



# ERM Partners with Wildlife Acoustics to Offer Bat Acoustics Training Courses

ERM's bat biologists are collaborating with Wildlife Acoustics, producers of the Song Meter SM4BAT, SM3BAT, and the Echo Meter Touch bat detectors, and developers of Kaleidoscope Pro bat acoustic identification software, to offer training courses in conducting bat acoustic surveys and identifying bats from their calls. Our first course will be offered on January 9-11, 2017 in Amherst, MA, immediately prior to the Northeast Bat Working Group's (NEBWG) 2017 Annual Meeting. Experienced and new bat biologists are welcome to attend, and can take advantage of this convenient training opportunity in the same location as NEBWG.

The course will help you:

- Better understand ultrasonic sound basics
- Select productive sampling sites
- Set up bat detectors in the field
- Manage hardware and troubleshoot common bat detector malfunctions
- Download data from bat detectors and manage large volumes of bat call data
- Develop a consistent workflow to produce better results
- Process raw bat call files for auto-classification, using Kaleidoscope Pro software
- Interpret and understand Kaleidoscope Pro output for clearer reporting
- Assess bat call quality to determine whether calls can (or should) be visually vetted (manually identified)
- Consistently vet bat call files manually to classify species, using Kaleidoscope Pro viewer function
- Troubleshoot manual identification of bat calls, including learning the metrics you need to know to identify *Myotis* species!
- Properly report your results to the USFWS and state wildlife agencies to meet reporting requirements

The USFWS's 2016 *Range-Wide Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines* state, "acoustic surveyors should have completed one or more of the available bat acoustic courses/workshops, or be able to show similar on-the-job or academic experience". Taking a course is the fastest way to build or expand your experience with bat acoustic surveys and manual classification of bat calls. ERM's and Wildlife Acoustics' Bat Acoustic Training Course will demonstrate the necessary skills, knowledge, and proficiencies you need to master before you can reliably conduct bat acoustic surveys.

The course starts at 1 pm on Day 1 (January 9). Day 2 (January 10) is a full day of instruction, with lunch provided so we can focus on learning all day (morning and afternoon breaks are also included to refresh). Day 3 (January 11) ends at noon to allow afternoon travel, or attendance at the NEBWG Annual Meeting that starts locally that afternoon.



### **Travel and Accommodations:**

The ERM & Wildlife Acoustics' Bat Acoustics Training Course will be held in the Amherst Room at the UMass Hotel at the University of Massachusetts, in Amherst, MA. The nearest airports are Hartford/Bradley International in Hartford, CT (1 hr drive) and Boston Logan International (2 hr drive). Parking is available on the UMass campus for a fee. The UMass Hotel has offered a special rate of \$140/night (plus taxes/fees) for class attendees (enter the code, ERM17C for online reservations at [www.umasshotel.com](http://www.umasshotel.com), or mention it if reserving by phone: 877-822-2110). The discounted rate must be reserved by January 4. If you are attending the NEBWG meeting, the hotel may extend the room rate of \$104/night to include the days of the workshop (not available for online reservations; you must call the hotel to request extra nights). Other local hotel options include the Holiday Inn Express and Knights Inn. Lunch on Day 2 and refreshments for morning and afternoon breaks will be provided, but all other meals are on your own. A variety of local eateries are convenient to the workshop location.

Course Fee: \$1,350 (includes 3 days of attention-gripping instruction, including evening "extra help" sessions, a temporary Kaleidoscope Pro license, course handouts, lunch on Day 2 and break refreshments). All lodging, other meals, and transportation are the attendees' responsibility.

### **To Register:**

Visit the course registration page on Wildlife Acoustics' website at:

<http://www.wildlifeacoustics.com/support/training-courses>. You can register there, and learn more details about the course.

### **IMPORTANT!: Preparations Before You Attend the Course:**

Please visit Wildlife Acoustics' website (<https://www.wildlifeacoustics.com/products/kaleidoscope-software-ultrasonic/free-trial>) and download the free 15-day trial version of Kaleidoscope Pro to your laptop (and bring your laptop to the course). We will have call files for you to process and identify.

Also, while on Wildlife Acoustics' website, you may want to review some of their Kaleidoscope Pro tutorial videos: <https://www.wildlifeacoustics.com/products/kaleidoscope-software-ultrasonic/tutorial-videos>

### **Questions:**

Questions about the course can be addressed to Michael Fishman at ERM at: [michael.fishman@erm.com](mailto:michael.fishman@erm.com).