



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Chesapeake Bay Field Office
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<http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay>



REQUIREMENTS FOR INCLUSION ON DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND MARYLAND LIST OF RECOGNIZED, QUALIFIED BAT SURVEYORS

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) does not "certify" bat surveyors but, as a service to project proponents who may need to conduct surveys for listed bat species, we maintain a list of individuals (not companies, firms, agencies, etc.) who we have found to be qualified to conduct bat surveys. Qualified surveyors are responsible for obtaining a State Scientific Collecting Permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and all other permits, licenses, or authorizations required by Federal, state, or local authorities.

All surveys should be carried out in accordance with the Service's most current *Bat Summer Survey Guidelines*. The qualified surveyor list will indicate whether surveyors are qualified to conduct habitat assessments and acoustic surveys and/or trapping activities. To avoid having to have surveyors resubmit their applications as species' statuses change, the list will include the species the surveyors are qualified to survey for, which may include all or some bat species found the Mid-Atlantic region.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

For Acoustic Surveyors:

- Ability to identify suitable habitat for each species.
- Experience with bat acoustic detector systems, conducting acoustic surveys, and conducting automated acoustic analyses using Service approved acoustic bat identification programs (see *Bat Summer Survey Guidelines*).
- If conducting visual/manual/hand identifications, must demonstrate suitable experience that has been verified by other qualified bat surveyors.
- Experience with or understanding of the Service's *Bat Survey Guidelines*

For Trapping Surveyors:

- Ability to identify suitable habitat.
- Proficiency in selecting proper sampling sites and conducting surveys using mist nets and/or harp traps.
- Experience in proper care and handling of captured bats, including collecting and recording biometric data on live bats.
- Training in correctly identifying and distinguishing Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, and tricolored bats from similar bat species.
- Proficiency in correctly identifying and distinguishing Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, and tricolored bats from similar bat species under field conditions.
- Experience in applying bands on live bats.
- Experience with attaching radio transmitters to bats and conducting radio telemetry

tracking activities.

- Experience with or understanding of the Service's *Bat Survey Guidelines*

For Bridge/Structure Surveyors:

- Reading/viewing and understanding current bridge survey and hibernacula guidelines
 - [Link to video](#)
 - [Link to pdf](#)
- Attendance at any training relating to the identification of possible roosting structure
- Experience with or training about the fall and winter roosting requirements and hibernating preferences of each bat species.
- Experience with or training about the summer roosting requirements and preferences of each bat species.

INFORMATION TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

To be considered for our list of recognized, qualified bat surveyors, please submit an email request to cbfoprojectreview@fws.gov with the subject line 'Bat Surveyor Application' and provide the following information for each interested individualⁱ. Include the following: resume and/or other supporting documents (summary document; links, and/or copies of research papers, survey reports; etc.) demonstrating that you possess the required qualifications as summarized above. Include the following, as applicable:

- Relevant training courses and workshops attended, including dates.
 - Summary/other documentation that demonstrates understanding of the habitat of each species in this region.
 - Whether you are/have been listed as a recognized, qualified bat surveyor in any other state(s) and for which species.
 - Description of geographic area and number of sites where you personally conducted acoustic or mist net surveys that positively identified presence of relevant bat species.
 - Experience in capturing/identifying relevant bat species in the field (*i.e.*, approximate number of captured and personally identified in the field, or for those with a lot of experience, provide the number of years of experience and typical number of bat captures per year by species).
 - Experience with radio telemetry, hibernacula surveys, bat detection systems, pit tags, or other specialized relevant techniques.
- At least two references that can directly comment on your field expertise in conducting bat surveys.

ⁱ Please note that this list is specific to qualified individuals only. Entire organizations cannot be added to the list, but any number of qualified biologists representing a given organization may apply for consideration.