



Wildland Fires - Emergency Response

The threat to life and property from a wildland fire is one of the most serious hazards on the mountain. A “How to Report a Forest Fire” is posted in each building. Mountain Users shall read and be familiar with the Fire Plan posted in the buildings they occupy. After calling the Coronado National Fire Dispatch Number, please do the following:

Ridge Procedures: If you are on the Ridge, go to the MMT (provided the fire is not near the road between the Ridge and the Summit). The Forest Service will determine whether to evacuate observatory personnel by landing a helicopter on or near the Summit.

Summit Procedures: If you are on the Summit, go to the MMT (provided the fire is not near the road). The MMT is the best place on the Summit to wait out a fire and receive further direction from the Forest Service. MMT has more instructions posted inside the building. The Forest Service will determine whether to evacuate observatory personnel by landing a helicopter on or near the Summit. The two possible Helipad locations are on the Ridge by the Support Building and at the old IOTA site.

An annual Mt. Hopkins Fire Action Plan is posted in all buildings on the mountain. The lead agency for this annual fire action plan is the U.S. Forest Service.

Building Fire Alarms and Emergency Evacuation

Upon your arrival at telescope projects and dormitories, review procedures posted on the fire alarm panels in each building. If a fire alarm goes off and you cannot immediately identify the area, go to the fire alarm panel and determine the zone area displayed on the LCD. Proceed to the zone. If you have positively verified that there is no fire, you may then silence the alarm by following the reset directions.

As of January 2018, the 3 fire alarms panels at basecamp (administrative building, MMT warehouse, and VERITAS) are being monitored 24/7. The monitoring company will immediately contact authorities (e.g. Tupac Fire Department) for all fire alarms. The operator will then attempt to contact local personnel to confirm the fire. In case of a false alarm, you will need to provide the account number and passcode for the particular building with the alarm. The information is posted on the front cover of each fire panel. The monitoring company can be contacted at:

Firetrol Fire Monitoring: 9-1-602-244-1234

If there is a small fire, you may attempt to put it out with a fire extinguisher. Be sure to position yourself between the fire and an exit when you attempt to extinguish the fire. Also, notify someone else on the support staff or at the administrative complex first. If it is a large fire, evacuate the building and go to another building to call 9-911. Mention to the 911 coordinator that you are with the Whipple Observatory on Mt. Hopkins and NOT on the University of Arizona campus in Tucson. In the event of an evacuation ensure you know your escape routes and gathering points. Once all personnel from the building are accounted for, contact the FLWO Safety Coordinator to make a report.

Dormitory Alarms: The site director and FLWO Safety Coordinator have the capability of dialing into the dorm fire alarms to wake up sleepers when there is a reported forest fire. There are procedures posted in each dorm room and on the fire alarm panel in the utility rooms. You will want to be aware of these procedures, particularly, during high risk times of the year for forest fires (spring and summer prior to the monsoon rains).



Medical Emergencies

If a staff member is not immediately available to help you, call 9-911 (received at the University of Arizona Police Department). Your call will indicate an address of 933 N. Cherry Avenue on the dispatcher's monitor screen. Tell the University of Arizona Police responder that you are on Mt. Hopkins at the Whipple Observatory in the Santa Rita Mountains and then your call will be transferred to the 911 coordinator of Santa Cruz County. The Observatory is located within the Coronado National Forest managed by the U.S. Forest Service. For medical emergencies, the Santa Cruz County 911 coordinator will dispatch the Tubac Fire Department paramedics and determine whether an air ambulance should be dispatched to the Ridge heliport or the parking lot at the Administrative Complex. For non-life-threatening, medical emergencies requiring an ambulance, the Green Valley Hospital drives to and waits at the Administrative Complex for a staff member to transport an injured person from the mountain.

