Works Cited


Northeast Region.

Quick Reference for White?Nose Syndrome (WNS):

Devil’s Den EAST Project
Beckie Moore, Mike Kaminski , Ashton Lamb
Fall Semester 2009

Bat White Nose Syndrome
Northwest Arkansas Community College
http://faculty.nwacc.edu/EAST_original/Fall%202009/

Devils Den Cave, Devils Den State Park, West Fork Arkansas
What is Bat White Nose Syndrome (WNS)?

- Bat White Nose Syndrome is a fungus that grows on the muzzle, wing membrane, or exposed skin of the bat.
- Effecting six different species: little brown, big brown, suiall-iooted niyotis, northern long-eared, eastern pipistrelle, and Indiana bat.
- What WNS does is it awakens bats in the middle of their hibernation, causing the bats to look for food and water sources, only to find that there are none available to them because of the winter months.
- Areas now being affected are New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, West Virginia, and Virginia.

WNS Contaminate and Decontaminate procedures

A cave should only be entered with clothing, boots, and equipment that have been fully cleaned using the protocol below.

- For clothing – Wash all clothing and any appropriate equipment in washing machine using the hottest cycle possible for material and conventional detergents. Rinse thoroughly, and then follow by soaking with sodium hypochlorite bleach solution diluted to 1 part bleach to 9 parts water in a tub or plastic container. Soak for 10 minutes, then rinse and air dry.
- For submersible gear disinfect any equipment that can be submerged in a solution with an appropriate and compatible disinfectant such as sodium hypochlorite bleach solution diluted to 1 part bleach to 9 parts water in a tub or plastic container. Keep submerged for 10 minutes, then rinse and air dry.
- For non-submersible gear disinfect any equipment that cannot be submerged by applying an appropriate and compatible disinfectant to the outside surface. Use compounds such as Lysol® All-purpose Professional Cleaner, Lysol® disinfecting wipes or the antibacterial form of Formula409®; Keep on surface for 10 minutes, then rinse and air dry.
- For boots – Boots need to be fully scrubbed and rinsed so that all soil and organic material is removed. The entire rubber and leather boots, including soles and leather uppers, can then be disinfected with an appropriate disinfectant KEEP on surface for 10 minutes, then rinse and air dry.

White nose syndrome was first discovered at a cave in Schoharie County, New York in February 2006. The disease started getting media publicity in 2007, and by 2008 it had spread to other New York caves, as well as Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. In early 2009, it had been confirmed in New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. The condition has been found in over 30 caves and mines in the northeast United States.

Bat Migration and Spread of Bat White Nose Syndrome

- Some bats migrate to caves a short distance away, while others, like the Big Brown Bat, travel miles to a new hibernating spot.
- Most bats, if they do migrate, travel from North to South like birds to find warmer weather and larger food sources.
- Dangerous, because this can give other bats of none migrating decent WNS and can cause a possible larger outbreak. Influencing bat populations in the west.