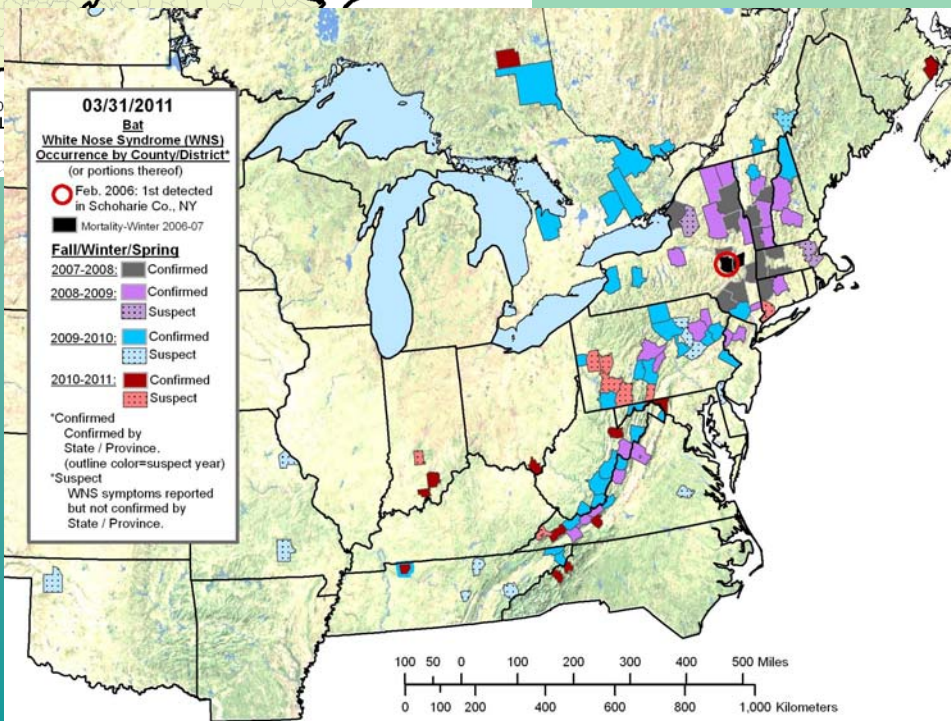
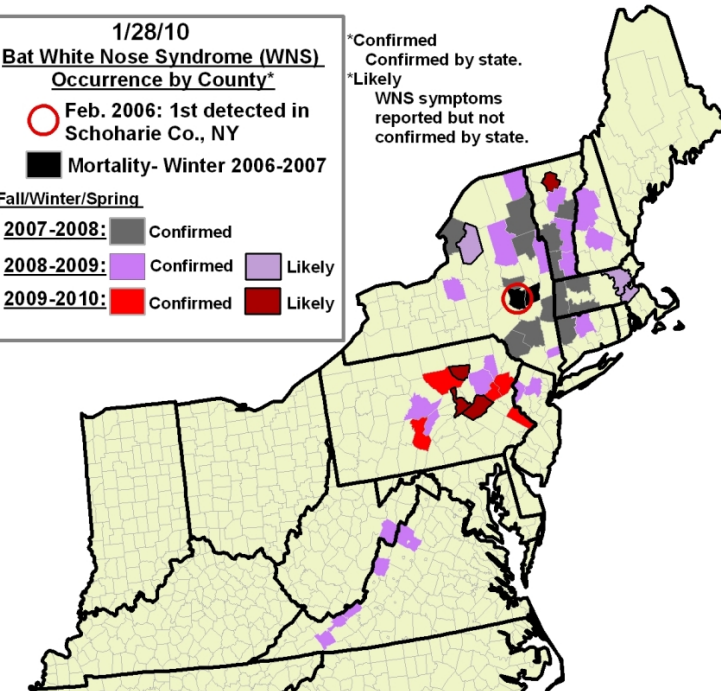
**2007-2008:** ■ Confirmed

**2008-2009:** ■ Confirmed ■ Likely

**2009-2010:** ■ Confirmed ■ Likely

\*Confirmed  
 Confirmed by state.

\*Likely  
 WNS symptoms reported but not confirmed by state.



