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Brandt's Bat

Myotis brandtii

Quick facts

Order Chiroptera

Conservation status

GB *Data deficient*

RE CE E V NT LC DD

England *Data deficient*

Scotland *Data deficient*

Wales *Data deficient*

Global *Least concern*

GB trend *Unknown*

Size

Head & body 38 - 50 mm

Forearm 31 - 39 mm

Wingspan 210 - 240 mm

Weight 4.5 - 9.5 g

The Brandt's bat was recognised as a separate species from the whiskered bat in 1970 in the UK; however, it is still very easily confused with this species and with the Alcahoie bat in the absence of genotyping.

Habitat

Coniferous, mixes and broadleaved woodland, grassland, scrub. Frequently captured along linear features. Elsewhere in Europe, associated with damp woodland near water.

Behaviour

Swarms at underground sites in autumn. Hibernates in underground sites including tunnels, ice-houses, and caves; may hibernate for longer than the whiskered bat.

Diet & Feeding

Highly manoeuvrable flight, adapted to foraging in cluttered environments on a variety of prey including small flies, moths, and spiders. Maximum foraging distance from maternity roost reported as 3.2 km in single radio-tracking study.

Reproduction

Most known maternity roosts in buildings, sometimes in trees, bridges, bat boxes.

Conservation & Threats

Extremely difficult to estimate population size due to difficulty in identification.

The range below represents data from both whiskered and Brandt's bat. However, records for Brandt's are patchier, and the estimated range is therefore likely to be less reliable than for the whiskered bat.

Range

