

## VOLUME 5, NO. 2 Summer 1987

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### Indiana Bats Gain Sanctuary in Missouri

Pilot Knob Mine is about to be turned over to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for management. It has a winter population of over 100,000 Indiana Bats, the mine is the largest known Indiana Bat hibernating site in the world.

In the fall of last year, two teenagers went exploring in the abandoned mine and one became trapped and nearly died. During a difficult rescue attempt, the rescue workers also came close to losing their lives. Since Pilot Knob had not been actively mined since 1912, the owners decided to turn the parcel over to the USFWS, including the mine entrances. It now will be protected as an Indiana Bat sanctuary as part of the National Wildlife Refuge system.

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