100 50 0 10  
 0 100 200  
 Map by: C

100 50 0 100 200 300 400 500 Miles  
 0 100 200 400 600 800 1,000 Kilometers

Map by: Cal Butchkoski, PA Game Commission



# Wisconsin Bat Monitoring Program

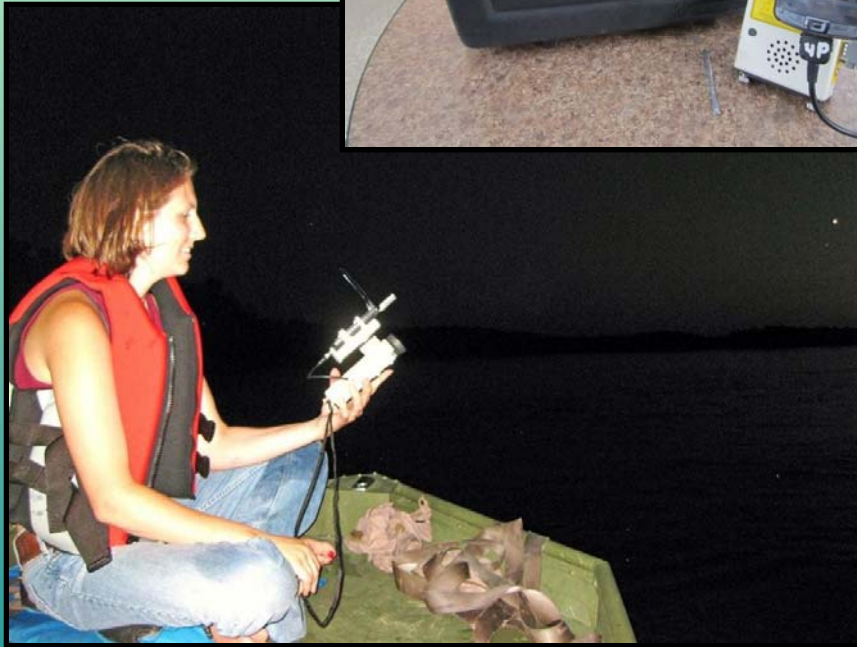
- bat populations are susceptible to decline because of low reproductive rates, and many species congregate at a limited number of locations during critical stages of their natural history cycle (i.e. hibernacula and maternity colonies).
- Lack of information on basic ecology and trends is one of the greatest limitations to conservation of bat species
- With growing monitoring demands, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has turned to the WI Citizen-Based Monitoring Network for assistance with monitoring bats



