

9th Meeting of the Standing Committee
19th Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Heraklion, Greece, 7 – 10 April 2014

Report of the Intersessional Working Group
on Bats and Sustainable Forest Management

Convenor: Jean Matthews



The aims of this group are to emphasise the importance of forests and trees for bats; to provide examples of good practice of forest management and related guidance documents; to collect information on research as well as identify areas where research is required.

- A **questionnaire** was put on the Eurobats Working Space for this IWG at the last AC meeting. Any countries that have not yet replied or have additional information are encouraged to respond when they can. The list of references from the questionnaire has been updated (see below).
- Some **case studies** on good practice management have been submitted, but more are needed and a subgroup needs to be set up to take this forward.
- A **matrix of the ecology of woodland bat species** has been started (by BCT) but this has not progressed. The Group will discuss how to take this forward.
- The Group wishes to make **information available via a specific page** for this IWG on the EUROBATS website. The Secretariat has confirmed that this can be done providing that authors, publishers or copyright owners of these materials had authorized this. The website can post useful links and materials with a short foreword in the space of the IWG on forest management, similar to the one for the IWG on Underground Sites.
- The Group discussed starting a **list of key questions for research**, but this has not been progressed.
- The Group needs to consider if Resolution 6.12 should be recalled and a new Resolution proposed to MoP7.

Resolution 6.12

Recalling Resolution 4.4 on Bat Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management;

Recognising the ecological value of forests as bat roost and foraging sites or during bat migration, which is highest in unmanaged ancient forests but can also be moderate in managed forest types; *Noting* the different sensitivities of species due to variation in ecological requirements and also different approaches needed for implementation of programmes at local, regional, national or international levels;

Recognising that there is a need to improve the conservation status of bats by modifying some management practices affecting their forest habitats;

Urges Parties and Range States to:

1. Develop their own national guidance appropriate to their bat communities, forest ecosystems and forest management practices based on the principles in the EUROBATS Bats and Forestry leaflet;
2. Share best practice forestry guidance via the EUROBATS website;

Instructs the Advisory Committee to consider whether it would be timely to update the review on bats and forest management undertaken by Boye and Dietz and published as Boye, P. & Dietz, M. (2005): *The development of good practice guidelines for woodland management for bats*, English Nature Research Report Number 661.

Calls upon the Secretariat and the Parties to explore possibilities for using the UN International Year of the Forest 2011 to bring joint issues of bat conservation in forests forward.

Annex - Updated List of References from Questionnaire Responses 2012

Belgium - Wallonie

BRANQUART E. & LIEGEOIS S., 2005. Normes de gestion pour favoriser la biodiversité dans les bois soumis au régime forestier (complément à la circulaire n° 2619). Ministère de la Région wallonne, Direction Générale des Ressources Naturelles et de l'Environnement, 84 p.

<http://environnement.wallonie.be/publi/dnf/normes.pdf>

Décret relatif au Code forestier du 15 juillet 2008

<http://wallex.wallonie.be/index.php?doc=11597>

Croatia

[http://www.zastita-](http://www.zastita-prirode.hr/cro/content/download/1620/15607/file/Šišmiši%20u%20šumama%20-%20podaci%20i%20preporuke%20za%20gospodarenje%20šumama.pdf)

[prirode.hr/cro/content/download/1620/15607/file/Šišmiši%20u%20šumama%20-%20podaci%20i%20preporuke%20za%20gospodarenje%20šumama.pdf](http://www.zastita-prirode.hr/cro/content/download/1620/15607/file/Šišmiši%20u%20šumama%20-%20podaci%20i%20preporuke%20za%20gospodarenje%20šumama.pdf)

in procedure: Guidance on Conservation Measures for the Habitat Directive Annex II Species in Proposed Natura 2000 Forest Areas (bat species: *Myotis bechsteini* and *Barbastella barbastellus*), State Institute for Nature Protection

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Czech Republic

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ŘEHÁK, Zdeněk a Tomáš BARTONIČKA. (2011). Vliv fragmentace porostů a typu lesa na společenstva netopýrů. (Impact of forest fragmentation and forest type on bat assemblages). In *Ochrana lesů a jejich funkcí z pohledu mezinárodních nástrojů*.

BARTONIČKA, Tomáš a Zdeněk ŘEHÁK a Michal ANDREAS. (2008). Diet composition and foraging activity of *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* in a floodplain forest. *Biologia*, Bratislava (Slovensko): Slovak Academy of Sciences, 63, 2, od s. 1-7, 7 s.

