



SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
**CREATION OF SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIP FOR
CONSERVATION OF BATS IN WESTERN RUSSIA,
APRIL, 2013**

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to say thank you very much for all people, who participate in this project. In particular acknowledgements are due to the following:

Dr. Kate Jones, International coordinator of the International Indicator Bats Program, The Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London, UK

Dr. Jon Russ, iBats Program Manager, the Bat Conservation Trust, UK

Aleksandr Gorbachev, Data Analyst in Project

Dr. Natalia Vyshegorodskih, the Orel University

Oleg Zavarzin, Natalia Koryagina, Tatiana Prokofyeva, Viktoria Grib, Evgenia Isaeva, Rizvan Efendiev, Zarema Efendieva, volunteers

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1. Summary of project

Our project will eliminate lack of knowledge of distribution, habitat preferences, and population trends of bats and strengthen conservation activity in Western Russia. We will achieve it through creation of partnership between local communities and stakeholders. Main participants of project are volunteers. We involve them in the monitoring and raise the profile of bat conservation and changing conservation attitudes towards bats through training, publicity and public events to ensure the long term conservation of bat populations. Through knowledge of species distributions, we are going to create distribution maps for assessing a species' status and determinate bats key areas.

2. Goals and Objectives of the project

2.1. Goal

Cutting down main threats for bats in Western Russia and stimulating bat conservation through attraction and partnership with local communities.

2.2. Specific Objectives

Project objectives address three highest-priority needs for bats:

Objective 1 – *Attraction local communities and other stakeholders in bat conservation activity and monitoring*

Objective 2 – *To eliminate a lack of knowledge of the distribution, habitat preferences and population trends of bats in Western Russia*

Objective 3 – *To increase awareness among the general public on the ecological importance of bats and the need to protect them*

3. Summary of progress

Objective 1 – Our main participants of the project are representatives of local communities. We are creating a sustainable partnership with local communities. We attracted people in bat conservation activity through distribution knowledge about importance of bats, bat-friendly gardens, and others. As a part of this activity we worked out recommendations for local communities and municipality for bat conservation.

Objective 2 – During the winter season we organized hibernation roosts surveys. From November to March we attracted volunteers from local communities for searching potential places of bats winter roosts. This work supports the understanding of the current bat status in Western Russia.

Objective 3 – We raised the profile of bats by organizing separate events to raise awareness about bats. In addition, we developed and published education materials for use in schools. We organized a number of talks for schoolchildren, where we explained the importance of bats in nature and ways of bats conservation.

4. Conclusion

1. We worked out recommendations for local communities for bat conservation.
2. We organized hibernation roosts surveys.
3. We organized 3 events for volunteers to raise public awareness about bat. We also organized 5 talks for schools and developed education materials.
4. All expenses were made to according to the approved budget.































