

Adaptive Reuse of a Historic Farmhouse into a Bat Maternity Colony

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Objective

Working with a **small*** budget, the Forest Service repaired a farmhouse to provide a safe, dependable maternity roost for a colony of 100+ Townsend's big-eared bats (*Corynorhinus townsendii*) from May through September each year.

** In-house gov't technical expertise and labor kept the project costs within budget*

Before

Leaky Roof – Graffiti – Break & Entry – Vandalism – Bats Disturbed



After

Add Roof Layer – Paint Graffiti – Seal Entries – Add Educational Signs
(Visit Site Regularly & Repair Vandalism Immediately)



Coordination

- Discover bats living in a gov't structure ~2010.
- ID bat species & estimate # bats residing within using the "Falxa Survey Method" in Aug 2012.
- Nat'l Scenic Area project application & review.
 - Interdisciplinary NEPA review.
 - Biological Evaluation.
- Archaeologist approves bat "adaptive reuse" of a "moth-balled," historic farmhouse.
- Engineer inspects to determine safety of roof beams & provide a materials list in Jan 2014 (no bats present within farmhouse in Jan).
- Landscape Architect selects roof material & color.
 - Experienced US Forest Service Technicians complete the project (April-early May 2014).
 - Bats arrive at maternity roost mid-May 2014.



Falxa Survey Method Reduces Bat Disturbance

Use a point-and-shoot camera. Set in auto mode & with flash on. **Quickly** snap a photo per room. Get in-&-out **fast**.

There will be at least one photo to clearly ID bat species & estimate number.

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Contributors: Teunis Wyers, Sr. & Susan VanLeuven (Corrugated Metal Roofing)