

# The Northern Long-Eared Bat



*D. Redell*

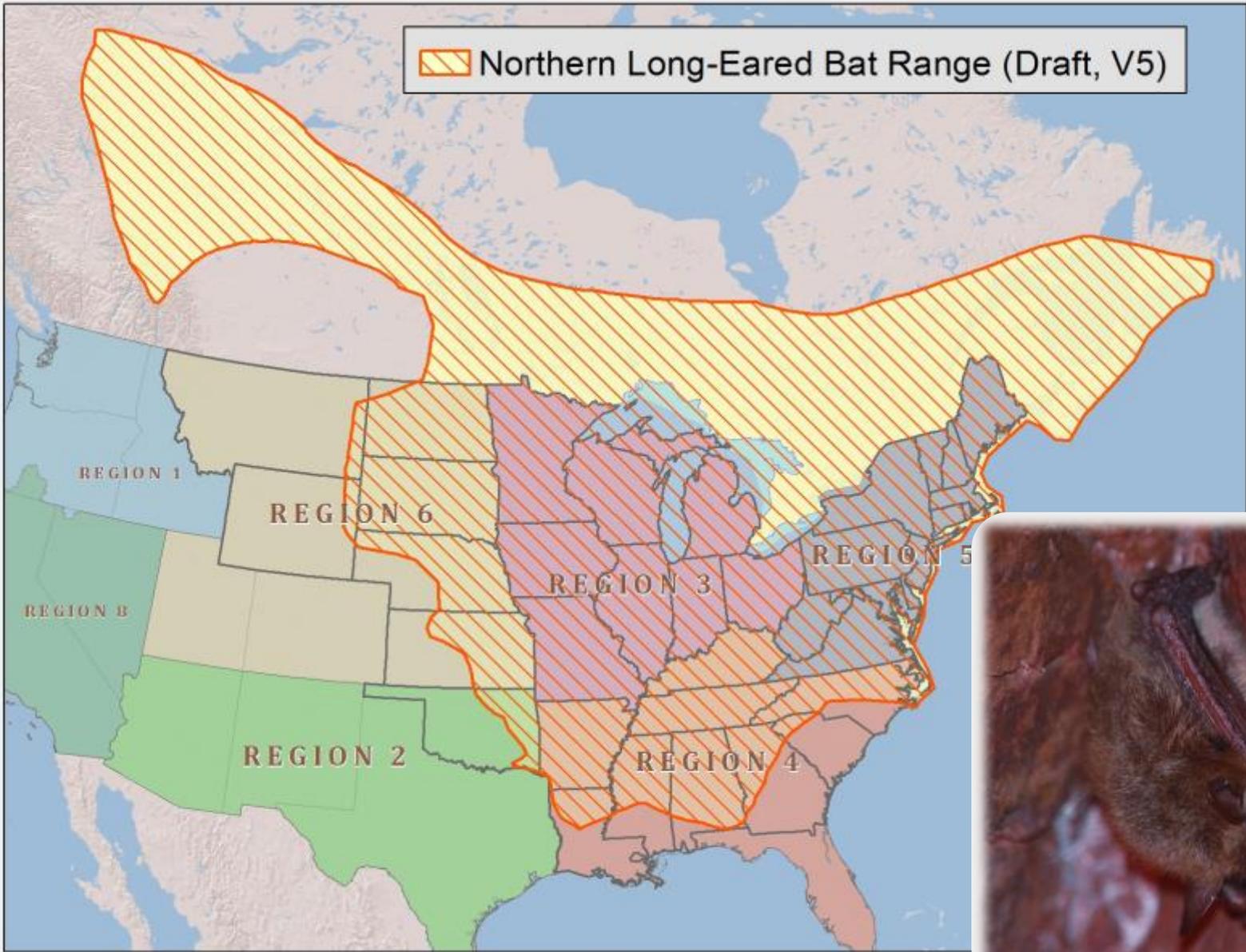
# Species Description

- Medium sized bat (5-8 g)
- Long ears and tragus
- Forage in upland forest
  - **Moths**, flies, leafhoppers, caddisflies, and **beetles**
  - Aerial
  - Glean



New York Department of Environmental Conservation; Al Hicks

 Northern Long-Eared Bat Range (Draft, V5)



# Life History



Ann Froschauer  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# Hibernation



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# Life History



Indiana bat  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

- ‘Summer’ - Apr 1 – Sep 30
- Breeding females
  - Roost in trees in small groups
  - Single pup
  - Use cracks, crevices, cavities, and peeling bark
  - No clear tree species affinity
  - Typically in tall, large diameter trees