**Wisconsin  
Bat  
Monitoring  
Program**



# Acoustic Bat Monitoring

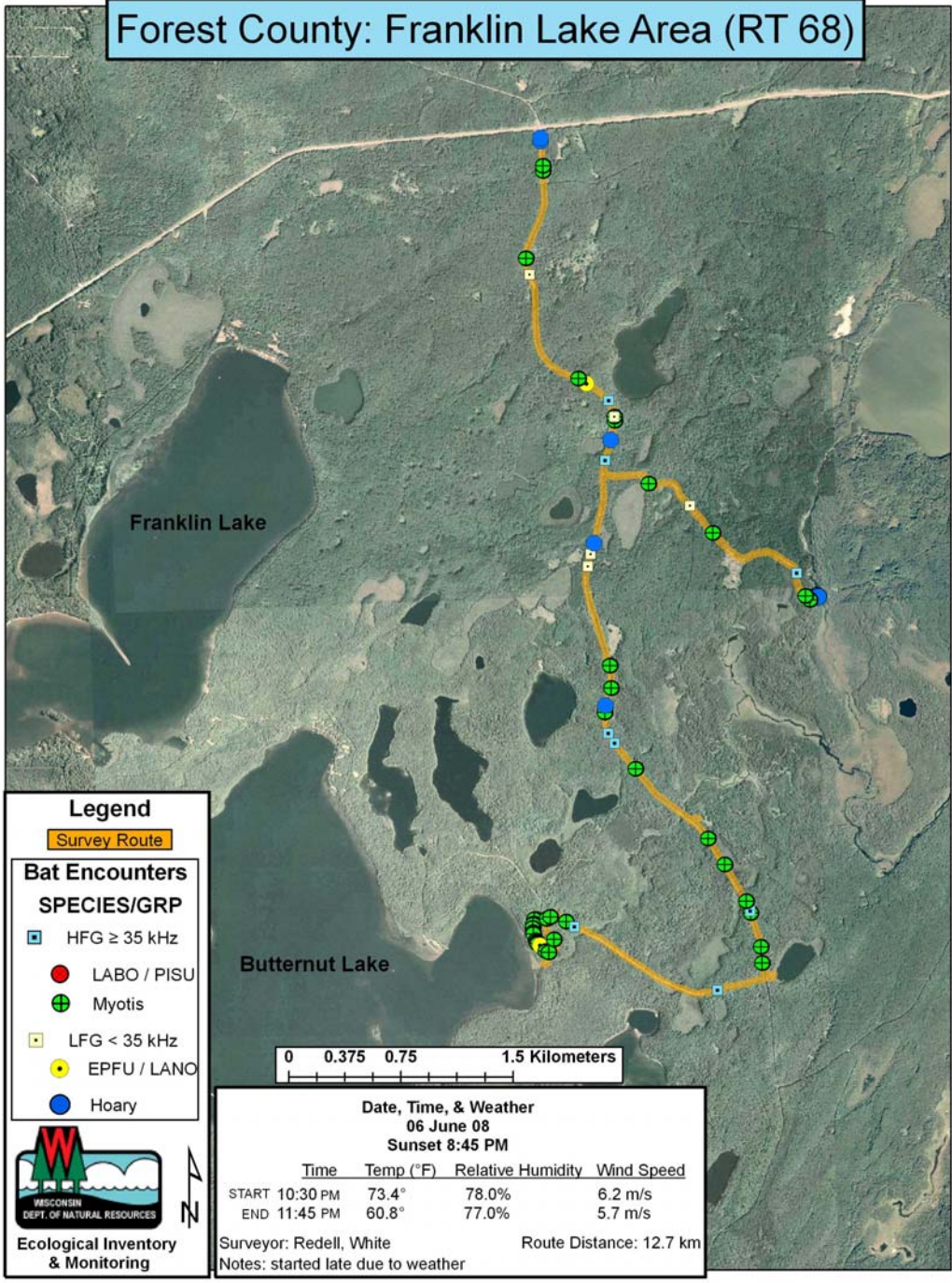


## Program Goals:

- Identify distribution and relative abundance of bat species throughout Wisconsin
- Improve upon methods of acoustic monitoring for bats
- Monitor status and trends
- Provide information to land managers, industry and the public.



# SAMPLE SURVEY



# Bat Roost Monitoring








## Project Goals:

- Evaluate the impact of WNS on summer colonies
- Assist in the ID of primary WNS contagion
- Determine if WNS contagions persist and can be transmitted in summer roosts
- Correlate long term trends with the spread of WNS



# How You Can Help!

-  Build and install a bat house
-  Use approved, non-lethal methods to exclude bats from your home  
<http://wiatri.net/inventory/bats/Monitoring/Roosts/docs/BatExclusion.pdf>
-  Volunteer time for acoustic surveys or bat house monitoring
-  If you know of large numbers of bats in caves, mines, barns, bridges, churches, schools, or other buildings, please contact Wisconsin Bat Program at 608.266.5216 or [dnrbats@wisconsin.gov](mailto:dnr bats@wisconsin.gov)
-  Contribute tax deductible donations needed for immediate projects or donate funds to sustain a long-term program. The DNR has created a Conservation Endowment through the Natural Resources Foundation of WI to support the WI bat program in perpetuity.

# For More Information

Spread your wings at the...



•To get information on Acoustic Surveys or Roost Monitoring Surveys please contact:

John Paul White at [John.White@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:John.White@Wisconsin.gov)

•To get more information on the Wisconsin Bat Monitoring Program please visit:

<http://wiatri.net/inventory/bats/index.cfm>

•Be a part of the first annual Wisconsin Bat Festival. More information can be found at:

<http://wiatri.net/inventory/bats/batfest.cfm>

Bat Conservation International: [www.batcon.org](http://www.batcon.org)

Bat Conservation of WI: [www.batcow.org](http://www.batcow.org)



Featuring LIVE bats from around the world!

Saturday, April 16, 2011  
MADISON, WI