First Aid

Trauma Kits and AEDs are located in several places around the FLWO site. AEDs are located in the Administrative Complex Ready Room (with Trauma Kit), Ridge Dorm (with Trauma Kit), Bowl Common Building, and the MMT (with Trauma Kit). It is recommended that only trained personnel use the AEDs.

Reporting Accidents and Injuries

After any emergency response has been handled, report all accidents, injuries or illnesses to your supervisor. Also, any Smithsonian employee, fellowship student or volunteer should notify the FLWO Safety Coordinator. All Smithsonian employees and their supervisors are supposed to have access to AIRS (Automated Incident Reporting System) which is accessible on the PRISM Smithsonian Intranet. Go to the ERP HRMS link or access it from <http://ofeo.si.edu> You can initiate both a SI-2120 (SI Occupational Injury and Illness Report) and a CA-1 (Notice of Traumatic Injury) on AIRS.

When an accident/injury occurs during non-office hours and time is critical, please advise the medical provider that the occurrence is covered by the U.S. Department of Labor (applicable to Smithsonian Institution staff, stipend students and volunteers). Necessary paperwork will be completed subsequent to the accident/injury. Non-Smithsonian Observatory users should contact their respective supervisors for their institution's forms and also report the incident to the FLWO Safety Coordinator.

Stop Work Program

In the event of an unsafe condition, or perceived unsafe condition, any worker can bring the issue to the attention of the work supervisor and call for a stop to work. At this time the issue will be addressed and investigated by the Site Director, Supervisor and Safety Coordinator to determine the appropriate course of action. Once the condition has been eliminated an all clear will be issued and work may re-commence. The Safety Coordinator will follow-up with the Supervisor, and worker if appropriate, to ensure the issue has been fully abated within a week of the issue being corrected.

Vehicle Operator's Guide

SI/FLWO vehicles may be driven ONLY by staff, official volunteers and Observatory users who have read the Vehicle Operator's Guide, possess a valid driver's license and have signed an agreement form to abide by its policies.



Safety Contacts

Your supervisor, scientific sponsor, or telescope project director is your primary safety contact. The FLWO Safety Coordinator is Thomas Gerl, office 879-4411 or cell 665-8455. Also, every project or working unit has a representative on the FLWO Safety Committee.

Safe Work Procedures

Each worksite and telescope project will conduct a hazard analysis overview and develop safe work procedures to control significant risks. These will be reviewed with you when you start work.

Safety Gear / Personal Protective Equipment

Based on hazard analyses of your project or work task, safety gear may be required (e.g., safety goggles, chemical-resistant gloves, hard hat, fall protection harnesses, etc.). These items will be provided at the scientific project on-site. Your first-line supervisor (or advisor) will have more instructions and an issuance sheet to be signed by you.

Laser Safety Alert

All laser users must be currently trained in the potential hazards and safe use of the laser system that you will be employing at respective projects. Scientists planning to bring additional lasers to FLWO for project work must first contact the FLWO Laser Safety Officer, Marc Lacasse at 520-879-4552 or 520-879-4570 (rings all MMT phones) and submit necessary information for approval.

Restrictions on Use of Power Tools and Machine Shops

Use of any FLWO machine shop equipment (in the Administrative Complex, Ridge Support Building and Summit Shop) will be allowed ONLY after approval by a member of FLWO Staff (or authorized MMT staff for the Summit Shop) who is fully trained in their use.

Use of Chemicals or Other Hazardous Materials

No one is authorized to use chemicals until trained on the hazards and safe work practices, by their supervisor or scientific sponsor, per the FLWO Hazard Communication Program. OSHA requires that every employee receive "Right to Know" training before working in a lab or other area with chemicals.

All work sites containing hazardous materials must have Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for each hazardous chemical. These sheets contain information about the hazards known to be associated with chemicals, symptoms of exposure, methods of protection etc. Employees must read these sheets before they use a chemical for the first time, and are encouraged to review them periodically.

