



Kentucky / Tennessee State Line Meeting *Southern Research Station Abstracts*

Contacts:

Kier Klepzig, Assistant Director
Greg Ruark, Assistant Director

kklepzig@fs.fed.us
gruark@fs.fed.us

828-257-4307
828-257-4303

May 9, 2013

Southern Research Station Bat Research Program

Roger W. Perry, Research Wildlife Biologist
Southern Pine Ecology and Management
Hot Springs, AR

E-mail: Rperry03@fs.fed.us
office: 501-623-1180, x108

Abstract: Federal law mandates the Forest Service maintain healthy wildlife populations. Bats are an integral part of forest ecosystems, but are undergoing significant declines due to white-nose syndrome. SRS researchers are conducting studies to ensure forest management provides optimal habitats to reduce additional stresses on bats during this unprecedented decline in populations. This presentation will cover the recent bat decline and provide a glimpse of the current research being conducted.



Cluster of Indiana bats hibernating in cave
Photo by Roger W. Perry



Hardwood forests are an important resource
in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Upland Hardwood Management & Regeneration

Tara Keyser, Research Forester
Upland Hardwood Ecology and Management
Bent Creek Experimental Forest, Asheville, NC

E-mail: tkeyser@fs.fed.us
office: 828-667-5261, x102

Abstract: Maintaining and restoring species composition on moderate to high quality hardwood stands is problematic. Regenerating desirable species, including the suite of oak species, is dependent on the presence of large advance reproduction prior to harvest. Lack of disturbance prevents the development of oaks into large advance reproduction and, over time, promotes the growth of shade-tolerant species while disturbances that reduce the forest canopy often convert stands of mixed-species composition to stands dominated by a single, shade-intolerant species. This talk will focus on the suite of disturbances that created the forests we see today along with research efforts focused on developing methods to restore and maintain species diversity.