

# Idaho Master Naturalist Volunteer Opportunity Description



**Name of Volunteer Opportunity:** Acoustic Bat Monitoring

**Agency:** IDFG and IMN

**Dates/seasons:** Gretchen Vanek will be doing acoustic bats surveys of the Henry's Lake Loop and Shotgun Valley on the **evenings of May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>**. She can use two volunteers for each of the 2 nights. The monitoring will be done every month through October so even if you can't make these dates, let her know if you are interested for later in the summer.

**Time Commitment:** 1 evening/month at either of the 2 transects. (About 2 hours each evening).

**Description:** The program for mobile acoustic bat monitoring in eastern Idaho involves vehicle-based deployment GPS units and bat detectors such as the AnaBat SD2, which use a broadband high-frequency microphone to detect echolocation calls of foraging and/or navigating bats in real time. Incoming echo-location calls are recorded to the bat detector by a roofmounted microphone, minimally processed by the detector, and saved to a high-capacity compact flash card for later computer analysis by specially trained staff. The sampling areas for the mobile transects in our area cover Henry's Lake and Shotgun Valley. Each is approximately 30 miles in length. The surveyors drive these pre-determined routes with a roof-mounted microphone attached to a bat detection system. The teams are composed of two volunteers.

**Additional training provided?** You will be trained by the person who is driving the transect

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