

APPENDIX D: Bridge/Structure Bat Assessment Form

Bridge/Structure Bat Assessment Form Instructions

- This form will be completed to document bat occupancy or bat use of bridges, culverts, and other structures. This form shall be submitted to the appropriate personnel within the DOT and USFWS for recordkeeping (or uploaded into the Information, Planning, and Consultation (IPaC) Determination Key for use of the Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects in the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat) prior to conducting: any activities below the deck surface either from the underside or from above the deck surface that bore down to the underside; any activities that could impact expansion joints; any activities involving deck removal on bridges; or any activities involving structure demolition for bridges, culverts, and/or other structures.
- Assessments must be completed within two (2) years of conducting any work (see the above bullet), regardless of whether assessments have been conducted in the past. Assessments must be completed in appropriate weather conditions, suitable for the assessor to observe common signs of bat use.
- Evidence of bat use may include visual observation (live and/or dead), presence of guano, presence of staining, audible observation, and/or odor observation. Presence of one or more indicators is sufficient evidence that bats may be using the bridge, culvert, and/or other structure.
- If bat use of a bridge, culvert, and/or other structure is noted, additional studies may be undertaken during bat active season to identify the specific bat species utilizing the structure, or protected bat species presence can be assumed, in order to comply with threatened and endangered species regulations. Bat active season dates, typically between April and November, vary regionally and by species, so assessors should consult with their local USFWS Field Office for more specific active season dates.
- For use of the Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects in the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat – If the bridge/structure is 1,000 feet or more from suitable bat habitat¹ (e.g., an urban or agricultural area without suitable foraging habitat or corridors linking the bridge to suitable foraging habitat), check the appropriate box and fill out the table below. **No further assessment is required.**

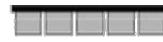
Date & Time of Assessment	DOT Project #	Route/Facility Carried	County
Federal Structure ID	Structure Coordinates (latitude and longitude)	<input type="checkbox"/> This bridge/structure is 1,000 feet or more from suitable bat habitat ² Name: _____ Signature: _____	

- Any questions pertaining to assessments or this form should be directed to the local USFWS Field Office.

¹ Refer to the USFWS's summer survey guidance for the definition of suitable habitat (<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/inba/inbasummersurveyguidance.html>).

² This condition is only for use of the Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects in the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat

Bridge/Structure Bat Assessment Form

Date & Time of Assessment	DOT Project Number	Route/Facility Carried	County
Federal Structure ID	Structure Coordinates (latitude and longitude)	Structure Height (approximate)	Structure Length
Structure Type (check one)		Structure Material (check all that apply)	
<i>Bridge Construction Style</i>		<i>Deck Material</i>	<i>Beam Material</i> <i>End/Back Wall Material</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Cast-in-place 	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-stressed Girder 	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete
<input type="checkbox"/> Flat Slab/Box 	<input type="checkbox"/> Steel I-beam 	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Timber
<input type="checkbox"/> Truss 	<input type="checkbox"/> Covered 	<input type="checkbox"/> Timber	<input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> Stone/Masonry
<input type="checkbox"/> Parallel Box Beam 	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Open grid	<input type="checkbox"/> Timber <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<i>Culvert Type</i>		<i>Culvert Material</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Box	<i>Other Structure</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Pipe/Round		<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic	<i>Notes:</i>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Stone/Masonry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Crossings Traversed (check all that apply)		Surrounding Habitat (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bare ground	<input type="checkbox"/> Open vegetation	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Grassland
<input type="checkbox"/> Rip-rap	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed vegetation	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Ranching
<input type="checkbox"/> Flowing water	<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential-urban	<input type="checkbox"/> Riparian/wetland
<input type="checkbox"/> Standing water	<input type="checkbox"/> Road/trail - Type: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential-rural	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed use
<input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal water	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Woodland/forested	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Areas Assessed (check all that apply)			
Check all areas that apply. If an area is not present in the structure, check the "not present" box.			
Document all bat indicators observed during the assessment. Include the species present, if known, and provide photo documentation as indicated.			
Area (check if assessed)	Assessment Notes	Evidence of Bats (include photos if present)	
<input type="checkbox"/> All crevices and cracks: Bridges/culverts: rough surfaces or imperfections in concrete Other structures: soffits, rafters, attic areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species <input type="checkbox"/> Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Staining
<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete surfaces (open roosting on concrete)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species <input type="checkbox"/> Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Staining
<input type="checkbox"/> Spaces between concrete end walls and the bridge deck	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species <input type="checkbox"/> Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Staining
<input type="checkbox"/> Crack between concrete railings on top of the bridge deck 	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species <input type="checkbox"/> Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Staining
<input type="checkbox"/> Vertical surfaces on concrete I-beams	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species <input type="checkbox"/> Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Staining
<input type="checkbox"/> Spaces between walls, ceiling joists	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species <input type="checkbox"/> Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Staining
<input type="checkbox"/> Weep holes, scupper drains, and inlets/pipes	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species <input type="checkbox"/> Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Staining
<input type="checkbox"/> All guiderails	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species <input type="checkbox"/> Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Staining
<input type="checkbox"/> All expansion joints	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species <input type="checkbox"/> Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Photos <input type="checkbox"/> Staining
Name: _____		Signature: _____	