# Life History



Indiana bat  
U.S. Forest Service

- Roost Trees/Habitat
  - Often return to same areas between years
  - Sometimes the same tree
  - Live or dead trees
  - May migrate 170 miles between summer/winter habitats

# Finding Roosting Habitat

- Locating roosts
  1. Mist net



USFWS

# Finding Roosting Habitat



U.S. Forest Service

- Locating roosts
  1. Mist net
  2. Radio tracking

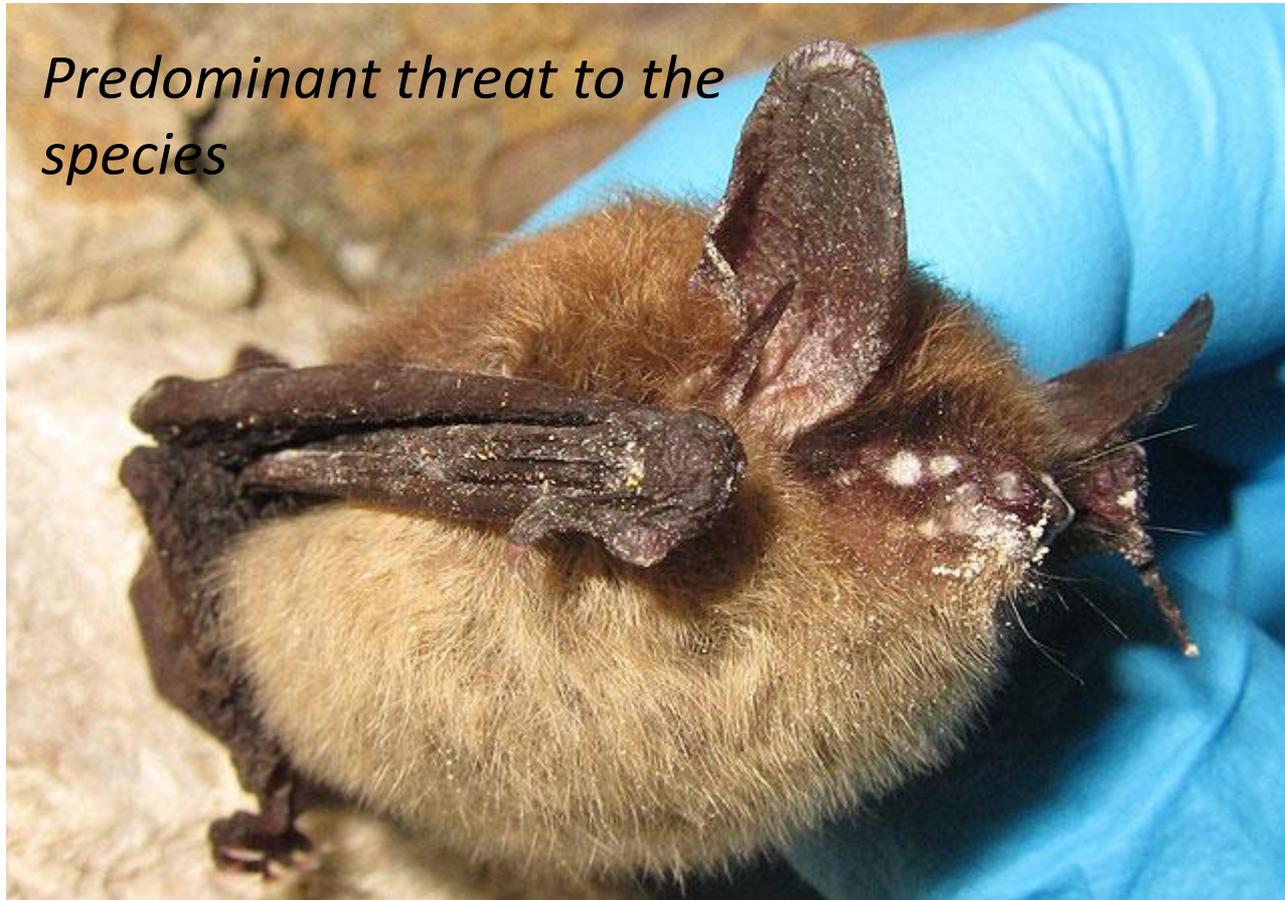
# Finding Roosting Habitat



U.S. Forest Service

- Locating roosts
  1. Mist net
  2. Radio trackingOr
  1. Acoustic survey
  2. Mist net
  3. Radio tracking

