

Sponsored by The Wildlife Society – Western Section

Noninvasive Acoustic Monitoring of Bats, Field Techniques Workshop

June 2 – 5, 2011

Location: Swanton Pacific Ranch, near Santa Cruz, CA

Instructors: Joe Szewczak, Ph.D., Professor, Humboldt State University, developer of SonoBat software

Coordinator/Contact for Questions: Rhys Evans; sirsnav@verizon.net

Description:

This workshop will introduce participants to noninvasive acoustic monitoring and species identification of bats. Beginning with the fundamentals of acoustics to interpret the biology and ecology of echolocation; we'll work to understand how bats use sound and how we can interlope into this realm to survey and monitor bats. The workshop features use and a thorough analysis of SonoBat software. From this foundation, participants will then learn the theory and practice of recording and analyzing ultrasonic bat vocalizations to interpret bat activity and species presence. Field outings will provide hands-on experience in deploying equipment and acquiring data to process. Tools and techniques for both short term and long-term passive monitoring of bats and automated data processing will be demonstrated. Participants will recognize the acoustic characteristics of western North American bats essential for species discrimination. Full spectrum acoustic techniques will be emphasized, as recommended by the new USFWS guidelines for Wind and Wildlife when species ID is important.

NOTE: We will not handle bats during this workshop. 20 participants maximum!

Registration:

\$450 TWS WS Regular

\$485 non-members

\$195 TWS WS Student*/New Professionals** (Maximum four at this level)

Registration cost increases slightly on May 18th.

*Students show proof of current (half-time minimum) university enrollment

**New Professionals (within 6 months of University graduation or employed part-time/seasonally in a wildlife-related job assignment)

The maximum enrollment is 20 after which, a waiting list will be kept. A minimum of 12 participants must register for the workshop by **May 17** or the workshop will be cancelled and all registration fees will be returned. Registrants will be processed in the order received and successful registrants will receive workshop logistics and information once receipt of full payment is confirmed.

All registrants please complete on-line registration

https://www.wildlifeprofessional.org/western/bat2011_reg.php

Payment by purchase order or check should be accompanied by a printout of the online registration form and sent to:

The Western Section of The Wildlife Society, attn: Bat Acoustics Workshop

Post Office Box 6756

Albany, CA 94706

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Location: Swanton-Pacific Ranch (www.spranch.org). This is a really nice site managed by California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. We simply don't know how many bat species we will detect, but there should be several!

Transportation: Swanton Pacific Ranch is a very easy drive from Sacramento, the Bay Area or the Central Coast. If coming from farther away, it's an easy and short drive from either San Jose International Airport (SJC) or Oakland (OAK); get a rental car or we can probably work out a shared/cheap ride (talk to us before you book your airline tickets).

Scholarships: At least two unrestricted scholarships for workshop registration are available, thanks to the generous support of Ms. Helen Johnson. All are encouraged to apply! This includes local, state, and federal agency scientific personnel if their agency is unable to pay registration and the techniques are of professional value for their current job. The sponsor will review and select at least two applicants to receive scholarship funds. The deadline to submit scholarship applications is May 5th, 2011. Applicants will be notified of their status by May 12th, 2011.

To be considered for registration scholarship, applicants must submit a brief resume (2-page limit) including educational background and professional work history, along with a 250-300 word paragraph explaining why the workshop is of professional value to them and why they require financial assistance to attend. Submit applications (.pdf format preferred) addressed to the workshop coordinator, Cynthia Perrine, via e-mail to csgperrine@yahoo.com or by mail (postmarked by 1 May) to The Western Section of The Wildlife Society, attn: Bat Workshop, Post Office Box 6756, Albany, CA 94706.

Lodging: Accommodations will be somewhat "rustic," with most participants sleeping in shared rooms in two large "yurts." Ample space for setting up a tent is also available. Registration rate includes either option. Some participants may prefer to stay in a hotel at additional cost; we can provide a few recommendations. Participants will be asked to help clean the facilities on Sunday afternoon.

Meals: Nine meals, from Thursday dinner through Sunday lunch are included in the registration fee! We will gladly meet carnivore or herbivore preferences; the more advance notice we have of more restrictive diets -- we'll see what we can do (no promises). Indicate dietary preferences and requirements on your registration form AND send an e-mail to the coordinator listed on page 1. We will expect each workshop participant to help either prepare or clean-up for one group meal.

Cancellation and Refund Policy: To receive a refund of conference and workshop registration fees, we must receive your cancellation no later than 14 days before the first day of the conference. All refunds are subject to a \$50 processing fee. Requests for refunds must be submitted in writing, either by mail or e-mail. Refund requests received within 14 days of the start of the conference will not be processed regardless of personal or professional emergency, and no refund after that date is available. However, registration may be transferred to another individual in the same organization as original registrant.