DŽINGOZOVOVÁ, Žaneta a Zdeněk ŘEHÁK a Tomáš BARTONIČKA a Jan ZUKAL a Petra SIMPROVÁ. (2007). Aktivita a diverzita společenstev netopýrů v lesním prostředí. (Activity and species diversity of bat communities in forest habitats) In *Výskum a ochrana cicavcov na Slovensku*.

ŘEHÁK, Zdeněk a Tomáš BARTONIČKA a Jan ZUKAL a Petra SIMPROVÁ a Žaneta DŽINGOZOVOVÁ. (2006) Flight activity of bats in different forest habitats. In *Bats' and Micromammals Conservation in Forest Ecosystems*. 2006

Germany

Fledermäuse im Wald - Informationen und Empfehlungen für den Waldbewirtschafter. Heft 4 der DVL-Schriftenreihe „Landschaft als Lebensraum“; 2. korr. Auflage, Mai 2001

http://www.lpv.de/uploads/tx_ttproducts/datasheet/fledermaeuse-deu-screen.pdf

http://www.lpv.de/uploads/tx_ttproducts/datasheet/bats_in_forests.pdf

Dietz, M. (2010): Fledermäuse als Leit- und Zielarten für Naturwald orientierte Waldbaukonzepte. – *Forstarchiv* 81 (2): 69-75.

Myotis bechsteinii –

Institut für Tierökologie (in prep.): Veröffentlichung der Ergebnisse der Tagung: Populationsökologie und Habitatansprüche der Bechsteinfledermaus *Myotis bechsteinii*

Myotis alcaethoe –

Schorcht, W., Karst, I. & Bierdermann, M. (2009): Die Nymphenfledermaus (*Myotis alcaethoe* von Helversen & Heller, 2001) im Kyffhäusergebirge/Thüringen (Mammalia: Chiroptera) – aktuelle Kenntnisse zu Vorkommen und Habitatnutzung. – *Vernate* 28, 115-129.

Brinkmann, R. & Niermann, I. (2007): Erste Untersuchungen zum Status und zur Lebensraumnutzung der Nymphenfledermaus (*Myotis alcaethoe*) am südlichen Oberrhein (Baden-Württemberg). – *Mitt. des Badischen Landesvereins f. Naturkunde und Naturschutz Freiburg*. N.F. 20, 197-209.

Greece

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Ireland

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/publications/BatsAnd%20ForestryLeaflet040210.pdf>

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/grantandpremiumschemes/2011/FEPSGuidanceNoteAnnex3Jan2011.doc>

<http://www.npws.ie/publications/irishwildlifemanuals/IWM56.pdf>

<http://www.npws.ie/publications/irishwildlifemanuals/IWM39.pdf>

Italy

http://www.minambiente.it/home_it/showitem.html?lang=&item=/documenti/biblioteca/biblioteca_0176_a.html

Poland

“Forest Protection Instructions” (by General Director of the State Forests) (2011)

Portugal (Madeira Region)

Russo, D., Teixeira, S., Cistrone, L., Jesus, J., Teixeira, D., Freitas, T., Jones, G. 2009. Social calls are subject to stabilizing selection in insular bats. *Journal of Biogeography* 36 (12):2212 - 2221.

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Netherlands

a) a brochure: *Vleermuizen, Bomen en Bos* (Bats, Trees and Forest), issued by the Dutch Mammal Society in 2003. Printed edition no longer available but electronic edition available at internet. Google: *Vleermuizen, bomen en bos*. (See attachment).

b) *Gedragscode bosbeheer* (Code of conduct forest management) compiled by the Forestry Board and authorized by the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture & Innovation (See attachment)

Norway

Isaksen, K. & de Jong, J. 2003. Flaggermus i skog. Information leaflet published by the Norwegian Zoological Society, Oslo. 8 pp. (In Norwegian) (pdf enclosed)

Sweden

de Jong, J. 2000. Fladdermössen i landskapet. Jordbruksverket och Skogsstyrelsen. Jönköping. (in Swedish)
<http://www.sjv.se> (forms and brochures, miljö och klimat, trycksaker, ett rikt odlingslandskap)

Ukraine

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- Woodland Management in the presence of bat species: Guidance for compliance with the Habitats Regulations BATS (Wales)
[http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/BatsGuidanceWalesSept2010.pdf/\\$FILE/BatsGuidanceWalesSept2010.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/BatsGuidanceWalesSept2010.pdf/$FILE/BatsGuidanceWalesSept2010.pdf)
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