# Threats: White-nose syndrome



*Photo by Steve Taylor; University of Illinois*

# White-Nose Syndrome



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



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July 3, 2012

## Got Bats? New Rule Protects Vulnerable Bats with Restriction on Exclusion

*White-nose Syndrome Documented in a Fourth N.H. County*

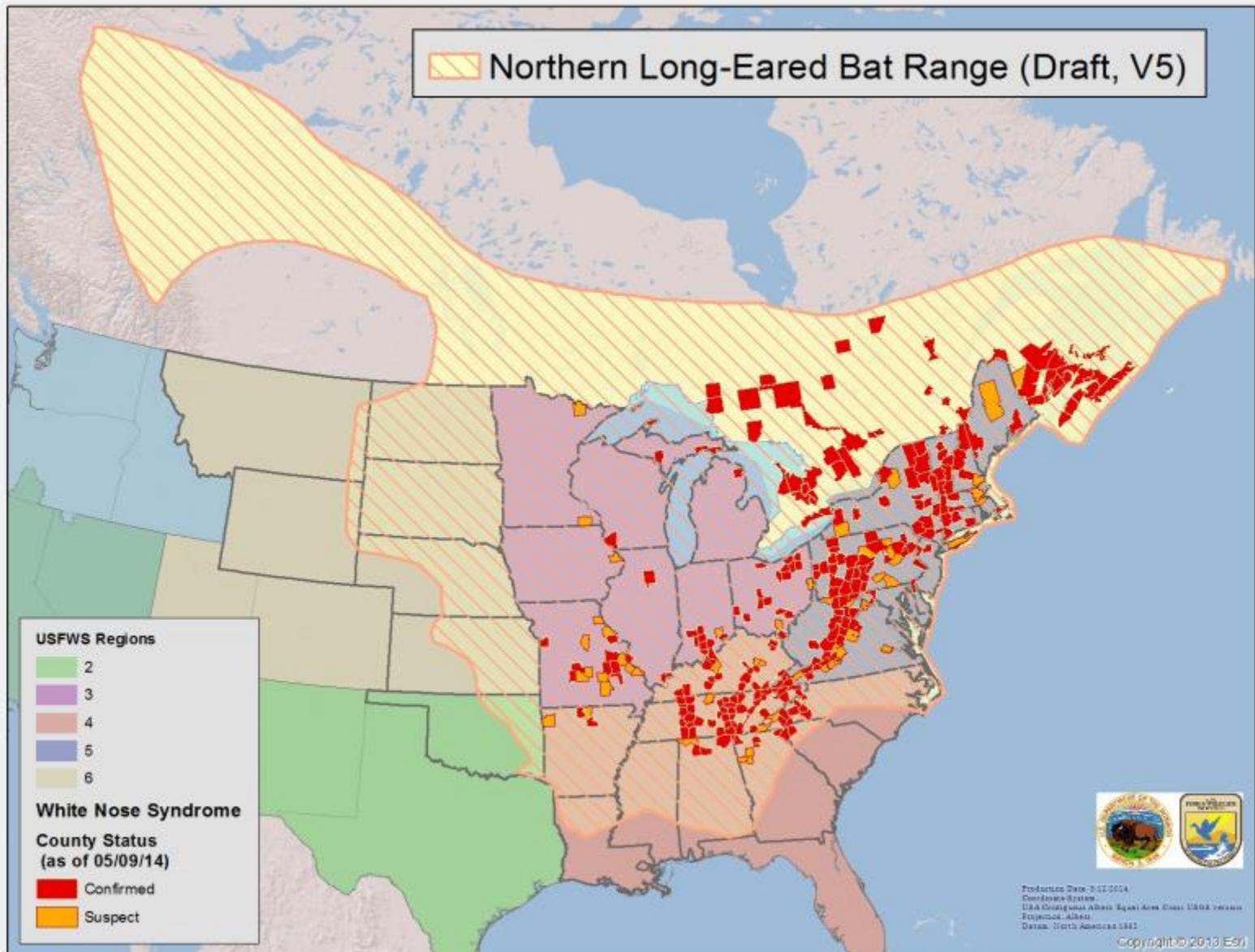
**CONCORD, N.H.** -- Are you planning to remove bats from your property? Be aware that a new rule designed to protect bats prohibits the exclusion of bats from unoccupied structures by licensed Wildlife Control Operators from May 15 through August 15, unless the N.H. Department of Health and Human Services has documented a rabid bat on the property. The rule was established this year in response to growing concern for the status of many of New Hampshire's bat populations, which have been decimated by white-nose syndrome (WNS) in recent years.



