

TREE REMOVAL AND BATS

FEMA and USFWS Guidance

Indiana Bat

- Endangered Species
- Known Statewide
- 2015 BO Conservation Memorandum
- Indiana Bat Conservation Fund
- Summer Roosting typically March to November

Public Assistance Debris Removal

Per PAPPG, hazardous limbs, trees, and stumps that pose an immediate threat to health and safety may be eligible for FEMA funding. They must threaten improved property or public use areas. Trees can be removed if it has a split trunk, broken canopy, or leaning greater than 30 degrees. Only minimum cut necessary to remove the hazard is eligible.

Indiana Bat Summer Roosting

Q: What is the typical roosting tree?

A: Trees ≥ 5 " diameter breast height (DBH) that have exfoliating bark, crack, crevices, and/or hollows.

Q: What if I observe bats in a tree that needs removal?

A: Unless immediate safety concern, work should stop and contact the USFWS as soon as possible.

Tree Removal guidance

Trees that are not suitable habitat, leaning more than 30 degrees, fallen trees, and removal of trees for emergency clearing in winter are acceptable. Limbs that have broken off completely or partially broken off unsuitable trees are allowed any time.

Suitable habitat trees that must be removed during summer roosting will require additional coordination for possible mitigation measures such as surveys or providing to the Indiana Bat Conservation Funds. Photos of trees removed along with construction activity dates should be included in project submission.

Trees removed outside of emergency debris operations, but part of FEMA funded permanent repairs, will be subject to FEMA Policies on permanent repairs and Section 7 consultation

Example of suitable habitat trees

