



**Spotted Bat**  
*Euderma maculatum*

Spotted bats are rare in North America. They are white underneath with dark fur on their back and with large white spots. They live in dry climates and often roost on high cliffs.

**Lives:** Eastern Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Bats hang upside down because it gives them an ideal position for take-off.



**Townsend's Big-eared Bat**  
*Corynorhinus townsendii*

This is a medium-sized bat with large, long ears. It is gray, brown, or black. It is generally active only after full darkness.

This species is very

vulnerable to human disturbance and its numbers are declining. In Oregon, it is classified as a State Sensitive Species. Never disturb this bat if you are in a cave.

**Lives:** Throughout much of Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** In spring, mother bats look for warm, dark places to have their pups. A bat house at your place would be perfect!



**Pallid Bat**  
*Antrozous pallidus*

This is a large, pale bat with huge ears, large eyes and a dog-like face. Its wing beat is slower than most bats. It emerges late at night to feed primarily on the ground, eating large beetles, crickets, and even scorpions. The pallid bat is uncommon and is found mostly in arid regions in canyons.

**Lives:** Southwestern and Eastern Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Pallid bats can walk on the ground and are immune to a scorpion's sting.



**Brazilian Free-tailed Bat**  
*Tadarida brasiliensis*

This is a fast-flying, medium-small bat with long narrow wings and a tail.

It survives the cold winters in Oregon by staying in heated buildings instead of hibernating or migrating, often sharing these quarters with other bat species.

**Lives:** Roseburg, Oregon may be the most northern part of this bat's range.

**Fun Fact:** Myths: bats don't get tangled in your hair and they are not blind—they can see quite well.

## What kids can do to help

1. Learn about bats.
2. Never disturb a bat colony.
3. Do not touch bats, alive or dead. They can have rabies, but very few do.
4. Put up a bat house on your property. Find building plans on ODFW's website.
5. Look for bats at dawn and dusk. Watch street lights that attract insects, bats may show up.
6. If you see a bat, stay calm.
7. Have bats in your house? Read the Living with Bats fact sheet in the Living with Wildlife section of ODFW's website.

**Photo credits:** Michael Durham Photography, [www.durmphoto.com](http://www.durmphoto.com).



**Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
3406 Cherry Ave N.E.  
Salem, OR 97303  
(503) 947-6000  
[www.dfw.state.or.us](http://www.dfw.state.or.us)



## Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Facts for Kids

**T**here are 15 species of bats in Oregon. Many of them are identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy as species in need of help. Bats are the only flying mammal. A nocturnal species, they have a nifty ability called echolocation that allows

them to make high-pitched sounds and then listen to the echo of those sounds to locate where objects are. Using echolocation or sound waves, they can find even the tiniest insect! Some of Oregon's bats migrate south in winter; some stay here and hibernate.

*the* OREGON  
CONSERVATION  
STRATEGY

# Oregon's Fantastic Bats



**California Myotis**  
*Myotis californicus*

California myotis is an acrobatic flyer. It is dark brown to blond with dark ears. It eats moths and flies. Early in the summer, a female joins a maternity or nursery colony where she gives birth to one offspring. In winter, these bats roost in mines, caves and buildings.

**Lives:** Throughout Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Bats use echolocation to hunt, navigate and communicate.



**Western Small-footed Myotis**  
*Myotis ciliolabrum*

This bat is brown to pale yellow with black ears and a black mask across its eyes and nose. It lives in dry climates, especially cliffs and rocks. It hibernates in caves and mines.

**Lives:** Eastern Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Active at night, Oregon's bats rest during the day. They roost, that is, they hang upside down in out-of-the-way spots—caves, bridges, cliffs and trees.



**Long-eared Myotis**  
*Myotis evotis*

The long-eared myotis is pale brown to strawberry. It is a slow flier and hovers around trees and rocks to catch flies, moths and wasps. It is usually found in forests and hibernates in winter.

**Lives:** Throughout Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Oregon's bats eat only insects. An adult bat eats about 1,000 insects every hour!



**Little Brown Myotis**  
*Myotis lucifugus*

This bat is commonly found in attics and buildings during summer months in

maternity colonies. It weighs about half an ounce and has a wingspan of 9 to 11 inches. It prefers to live in forests near water. One baby is born in spring or summer. In winter, this bat hibernates in caves.

**Lives:** Throughout Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Bats can live for 20 years, a long time for a small mammal.



**Fringed Myotis**  
*Myotis thysanodes*

This bat is brown to reddish brown and has relatively long forearms. It gets its name from the fringe

of hairs along the bottom of its tail. It roosts in trees, snags, buildings, caves, rocks, cliffs and bridges. It likes beetles and moths but will eat spiders and crickets.

**Lives:** Throughout Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Bats lower their body temperature to near freezing when they hibernate. They don't eat all winter but live off stored fat.



**Long-legged Myotis**  
*Myotis volans*

The long-legged bat lives in forests and comes out early in the evening to hunt. It is a fast flier and will chase insects for a long

distance. One baby is born in the summer, and the species hibernates in winter.

**Lives:** Throughout Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Bats can fly 20 to 30 miles an hour and travel more than 100 miles a night.



**Yuma Myotis**  
*Myotis yumanensis*

Yuma myotis emerges when it is almost dark and forages for insects over streams and ponds. This bat is gray, tan or brown; it lives in a variety of habitats. Large numbers of

female bats gather together in May or June to have their young. In autumn, they migrate.

**Lives:** Throughout Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** A baby bat is called a pup. Young bats can fly between two and five weeks of age.



**Hoary Bat**  
*Lasiurus cinereus*

The hoary bat has a wingspan of nearly 16 inches. It has dark fur tipped with white, a dark mask on its face, a yellow-orange throat and round ears edged

in black. This bat roosts in branches of trees and likes to feed around outdoor lights. Hoary bats migrate south in winter, returning to Oregon in the spring.

**Lives:** Throughout Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** The hoary bat and the silver-haired bat usually bear twins.



**Canyon Bat**  
*Parastrellus hesperus*

This species weighs less than one quarter of an ounce! Its fur is pale yellow to brownish gray with a dark face mask. It likes rocky canyons and outcrops and flies early in the evening when it feeds on swarms of flying insects.

**Lives:** Eastern Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Bats are mammals: they have hair, are warm blooded and feed their babies milk.



**Silver-haired Bat**  
*Lasionycter noctivagans*

This bat, found in older forests, has a wingspan of about 10 inches. Its fur is glossy black, tipped with white. It forages over ponds, streams, meadows and roads, often flying very low and roosting behind loose tree bark.

**Lives:** Throughout Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Maternity roosts of the silver-haired bat are found in trees.



**Big Brown Bat**  
*Eptesicus fuscus*

This is a relatively large bat, with a wingspan of 13 to 14 inches. Its dark color and slow flight help with identification. It is more likely to be active in cold weather than other bats, and prefers human structures for roosting.

**Lives:** Throughout Oregon.

**Fun Fact:** Insects are hard to find during the cold winter months, so bats hibernate in Oregon or migrate to warmer climates. They return in spring when insects are plentiful.