Long-eared bats have been hit hard by WNS in New Hampshire.

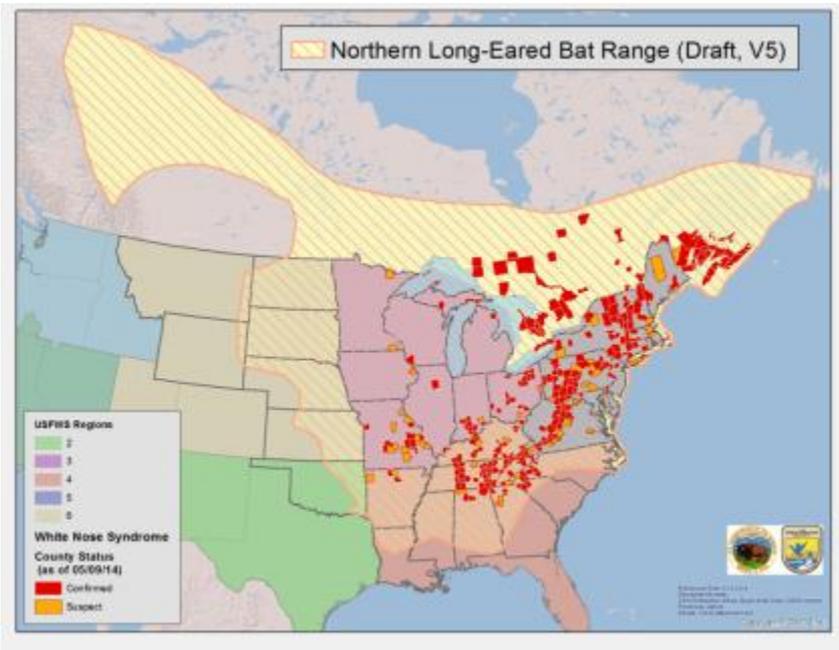
Bats in New Hampshire have suffered greatly as a result

# White Nose Syndrome



# White-Nose Syndrome

- First documented in NY in 2006/2007
- Has killed >5.5 million bats in North America
- Seven bat species confirmed with WNS
- WNS in 23 states/5 provinces



# WNS in Minnesota – 2013

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `brainerddispatch.com/outdoors/2013-08-09/fungus-dangerous-bats-detected-2-minnesota-state-parks`. The page header includes the date `May 22, 2014 | 9:35 am` and the `BRAINERD DISPATCH` logo. A navigation menu lists categories such as `Home`, `News`, `Sports`, `Outdoors`, `Opinion`, `Obituaries`, `Lifestyle`, `Entertainment`, `ApartmentsHQ`, `CarsHQ`, `JobsHQ`, and `Classifieds`. Below the navigation is a search bar and a link to `Death & Obituary Records` with a green arrow button.

The main article is titled `Fungus dangerous to bats detected at 2 Minnesota state parks` with a subtitle `Fungus known to cause white-nose syndrome (WNS)`. It is dated `Posted: August 9, 2013 - 12:50pm` and attributed to `By Minnesota Department of Natural Resources`. The article text states: `A fungus dangerous to bats has been confirmed at Soudan Underground Mine State Park and Forestville/Mystery Cave State Park, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).`

On the right side of the page, there is a promotional banner for a sale: `SAT OR RIDE AT VAIL BEAVER CREEK BRECKENRIDGE KEYSTONE CANYONS NORTHSTAR HEAVENLY KIRKWOOD ARAPAHOE BASIN` with the text `epic BUY BEFORE 5/26`.

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system clock as `9:40 AM 5/22/2014` and various application icons.

