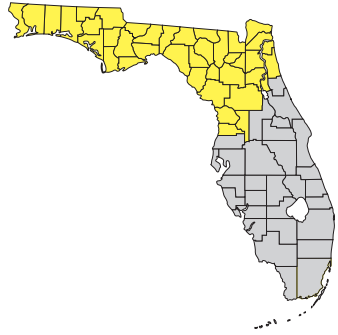


## SOUTHEASTERN BAT

*Myotis austroriparius*

**Order:** Chiroptera  
**Family:** Vespertilionidae  
**FNAI Ranks:** G4/S3  
**U.S. Status:** None  
**FL Status:** None



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**Description:** A small (3.2 - 3.8 in. = 84 - 99 mm) bat with short, thick, woolly, dull-brown fur. Individual hairs are lighter at the base. Forearm length is 1.4 - 1.6 in. (35 - 40 mm). Toes have hairs extending beyond the tips of the claws. Calcar (modified toe that supports the tail membrane) has no keel (ridge).

# SOUTHEASTERN BAT

# *Myotis austroriparius*

**Similar Species:** Mexican free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) has a tail that extends well beyond the tail membrane. Little brown myotis (*Myotis lucifugus*) has long, silky fur. Indiana bat (*M. sodalis*) has a keeled calcar. Gray bat (*M. grisescens*) has a forearm greater than 1.6 in. (41mm) and has unicolor fur. Evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*) has reddish-brown fur and a short, curved tragus (a lobe extending upward in the opening of the ear) versus a short, rounded tragus of southeastern bat.

**Habitat:** Roosts in caves, culverts, bridges, and hollow trees and occasionally in houses. Forages principally over creeks, rivers, and lakes. Will also forage in flatwoods and along the edges of hammocks.

**Seasonal Occurrence:** Emerges from winter roosts during warm periods.

**Florida Distribution:** The northern half of Florida south to Manatee County along the Gulf coast and to Volusia County on the Atlantic coast.

**Range-wide Distribution:** Mississippi Valley from southern Illinois and Indiana south to Louisiana, eastern Texas, and southeastern Oklahoma; eastward across northern Florida and the Coastal Plain of Georgia and South Carolina.

**Conservation Status:** Only a few protected occurrences on public conservation lands: Florida Caverns State Park, Suwannee River State Park, Judges Cave Wildlife and Environmental Area, and Withlacoochee State Forest. Several other caves need protection to maintain their bat populations.

**Protection and Management:** Gating and fencing have been used to prevent human disturbance in caves. Maintain forested communities along corridors to open-water foraging areas.

**Selected References:**  
Brown 1997, Humphrey 1992, Rice 1957, Whitaker 1996.



roost  
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