

LESSER (=SANBORN'S) LONG-NOSED BAT
(*Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuenae*)

STATUS: Endangered (53 FR 38456; September 30, 1988) without critical habitat

SPECIES DESCRIPTION: Previously known as Sanborn's long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris sanborni*). A medium-sized bat with yellowish-brown or pale gray above and cinnamon-brown below; a slender elongated nose with a small nose-leaf on the tip; a minute tail; and body length of 7 to 9.5 cm (2.7 to 3.7 in). Slightly smaller than the Mexican long-nosed bat.

HABITAT: Mainly desert scrub habitat in the U.S. portion of its range. In Mexico, the species occurs up into high elevation pine-oak and ponderosa pine forests. Altitudinal range is from 480-3,450 m (1,600-11,500 ft). Roosting is in caves, abandoned mines, and unoccupied buildings at the base of mountains where agave, saguaro, and organ pipe cacti are present. Forages at night on nectar, pollen, and fruit of paniculate agaves and columnar cacti.

RANGE: Historic: Ranged from central Arizona and southwest New Mexico through much of Mexico to El Salvador. Records exist for occurrences in the southern Peloncillo Mountains of New Mexico

Current: Range is similar to historic; however, the number of occupied roost sites and the number of individuals per colony have recently declined drastically. These bats are seasonal (April - September) residents of southeastern Arizona, and possibly extreme western Arizona (Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, Graham, Pinal and Maricopa counties, Arizona).

REASONS FOR DECLINE/VULNERABILITY: Considerable evidence exists for the interdependence of *Leptonycteris* bat species and certain agaves and cacti. Excess harvest of agaves in Mexico, the collection of cacti in the U.S., and the conversion of habitat for agricultural uses, livestock grazing, wood-cutting, and other development may contribute to the decline of long-nosed bat populations. These bats are particularly vulnerable due to many individuals using only a small number of communal roosts.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: Various, including lands owned by or managed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Defense, several Tribes, the State of Arizona, and private.

NOTES: A Recovery Plan was completed in March 1997. A copy of the recovery plan can be found online at: <http://fw2azweb1.r2.fws.gov/>

Listed as a species of Wildlife of Special Concern by the State of Arizona.