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The Effects of Temperature and Elevation on the Activity of Utah's Bats

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Poster Presentation P27

**THE EFFECTS OF TEMPERATURE AND ELEVATION ON THE
ACTIVITY OF UTAH'S BATS**

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Knowledge about species composition and distribution of the bat populations in Utah are valuable data sets that can be used not only to benefit the bat species, but humans as well. Utah's bats are insectivores and therefore control many insect populations that are considered to be pests to humans. However a general lack of knowledge about these bat populations hinders creation of programs that protect bats while maintaining appropriate land use for humans. Using methods established by the Great Basin Bat Cooperative, two 30km² areas of Utah were studied in order to gather data on the bat populations within these areas. These data were then analyzed to determine if trends between bat activity and temperature and elevation were present. Knowledge about these trends, especially when applied to the entire state of Utah, will help to enhance the management techniques for these important species.