

Victorian Speleological Association Inc.

**CAVE BAT OBSERVATION CENSUS FORM**

Victorian cave dwelling bats, (Large-footed bat (*Myotis adversus*), Eastern bent-wing bat (*Miniopterus orianae oceanensis*), Southern bent-wing bat (*Miniopterus orianae bassanii*), Eastern horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus megaphyllus*) have been under various threats for many years. Cavers have a unique opportunity to assist in the gathering of data to assist in bat management, in a similar way to bird observers for bird-life. VSA records have a long but patchy data collection on bat use of Victorian caves and this form is an attempt to upgrade our records of bats use of caves, their numbers and when they use particular caves. Both the bent-wing bats species are listed as critically endangered in Victoria.

Please fill in this form and send it to VSA (see below). This also should include reports of the absence of bats in caves that they are known to use at various times of the year.

**OBSERVER NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTACT DETAILS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CAVE NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_ **CAVE NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIES OF BAT OR DESCRIPTION** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTIVITY LEVEL (circle)**            **INACTIVE**            **ACTIVE**            **FLYING**

**ARRANGEMENT (circle)**            **CLUSTERED**            **SINGLE**

**NUMBER PRESENT (approx)** \_\_\_\_\_

**AREA COVERED (approx square metres)** \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIPTION OF ROOST SITE** e.g. flat roof, bell hole, aven, cleft etc. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DESCRIPTION OF ROOST AREA** e.g. large, small cavern, mine etc. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DISTANCE OF BATS FROM ENTRANCE (approx metres)** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANY EVIDENCE OF BAT USE** e.g. guano, roof staining \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNS OF HUMAN VISITS AND DISTURBANCE** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**ANY OTHER COMMENTS** e.g. location if not a numbered cave; new GPS location of cave entrance; previous presence of bats or suggested management needs \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

This pdf can be typed into using the file and sign function in Tools.  
Please email this form to **both** VSA Records Keeper Glenn Baddeley [gbaddeley4@bigpond.com](mailto:gbaddeley4@bigpond.com) **and** the Conservation Officer Nicholas White [nicholaswhite@netspace.net.au](mailto:nicholaswhite@netspace.net.au) **OR** post it to Records Keeper, VSA, GPO Box 5425, Melbourne VIC 3001.