

Table 1: Potentially occurring bat species in the Okanogan Highlands

This list was developed by Mike Sarell (bat biologist, Oliver, BC, Canada) and Pat Ormsbee (PNW Regional Bat Specialist – USFS/BLM, Willamette National Forest), voluntarily upon request by OHA as part of preparing for Roger Christophersen’s Highland Wonders presentation in March, 2012. This list is based on knowledge of bat species and the ecosystems present in the Okanogan Highlands; it is not based on physical inventories (which have not been conducted). Mike points out that it is difficult to create a list of potential species because bats are so elusive and we don’t know whether to draw broad conclusions from what we discover or whether we are observing something unusual. This should be used as a list of species to watch for, as opposed to a list of which species are present. Note: OH stands for Okanogan Highlands.

More info about the Highland Wonders event, including audio clips from the presentation, can be found at: www.okanoganhighlands.org/education/bats.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
California Myotis	<i>Myotis californicus</i>	Expected throughout OH; overwinters and is active (O’Farrell et al. 1967).
Dark-nosed Myotis ¹	<i>Myotis melanorhinus</i> per <u>Bats of the US and Canada</u> (Harvey, Altenback and Best, 2011)	Associated with xeric shrub-steppe and forest habitats; overwinters (Nagorsen et al. 1993). Considered residential -- some of these bats may move to lower or higher elevations in winter. Also, this species is genetically indistinguishable from MYCA, so distinguishing them is best done with subtle morphometrics <i>and</i> calls.
Little Brown Myotis	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	Expected throughout OH; may actually be two species in OH (3 subspecies of MYLU in the PNW); some are genetically indistinguishable from our long-eared bats, but morphometrically and acoustically they are distinguishable.
Yuma Myotis	<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>	Expected throughout the OH; considered residential. This species is distinguished from MYLU by a combination of forearm length and call, or genetically.
Long-legged Myotis	<i>Myotis volans</i>	Expected throughout OH, particularly in forested habitat; considered a resident
Western Long-eared Myotis	<i>Myotis evotis</i>	Expected in rugged and forested habitats throughout OH; considered a resident. (Can use other types of habitat and elevations)
Fringed Myotis	<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	Uncommon, restricted to rugged dry habitats but often forages in riparian areas and wetlands within OH. Fringed in the OH on the Canadian side of the border are certainly using rock for roosting (except one instance of roosting in attic in the North Okanagan); also captured foraging in

		both shrub-steppe and riparian areas; considered a resident.
Silver-haired Bat	<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>	Common throughout OH. This is a migratory species; winter records in the PNW have been incidental. 2012 data from southern BC suggests that Silver-haired Bats are relatively common and active in the winter. It is not known whether these are the same bats that spent the summer here or migrants from up north and our summer bats migrated south (Lausen in prep).
Hoary Bat	<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>	Common, but difficult to detect, sporadic records for OH; migratory.
Eastern Red Bat (<i>Specimen from southern BC turned out not to be Western Red Bat but Eastern Red Bat [Nagorsen in prep.]</i> .)	<i>Lasiurus borealis</i>	Possible migratant through the OH in spring and fall, but not detected yet. Rarely encountered in BC (Skagit, Kamloops and Peace River).
Big-brown Bat	<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>	Common throughout OH; considered a resident
Townsend's Big-eared Bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Difficult to detect, reclusive, considered uncommon throughout its range – has been found in Tonasket area
Spotted Bat	<i>Euderma maculatum</i>	Rare and restricted to xeric forest and shrub-steppe with tall cliffs, where it roosts; known from Omak Lake and Mount Hull; considered a resident
Pallid Bat	<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	Rare and restricted to south OH; known from Omak Lake; considered a resident
Canyon Bat	<i>Parastrellus hesperus</i>	Suspected occurrence in OH but not documented yet; overwinters where present.

¹ Formerly Western Small-footed Myotis, *M. ciliolabrum*