

SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

MAMMALS

MAMMAL:

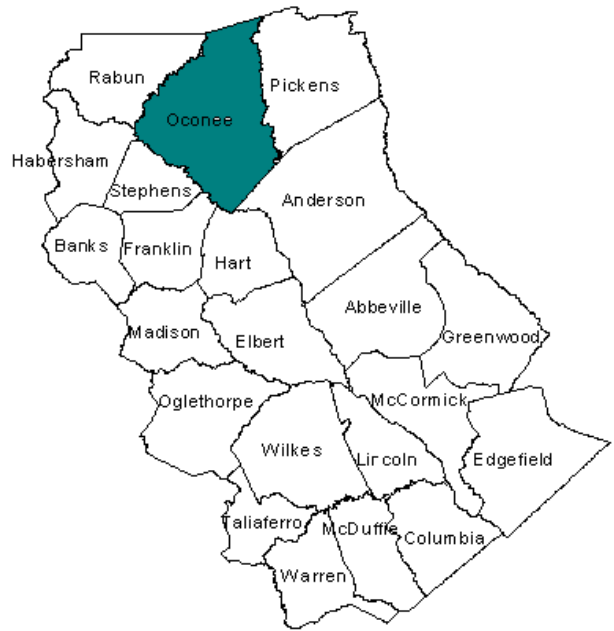
Indiana bat *Myotis sodalis*

FEDERAL LIST:

GEORGIA Endangered SOUTH CAROLINA Endangered

STATE LIST:

GEORGIA Endangered SOUTH CAROLINA Endangered



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The Indiana bat is 3-3.5in (7.6-9.0cm) long with a wingspan of 9.5-10.5in (24.0-26.7cm). Fur is dark gray to chestnut colored and fine textured with a pinkish gray undercover.

GENERAL HABITAT: A mid-western and eastern species, the Indiana bat can occur in the northwestern third of Georgia and possibly parts of South Carolina. There is a single record in Georgia, from a cave in Dade County. The species is listed as endangered for South Carolina, although there is no recorded citing for the state. The Indiana bat is a cave dweller and hibernates near the entrance of caves. Northern populations migrate to the limestone cave areas in Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Missouri and West Virginia. Two caves in Kentucky and a mine in Missouri house 90% of the known U.S. population.

During winter, Indiana bats hibernate in dense masses on cave ceilings where they may number up to 100/ft² (900/m²). Indiana bats mate in April before they disperse over a wide area that includes Georgia and possibly South Carolina. During summer, populations are less vulnerable because they do not use caves. Females roost with their young under the loose bark of trees. The major causes of decline seem to be disturbance of caves by people, including vandalism, commercialization and careless visitors. Pesticides are also implicated in their decline.

The Indiana bat forages along river and lake shorelines and above crowns of trees in flood plains. It feeds on moths, beetles, flies, caddis flies and other insects.

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MAMMAL:

Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat

Corynorhinus rafinesquii

FEDERAL LIST:

GEORGIA
Unlisted

SOUTH CAROLINA
Concern

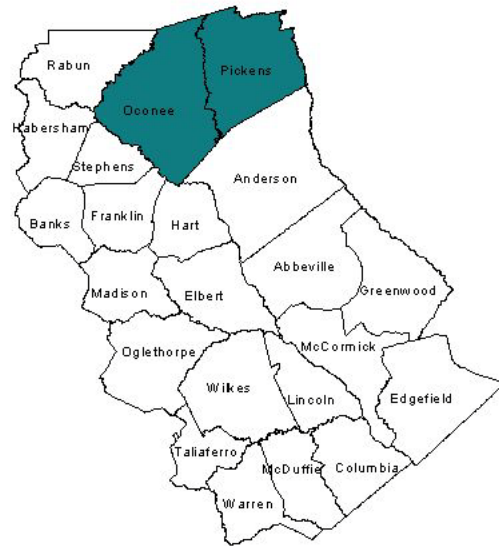
STATE LIST:

GEORGIA
Rare

SOUTH CAROLINA
Endangered



Photo courtesy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This medium-sized bat is 3.10 - 4.33 in (8.1 - 11.0 cm) in size with extremely long ears and small glandular growths on each side of the snout. The fur is gray to brown on back and sides. Fur on the underside is dark brown to black at the base, with sharply contrasting white tips. Long hairs on the foot extend noticeably beyond the toes. The wings and interfemoral membrane are dark brown.

