

Draft 2013 Field Season Contingency Plan for Conducting Indiana Bat Summer Surveys January 2013

We believe that it is essential to survey for Indiana bats using protocols that will maximize the likelihood of their detection and employ tools that are both accurate and efficient to use. Therefore, should we not have a Service-approved automated acoustic identification program(s) available for use in 2013, surveyors would use the following contingency plan.

Step 1. Conduct Phase 1 Habitat Assessment.

- a) Suitable summer habitat present, proceed to Step 2.
- b) Suitable summer habitat absent, no further summer surveys required.

Step 2. Can all adverse effects to Indiana bats be avoided?

- a) No, assume presence of Indiana bats or proceed to Step 3.
- b) Yes, no further summer surveys required.

Step 3. Conduct Phase 2 Acoustic Surveys.

- a) No positive detection of high frequency calls (≥ 35 kHz), no further summer surveys required.
- b) Positive detection of high frequency calls, assume presence of Indiana bats or proceed to Step 4.

Step 4. Conduct additional acoustic analyses.

- a) No positive detections of Indiana bats (based on current filters, software, and/or qualitative visual analyses), no further summer surveys required.
- b) Positive detections of Indiana bats, assume presence of Indiana bats (AND you can proceed to Step 5 to attempt to capture and attach radio transmitters).

Step 5. Conduct Phase 3 Mist-netting Surveys.

- a) No Indiana bats are captured, coordinate with local Service FO to determine what type population of Indiana bat is assumed to be present.
- b) Indiana bats are captured, proceed to Step 6.

Step 6. Follow Phase 4 Protocols (Radio-tracking and Emergence Surveys).