

Long-legged Myotis

Myotis volans

Description

Long-legged myotis weigh 5 to 10 grams, and have a wingspan of 242 to 286 mm. Like many bats, their fur is a medium brown colour. They may roost in mixed groups with Little Brown Myotis, and may be overlooked in many regions. Recent advances in DNA testing now make it possible to increase the number of reports for this species

Long-legged myotis inhabit coniferous forests primarily at elevations of 2000 to 3000m. They prefer to roost under the bark of trees, but will also use crevices in rocks, caves, or buildings.

These bats have been known to remain active in temperatures down to 15 °C. However, they do hibernate during the winter months.

Each female will bear only one pup per litter.

FUN FACTS

- They drink from pools to supplement calcium in their diet, preferring sites with higher water hardness.
- They fly rapidly near treetops at 15 to 17 kilometers per hour.
- Long-legged myotis can live up to 21 years. Although the average lifespan is only 2.1 years.
- They possess the ability to respond behaviourally to subtle changes in ultraviolet light.

If you find an injured or orphaned wild animal, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society hotline at 403-214-1312, for tips, instructions and advice.

