

Hello everyone,

It is once again time for the Western Bat Working Group fall newsletter. This is a great opportunity for networking, and finding out what other bat work is going on in Western North America. Please provide a brief update of the bat-related work that you have done this past season so that I can include it in an update for our state/province/territory. Announcements or upcoming events are also welcome; I will forward these on to the editors for posting in the Bulletin Board/Upcoming Events sections. The newsletter is expected to be released mid-November.

This issue will feature a *special section* on Bats and Mines. If you have information to share on this topic, please be sure to submit this to me along with your other updates.

To make the compilation as painless as possible, please send me your submissions as .doc file attachments, and try to keep each project update to <500 words. Please put a title on your submission followed by your name (and names of others involved in the work if applicable). If you have a digital photo that illustrates your submission, please send that along as a separate attachment (*not embedded*), with instructions as to where in the text the photo belongs.

Please have all submissions to me by **18 Oct. 2007**. Thanks!

Sample submission:

Ongoing Nectar Bat Studies in Southwestern New Mexico

Paul Cryan, United States Geological Survey (paul_cryan@usgs.gov)

Mike Bogan, Paul Cryan, Christa Weise, and Angela England from the USGS and UNM recently completed a 4-year study into the roosts and nocturnal movements of endangered long-nosed bats (*Leptonycteris curasoae* and *L. nivalis*) in southwestern New Mexico for the Bureau of Land Management. With the completion of the tracking project, Mike took a turn on to the golden road of retirement. Congratulations Mike! Many of us would not be where we are without your wisdom and kindness. This summer Christa and Paul continued to monitor the occupancy of roosts of *Leptonycteris* in southwestern New Mexico for the BLM, with a focus on a newly discovered day roost (the largest in New Mexico). Angela began new work on the biology of the food plants (i.e., *Agave spp.*) of *Leptonycteris* in the region and is focusing her dissertation work on the relationships between bats and *Agave*.