

White-nose Syndrome

WNS Latest

BCI partnered with ESRI and the Pennsylvania Game Commission to create a story map about WNS. Follow this [link](#) to see the project.

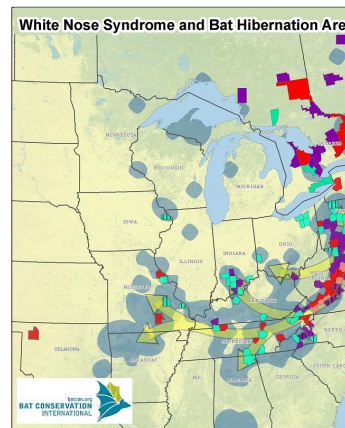
New hypothesis proposes that WNS infected bats may suffer from Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome – a response previously documented only in HIV-positive individuals. Read the full article [here](#).

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Handy Docs:  [FAQ's](#)

White-nose Syndrome has devastated bat populations across the eastern United States during the past five years, causing “the most precipitous wildlife decline in the past century in North America,” according to biologists. And this relentless disease keeps spreading into new areas. BCI is working with agencies, organizations and individuals to understand and stop WNS and begin restoring these decimated bat populations.

White-nose Syndrome has killed more than 5.7 million bats since it was discovered in a single New York cave in February 2006. Nine bat species in 21 U.S. states and 4 Canadian provinces have now been documented with either WNS or the fungus, *Geomyces destructans*, that is the demonstrated cause of this devastating disease.



[Larger Image](#)



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Named for a cold-loving white fungus typically found on the faces and wings of infected bats. White-nose Syndrome

bats to awaken more often during hibernation and use up the stored fat reserves that are needed to get them through the winter. Infected bats often emerge too soon from hibernation and are often seen flying around in midwinter. These bats often die or starve to death.

Mortality rates approaching 100 percent are reported at some sites. White-nose Syndrome threatens some of the hibernation caves for endangered Indiana myotis, gray myotis, and Virginia big-eared bats. Ultimately, bats across America are at imminent risk.

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