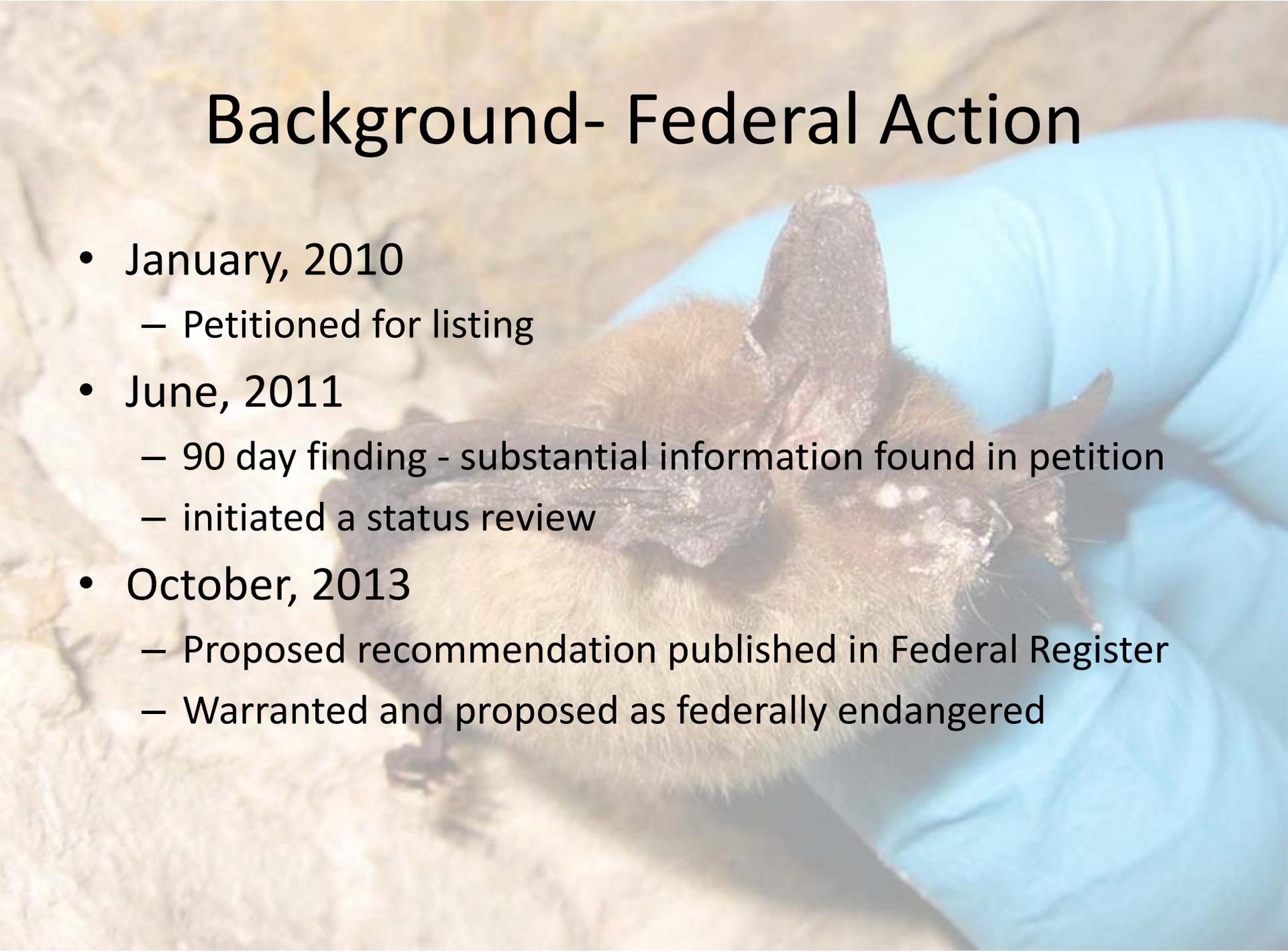
# White Nose Syndrome



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# Background- Federal Action

- January, 2010
  - Petitioned for listing
- June, 2011
  - 90 day finding - substantial information found in petition
  - initiated a status review
- October, 2013
  - Proposed recommendation published in Federal Register
  - Warranted and proposed as federally endangered



# Decision Process

- Proposed Rule – Opens comment period
- Comment Period Extended through January 2014
- Over 37,000 comments received
- FWS considers comments and gathers additional data
- ESA protections

# Decision Process

- Statute allows for 1 year from proposal to decision
- Final Decision anticipated October 2014
- May extend up to 6 months
- If agency seeks extension, listing decision anticipated April 2015

# Interim Guidance

- Non mandatory
- Planning considerations
- Summer habitat
- Impacts
- Conservation practices
- <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nlba/index.html>

# Protections

- Effective upon Listing
- Take = harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect
- Exemptions
  - statute (4d)
  - permit (section 10)
  - consultation (section 7)



# Next Steps

- Complete coordination
- Complete analysis
- Final agency decision
- Conservation needs and considerations
- Keep talking and listening

