

## STAFF SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 19-20, 2016

**30. BAT CONSERVATION****Today's Item**Information Action 

Information presentations on the DFW Bat Conservation Plan and the status of pallid bats in California.

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions (N/A)****Background**

Request for an update on the Bat Conservation Plan was received under public forum at the Dec 2015 FGC meeting. Director Bonham offered to have staff provide an informational update on the plan. At that meeting, FGC approved adding it to the agenda for Apr 2016. Due to time constraints at the Apr meeting, this agenda item was rescheduled by the FGC President for the Oct 2016 FGC meeting.

A separate request for an informational presentation on the pallid bat was received by FGC under public forum at the Apr 2016 meeting. In Jun 2016, FGC approved the staff recommendation to coordinate this presentation with the Bat Conservation Plan presentation schedule for Oct 2016.

Today, Scott Osborn (DFW) will provide an update on the Bat Conservation Plan and Dr. Dave Johnston (H.T. Harvey & Associates) will present on the status of pallid bats in California.

**Significant Public Comments (N/A)****Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits**

1. [DFW presentation](#)

**Motion/Direction (N/A)**

# **CALIFORNIA BAT CONSERVATION**

**Scott D. Osborn**

**Wildlife Branch – Nongame Wildlife Program**

**Fish and Game Commission Meeting**

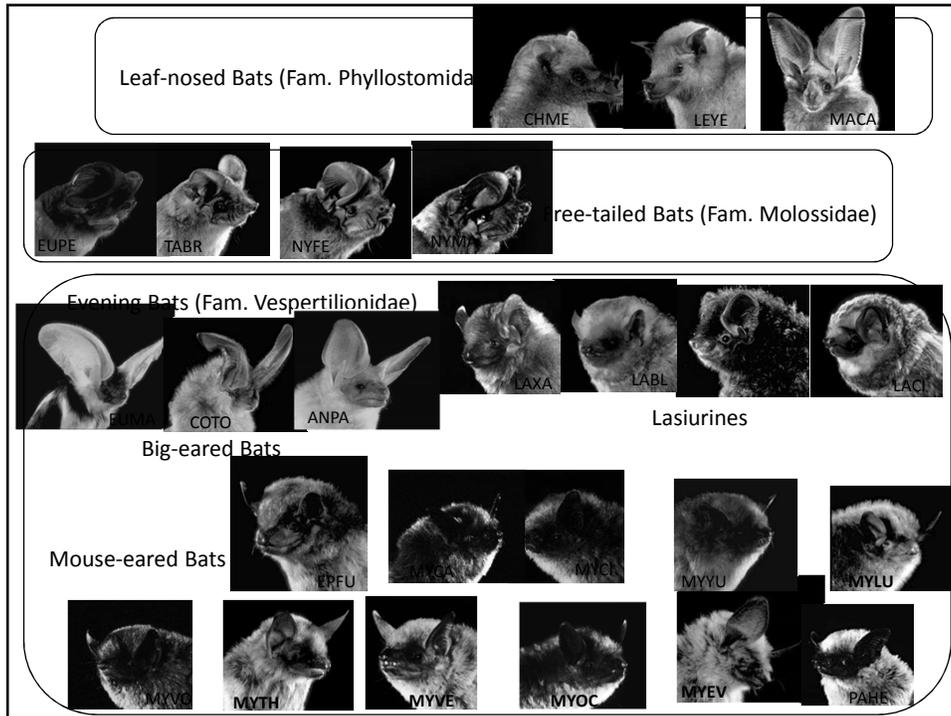
**October 20, 2016**

Photo: California leaf-nosed bat (Mark Moore)

## **Outline**

1. California's Bats
2. California Bat Conservation Plan
3. White Nose Syndrome
4. Monitoring and Research
5. Future Work

California leaf-nosed bat, Bat Conservation International



## Bats are Unique

- Powered flight
- Ultrasound Echolocation
- High Metabolic Rate
- Hibernation
- Long-lived; Low Reproductive Rate
- Roost for Cover, Thermoregulation

Hoary bat, Bat Conservation International

## ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONS

- Pollinators
  - Agave
  - Cacti

## ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONS

- Voracious insect predators
  - Insect community structuring
  - \$3.7 billion/yr value to US agriculture

## ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONS

- Nutrient transfer
  - Support cave ecosystems
  - Dispersed across landscape

## California Bat Conservation Plan

- 25 bat species
- 14 conservation issues
- All ecoregions
- Expert ranking
- Recommendations

Pallid bat, Bat Conservation International

## White Nose Syndrome

- Epidemic fungal disease of hibernating bats
- 6 million bats killed in eastern North America since 2006
- 2016 – arrived in Washington state
- Federal and state response
- CA WNS Steering Committee

Little brown myotis, Bat Conservation International

## Monitoring and Research

- NABat acoustic monitoring
- Other acoustic monitoring projects
- Townsend's big-eared bat statewide survey
- CDFW Genetics Lab studies
- Research outside CDFW

Lesser long-nosed bat, Bat Conservation International

## Future Needs

- Complete the CBCP
- WNS: Increase surveillance, manage outbreaks
- NABat → CA Bat Grid
  
- Improve environmental review

Spotted bat, Bat Conservation International

Thank you.

Questions?

Mexican free-tailed bat, Bat Conservation International