

14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee  
23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Tallinn, Estonia, 14 – 17 May 2018



Report of the Intersessional Working Group on the  
Conservation and Management of Important Underground Sites for Bats

Resolution 7.6 confirmed the importance of the EUROBATS list of underground habitats as a contribution to the maintenance of populations of European bats and endorsed the revised guidance on site selection prepared by the Advisory Committee.

As well as encouraging Parties and Range States that have not yet identified their most important underground habitats to do so, the Resolution also set out a timetable for updating the data for each site. This encouraged Parties and Range States that had not already done so to submit updated counts of bats within one year of the MoP7 (2014) and all Parties and Range States to submit updated information before every second MoP, with the first round of revisions due before MoP9 in 2022.

A list showing the age of the most recent data in the EUROBATS list was circulated to Parties and Range States in early 2018. This indicated that the most recent data are from 2014, with some data being several years older, and encouraged Parties and Range States to submit updated information, in line with Resolution 7.6.4. So far, no updates have been received.

Gathering the data required to submit an update to EUROBATS is a significant task, though in some cases the same data can also be used for the EU Habitats & Species Directive Article 15 reports. As the next updates are due before MoP9 in 2022, Parties and Range States are encouraged to begin this process within the next year. Finally, the Convenor or the Secretariat are pleased to receive new or updated information at any time and can supply a spreadsheet to help with this task.

Tony Mitchell-Jones

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