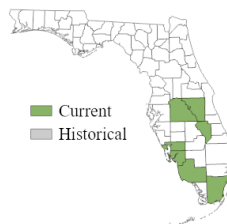


FLORIDA BONNETED BAT

Eumops floridanus



Order: Chiroptera

Family: Molossidae

FNAI Ranks: G1/S1

U.S. Status: Endangered

FL Status: Endangered

Description: A large bat (adults measure 4.9 - 6.5 in. = 125 - 165 mm) with a black, grey-brown, or cinnamon-brown upper side and greyish underside. Hair is short and glossy with light-colored bases. The tail extends beyond the membrane for half of its length.

Similar Species: Mexican free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) is similar in appearance but much smaller. Large size distinguishes the Florida mastiff bat from all other Florida bats.

Habitat: Roosts in palms and hollow trees and in buildings. Forages high in air over natural as well as human-altered landscapes.

Seasonal Occurrence: Year-round resident.

Florida Distribution: This species is known from coastal portions of Broward and Miami-Dade counties; also Charlotte, Collier, and Monroe counties. May be more abundant in urban areas because of availability of roosts.

Range-wide Distribution: Same as Florida distribution. Other subspecies are found in Cuba, Jamaica, Central America, and northern South America.

Conservation Status: Known from only a few locations, including Fakahatchee Strand State Park and the vicinity of Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area. May occur within Everglades National Park.

Protection and Management: Maintain forested communities, including snags, in the vicinity of known occurrences. Discourage pesticide use in foraging areas.

References: Brown 1997, Harvey 1992, Humphrey (ed.) 1992.



photo by R. Barbour courtesy of Arkansas Game and Fish Commission



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