GENERAL HABITAT: Rafinesque's big-eared bat ranges from Virginia to central Indiana, south to Oklahoma and Texas, and along the Gulf coast to the Atlantic coast. Rafinesque's big-eared bat inhabits forested regions of pine flatwoods and hardwood hammocks largely devoid of natural caves. Roosts include hollow trees, crevices behind bark, under dry leaves, bridges, and buildings. Although Rafinesque's big-eared bat tends to be a solitary bat, it has been encountered in colonies of 2-100 individuals. The species does not appear to hibernate in the lower part of its range, but tends to seek out underground retreats and hibernate in the northern part of the range. Like other bat species, Rafinesque's big-eared bat emerges after dark to forage on small, night-flying insects, particularly moths. Rafinesque's big-eared bats bear single young in late May to early July. The young shed their milk dentition by mid-July, and reach adult size and appearance in August or September.

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MAMMAL:

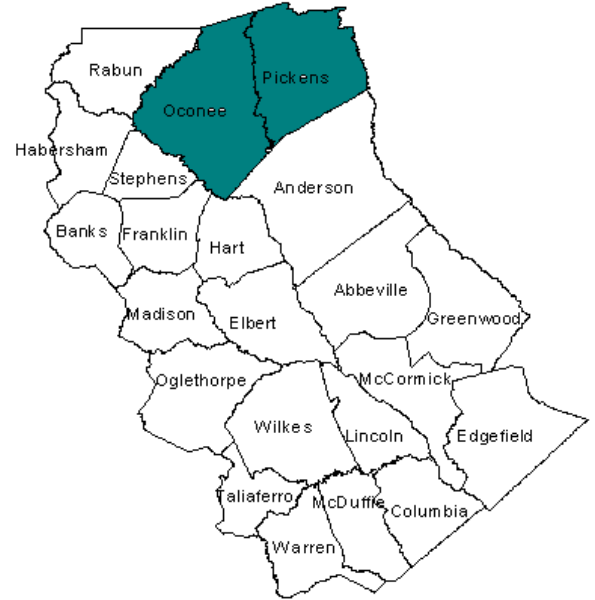
Small footed bat *Myotis leibii*

FEDERAL LIST:

GEORGIA Unlisted
SOUTH CAROLINA Unlisted

STATE LIST:

GEORGIA Unlisted
SOUTH CAROLINA Threatened



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This bat is 2.75-3.25in (7.0-8.25cm) in size with glossy fur, light tan to golden brown above, buff to nearly white below. The wings and interfemoral membrane are dark brown. These bats have black ears and a black mask and have a calcar keel. Its hind foot, for which it is named, is usually slightly smaller than that of other members of its genus.

GENERAL HABITAT: Little is known of the habitat but they have been found beneath rock slabs and crevices. Range is from New England southwest to northern Georgia, with scattered populations into the southern mid-west. This species is widespread in the western United States. Records are primarily of the hibernating Small-footed bat. Although the numbers found hibernating are not large, they have significantly decreased at nearly every known site. This species sometimes hibernates on cave floors or under rocks or in cracks. Caves where the greatest numbers of these bats were found are in heavy hemlock forests in the foothills of mountains that rise to 2,000 or more feet (600 or more meters). It has been noted that this species was most readily captured at cave entrances in South Dakota and Kentucky during late summer and early autumn. Information of this species during summer is virtually unknown; records of this species away from caves and during summer months are very rare, and are usually from accidental encounters. This bat forms small maternity colonies, and females bear a single young per year. Pregnant females have been caught in June and July, and nonvolant juveniles have been encountered in May and June. Nonvolant juveniles, a volant juvenile, and a postlactating female were all reported from the same area of South Dakota in late July.

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