



## Bats and Forest Management in a Changing Environment: A Workshop/Training for Land Managers



Photos courtesy of Copperhead Consulting

Hosted by the Kentucky Chapter of The Wildlife Society

**Carl Perkins Conference Center  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Richmond, KY  
Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**

**Synopsis:**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has listed the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) as a Threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) according to an interim 4(d) rule that became effective on May 4, 2015. This species joins Kentucky's three other federally listed bat species, the Indiana (*M. sodalis*), gray (*M. grisescens*), and Virginia big-eared (*Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus*) bats, all of which are Endangered. The Kentucky Chapter has organized this workshop/training to help land managers better understand the implications of these and potential future bat listings on forest habitat management. The information will be geared toward wildlife biologists, foresters, and other land managers who need to understand how ESA listings will affect management activities on the lands they manage, and how it compares to current regulatory requirements and guidance for the Indiana bat.

**Registration:**

Professionals \$20, Students \$5. Registration can be completed on-site, or by returning the attached Registration Form.

**Directions:**

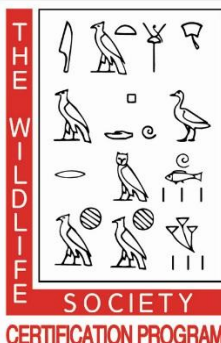
From I-75, take Exit 87 and go east to light number 5, make a right. At the next light make a left. You will see a parking area on your left. This parking area does not require a parking pass. Come into the front of the building through the double doors and follow the signs for the conference.

**Continuing Education Credits:**

Five (5) continuing education contact hours have been approved by SAF for Certified Foresters & by TWS for Certified/Associate Wildlife Biologists.



The Society of American Foresters has approved 5.0 contact hours in Category 1-CF Continuing Forestry Education Program for SAF members and/or Certified Foresters. Attendees must sign-in upon arrival to be included on a required sign-in sheet KY-TWS officers will submit to SAF, and will receive a Certificate of Attendance form.



The Wildlife Society has approved 5.0 contact hours in Category I of the Certified Wildlife Biologist Renewal/Professional Development Certificate Program. Attendees should sign-in upon arrival and track their attendance on a Personal Activity Record, available as PDF at <http://wildlife.org/learn/professional-development-certification/certification-programs/>.

## AGENDA

8:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Welcome & Introduction

*-L. Scott Harp, KY TWS Chapter President, KY Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources*

**9:10 a.m. Overview of Past, Present, and Future Issues Concerning Bats and Forest Management**

*-Sunni Carr, Diversity Program Coordinator, KY Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources*

This presentation will provide attendees with general context and background information for the day's other presentations and panel discussion. It will detail how forest-dwelling bat species - many of which are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act - have, are, and will continue to impact forest management activities in Kentucky.

**9:50 a.m. Bat Biology, Ecology, and Natural History**

*-Dr. Mike Lacki, Dept. of Forestry, University of Kentucky*

This presentation will provide attendees with specific biological information for the several federally-listed forest-dwelling bat species that are regularly of common conservation concern related to forest management activities in Kentucky. Such knowledge will provide insight into how best management practices and regulations are formulated to conserve bats and their habitats.

**10:30 a.m. Regulatory Issues Surrounding Bats and Forest Management**

*-Lee Andrews, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*

This presentation will provide a contextual overview of the current regulatory framework, policies, and procedures administered by the USFWS related to federally-listed bat species, including how USFWS conducts formal and informal consultations with other federal and state agencies and organizations to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Endangered Species Act.

11:10 a.m. Lunch (on your own, ECU cafeteria or restaurants off-campus)

**12:40 p.m. Forested Bat Conservation Strategy, Biological Opinions, and Available Options**

*-Jennifer Garland, Deputy Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*

This presentation will provide greater detail on USFWS's process for the conservation of bat species under the ESA such as the Biological Opinion process, the Forested Bat Conservation Strategy, Conservation Agreements, and how the USFWS consults with other agencies/partners in the process.

**1:20 p.m. Management Implications: Practical Field Techniques for Managing Forest Habitats**

*-Christy Wampler, District Biologist, Cumberland Ranger District, U.S. Forest Service*

This presentation will offer attendees a review of specific forest management practices and landscape level considerations to improve and/or protect elements of forested bat habitat.

**2:00 p.m. Fort Knox: A Case Study**

*- Michael Brandenburg, Wildlife Biologist, Natural Resources Branch Chief, Fort Knox Military Installation*

This presentation will describe past, current, and future management efforts to improve listed bat habitat on Ft. Knox. It will serve as a current example of how land managers deal with regulatory issues and incorporate habitat management for these species into a diverse land management scenario.

**2:40 p.m. Prompted Panel Discussion**

This portion of the training is designed to offer the regional forest management community -- foresters, forest managers, wildlife biologists, consultants, researchers, & other conservationists -- a forum to describe their agency's/organization's experience/policies/procedures related to bats & forest management, & for open discussion of past/current/future concerns. The hope is to raise awareness of how the various stakeholders are addressing the issues & foster networking among the forestry & wildlife sectors.

4:00 p.m. Wrap-up

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*The Kentucky Chapter of The Wildlife Society is a non-profit organization concerned with excellence in wildlife stewardship using science and education.*

*The Chapter seeks to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals in Kentucky to conserve diversity, sustain productivity, and ensure responsible use of the Commonwealth's wildlife resources. Our membership is diverse and includes representatives from a variety of state and federal agencies, academic institutions, non-governmental conservation organizations, and private industry. Chapter members are dedicated to sustainable management of wildlife resources and their habitats.*

## Registration Form

The KY Chapter of The Wildlife Society:

*Bats and Forest Management in a Changing Environment: A Workshop/Training for Land Managers*

### **Workshop/Training Registration (Circle):**

Professional: \$20

Student: \$5

### **Contact Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

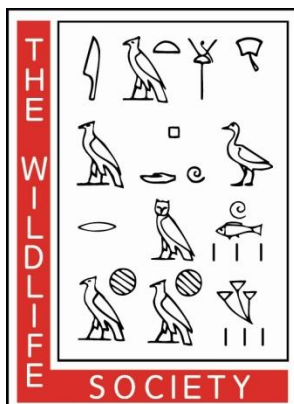
Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit this form with your payment (Payable to TWS KY Chapter) to:**

**Jason Nally, Treasurer  
TWS Kentucky Chapter  
1584 Overlook Drive  
Taylorsville, KY 40071**



**For more information, please contact:**

**L. Scott Harp, President**

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**Or**

**Zak Danks, Secretary**

[zachary.danks@ky.usda.gov](mailto:zachary.danks@ky.usda.gov)