





Subject: Fwd: Fern Cave gray bat estimate 2019
From: "Tom Whitehurst" <tom.whitehurst@scci.org>
Sent: 2/13/2019 7:37:42 PM
To: "Matthew L. Niemiller" <matthew.niemiller@scci.org>;
CC: "Robert Handford" <robert.handford@scci.org>;
Attachments: Little Morgue Pit Team.JPG

Matt,

FYI.

Tom

--

Tom Whitehurst
Southeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc.
Vice-chair, Conservation
Stephens Gap Preserve Manager
256-845-5335   (home)
713-582-9450   (cell/text)
Cellular voice calls marginal at home; text okay

tom.whitehurst@scci.org

www.saveyourcaves.org

At SCCi, we protect and preserve caves through conservation, education, and recreation. When caves are safeguarded, fragile ecosystems are protected, historic artifacts are preserved, and endangered species thrive.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mark Jones** <mark.jones@scci.org>
Date: Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 5:51 PM
Subject: Fwd: Fern Cave gray bat estimate 2019
To: Ray Knott <ray.knott@scci.org>, Tom Whitehurst <tom.whitehurst@scci.org>, Robert Handford <robert.handford@scci.org>
Cc: Steve Pitts <steve.pitts@scci.org>

Gentlemen,

Here is the preliminary report on the gray bat count from a couple of weeks ago. This sounds like a very similar number to the count they got in 2017.

Mark Jones
SCCi Assistant Property Manager
Fern Cave Preserve
mobile: [913-484-6525](tel:913-484-6525)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Inebnit, Thomas** <thomas_inebnit@fws.gov>

Date: Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 5:26 PM

Subject: Fern Cave gray bat estimate 2019

To: Ricky Ingram <ricky_ingram@fws.gov>, Emery Hoyle <emery_hoyle@fws.gov>, Rob Hurt <rob_hurt@fws.gov>, Pattavina, Pete <pete_pattavina@fws.gov>, Stephen Pitts <stepiepitts597@gmail.com>, Benjamin Miller <bvmiller@usgs.gov>, Mark Jones <mark.jones@scci.org>, Dustin Thames <Dustin.Thames@tn.gov>, Daniel Ryan Istvanko <danrivst@gmail.com>, Sharp, Nicholas <nicholas.sharp@dcnr.alabama.gov>, Eric Spadgenske <eric_spadgenske@fws.gov>, Holbrook, Shannon <shannon_holbrook@fws.gov>, Richardson, David <david_richardson@fws.gov>, Chris Davidson <chris_davidson@fws.gov>, Pedro Ardapple-Kindberg <pedro_ardapple-kindberg@fws.gov>, Armstrong, Mike <mike_armstrong@fws.gov>, Marquardt, Shauna <shauna_marquardt@fws.gov>

All,

Sorry it's taken me so long to get this information out. I just finished the math for the Fern Cave hibernacula survey. According to our data sheets, we counted an estimated 1,349,976 gray bats in Morgue and Little Morgue pits. Further breakdown of the numbers are provided below. Keep in mind that the Morgue Pit team did not complete the count in the typical survey areas due to higher than normal levels of activity. I will be preparing a final report of this trip with more details soon. Further discussion regarding the accuracy of the Morgue Pit count will be addressed. Also, I'd like to thank the cavers and biologists who participated in this effort. It's likely one of, if not the most difficult, gray bat surveys to conduct due to the large number of bats and logistical difficulties to access them, but I thought everyone did an excellent job and was up to the challenge. Stay tuned for the final report.

Thanks

Morgue Pit:

Dustin Thames - 861,147.5

Daniel Istvanko - 888,642.5

Average of 874,895

Little Morgue Pit:
Tommy Inebnit - 443,711
Ben Miller - 506,452
Average of 475,081

Tommy Inebnit
Fish and Wildlife Biologist

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Arkansas Field Office
110 South Amity Road, Suite 300
Conway, Arkansas 72032

(501) 513-4483 - work
(501) 513-4480 - fax

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Subject: Re: Fern Cave gray bat estimate 2019
From: "Matthew Niemiller" <matthew.niemiller@scci.org>
Sent: 2/13/2019 9:35:45 PM
To: "Tom Whitehurst" <tom.whitehurst@scci.org>;

Thanks. I was looped in earlier. I'm glad they decided to stop the survey when they did given the bat activity.

On Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 6:38 PM Tom Whitehurst <tom.whitehurst@scci.org> wrote:

Subject: Re: Fern Cave gray bat estimate 2019
From: "Tom Whitehurst" <tom.whitehurst@scci.org>
Sent: 2/13/2019 10:39:49 PM
To: "Matthew Niemiller" <matthew.niemiller@scci.org>;

Yeah. I don't know if details of the upset will make it into the official report, but I hope they incorporate that into planning for the next event.

Regards,

Tom

Tom Whitehurst
Stephens Gap Preserve Manager
256-845-5335 (home)
713-582-9450 (mobile/text)

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 13, 2019, at 8:35 PM, Matthew Niemiller <matthew.niemiller@scci.org> wrote:

Subject: RE: Fern Cave gray bat estimate 2019
From: "Ray Knott" <ray.knott@scci.org>
Sent: 2/14/2019 9:34:20 AM
To: "Mark Jones" <mark.jones@scci.org>; "Tom Whitehurst" <tom.whitehurst@scci.org>;
"Robert Handford" <robert.handford@scci.org>;
CC: "Steve Pitts" <steve.pitts@scci.org>; "Matthew Niemiller"
<matthew.niemiller@scci.org>;

Thank you for sending this out.

Ray Knott
Executive Director
Southeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc.
423-771-9671 Office

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Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 6:51 PM
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