

# What We Do

## Research

BCI's Bats and Wind Energy Program conducts research with regional, continent-wide, and international implications. The program is designed to address issues and develop solutions involving wind energy and bat-fatalities.

BCI's research focuses on priorities established by the [BWEC](#), including:

1. Pre-construction monitoring to assess bat activity and use at proposed wind-turbine sites;
2. Post-construction fatality surveys to estimate of fatality rates, compare fatality estimates among facilities and determine patterns of fatality in relation to weather and habitat variables;
3. Operational mitigation and deterrents that test the potential of seasonal low-wind shutdowns and deterring devices for reducing fatalities.

These research efforts have become the standard by which other studies are measured. Federal and state agencies, as well as private companies, seek BCI's guidance on wind-energy issues.



Jeremy Bowman of Iberdrola Renewables adjusts an experimental acoustic deterrent device on a turbine at the Locust Ridge wind farm in Pennsylvania.



BCI Conservation Biologist Michael Schirmacher installs bat acoustic detectors on top of a wind turbine.

## **Training**

BCI engages in specialized training sessions on studying wind energy impacts on bats. Staff serve as expert in workshops to demonstrate field techniques and data collection and analysis procedures. Our Bat Conservation Management and Acoustic [workshops](#) also highlight wind energy issues and study techniques.

## **Outreach**

We have published articles on bats and wind energy in our *BATS* magazine to highlight the issues to our members and keep them informed on our research progress.

- 2004 - [Wind Energy & the Threat to Bats](#)
- 2005 - [Battered by Harsh Winds](#)
- 2006 - [Seeking Solutions for Wind Energy](#)
- 2007 - [Prairie Winds](#)
- 2009 - [Softening the Blow](#)

BCI staff deliver frequent presentations at professional conferences, BCI workshops, special symposiums and meetings.

## **Professional Expertise**

BCI staff have provided professional testimony, helped develop guidelines for wind energy and wildlife, served on professional committees and participated as instructors at workshops on wind energy and wildlife.



Former BCI Director of Programs, Ed Arnett [second from left] delivers testimony on wind energy and bats to

Former BCI Director of Programs Ed Arnett chaired The Wildlife Society's technical review committee on wind energy impacts on wildlife, and helped prepare position statements for TWS, the American Society of Mammalogists, and the North American Society for Bat Research.

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