

Overview of Bats and Industrial Wind Turbines

Some interesting facts about bats:

- a) bats are prodigious insect eaters as each bat can consume its **entire body weight** of insects *every day*,
- b) bats are not only critical to agriculture due to their powerful insect control, but also as pollinators and seed distributors,
- c) bats make up about one fifth of the world's mammal population,
- d) there are 1200± species of bats worldwide, and 45± species in North America,
- e) the [White Nose Syndrome](#) (WNS) only affects about three (3) species of bats,
- f) WNS originated in upstate New York, so its worst effects are in the Northeast,
- g) the fact that WNS has killed high numbers of certain bats, makes the remaining bats *much* more valuable – not only to agriculture, but to the entire ecosystem,
- h) the wind industry has not been able to come up with any meaningful way to prevent high quantities of bats deaths (other than shutting down the turbines).
- i) Some sample additional sources of bat info: [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

There are numerous studies and reports that have verified: **a)** the importance of bats, and **b)** their wholesale killing by wind turbines. These are some examples, recently published in the monthly *Energy & Environmental Newsletter*:

[The Economic Importance of Bats](#) and the US agricultural loss [calculations](#)

[Bats are farmers' new best friends](#)

[Wind Turbines vs Bats – and the Human Health Consequences](#)

[Wind farms killing more bats than expected](#)

[Turbine Bat Killings Continue](#)

[Wind Turbines Kill 600,000-900,000 Bats a Year in US \(3-5 million a year worldwide\)](#)

[Birds, bats, and wind turbines often compete for airspace](#)

[Wind Developers Want Permission To Kill More Bats – A Lot More](#)

[Can Wind Energy be Bird & Bat Safe?](#)

[Bats Massacred by Wind Turbines May Get Reprieve in Sweden](#)

Report: [Turbines Could Decimate North America's Most Widespread Bat Species](#)

Report: [Wind Turbine Ontario Bat Mortality Reports \(85 bats killed/turbine/year\)](#)

Report: [France: 1.2 to 3.3 million bats destroyed by wind turbines](#)

Report: [Critique of Maple Ridge \(NY\) Wind Project Bird & Bat Study](#)

Study: [Turbine Effects on Bats Likely Worse Than Thought](#)

Study: [Wind turbines impact bat activity, leading to high losses of habitat use in a biodiversity hotspot](#)

Study: [Factors associated with bat mortality at US wind facilities](#)

Study: [Bird and bat species' vulnerability to collision mortality from wind turbines](#)

Study: [Strong geographic and temporal patterns in conservation status of N.A. bats](#)

Study: [Wind turbines along mountain ridges might lead to bat conflicts](#)

Study: [Increasing Evidence that Bats Forage near Wind Turbine](#)