Chemical Spills – Emergency response

Consult the FLWO Hazardous Chemical Spill and Leak Control Procedures posted in each building or call 9-911. Do not attempt to clean up a chemical spill by yourself!

Sites with the highest risk for a chemical spill include the diesel and fuel stations on the mountain and the administrative complex.

Hazardous Waste Disposal Procedures

FLWO is not a significant generator of hazardous waste but be aware of proper disposal of many items. FLWO uses an outside contractor to dispose of fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, automotive parts solvent, and used oil. Check with the FLWO Safety Coordinator regarding these and other items for proper disposal.



Elevated Work and Fall Protection (particularly at VERITAS and MMT)

Working at heights on the motorized man-lifts at VERITAS reflectors and on the MMT/OSS requires the use of special fall protection gear (full-body harnesses, tie-offs). ONLY persons who have received fall protection training, Aerial Lift Operator Safety, and are supervised by trained staff are allowed to work on these structures.

Any visiting scientists assigned to working on VERITAS reflectors with the use of motorized man-lifts will be required to be trained on the equipment and safety gear upon arrival. Contact Pascal Fortin, 520-879-4419, to schedule training.

WEATHER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RELATED CONDITIONS

Monsoon Season (Summer Thunderstorm Season): This thunderstorm season begins in either June or July and continues into September. Heavy rain and thunderstorm occur during these months.

Lightning Storm Precautions

If you are outside:

- * Seek shelter; look for a large, enclosed building. If you are in a car and not near a building, stay inside it and keep the windows rolled up.
- * If you are unable to reach a safe building or car and your skin tingles or stands on end, crouch down on the balls of your feet with your feet close together. Keep your hands on your knees and lower your head. Get as low as possible without touching your hands or knees to the ground. **DO NOT LIE DOWN!** It is best to find a low spot away from trees, metal fences, pipes, tall or long objects.

If you are inside a building:

- * Stay at least a few feet away from open windows, sinks, toilets, tubs, showers, electric boxes and outlets, and appliances. Lightning can flow through these systems and “jump” to a person.
- * Do not shower during a thunder or lightning storm.

If someone is struck by lightning:

- * People struck by lightning carry no electrical charge and can be handled safely.
- * Call for help. Call 9-911.
- * The injured person has received an electrical shock and may be burned, both where they were struck and the electricity left their body. Check for burns in both places. Being struck by lightning can also cause nervous system damage, broken bones, and loss of hearing or eyesight.
- * A person struck by lightning may appear dead, with no pulse or breath. Often the person can be revived with cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Altitude or Mountain Sickness

Altitude illness is a result of traveling to a higher altitude faster than the body can adapt to that



new altitude. It usually occurs when people reach an altitude above 8,000 feet.

In most cases, the symptoms are mild and may include: nausea or vomiting, headache, loss of appetite, fatigue, difficulty sleeping, and dizziness or light-headedness. Most cases are mild and symptoms usually improve when the person returns to a lower altitude.

For travelers to Mt. Hopkins who may tend to experience altitude sickness, it is recommended that they drink sufficient fluids and avoid alcoholic beverages.

Heat Stroke/ Heat Exhaustion

Due to the dry and hot conditions on site it is important to remain hydrated and avoid prolonged periods in the Sun between 10am and 4pm. Look for signs of heat stroke or heat exhaustion:

Heat Exhaustion

- Fatigue
- Nausea
- Headache
- Excessive thirst
- Muscle aches and cramps
- Weakness
- Confusion or anxiety
- Drenching Sweats, often accompanied by cold, clammy skin
- Slowed or weakened heartbeat
- Dizziness
- Fainting
- Agitation

Heat Stroke

- Nausea and vomiting
- Headache
- Dizziness or vertigo
- Fatigue
- Hot, flushed, dry skin
- Rapid heart beat
- Decreased sweating
- Shortness of breath
- Decreased urination
- Blood in urine or stool
- Increased body temperature
- Confusion, delirium, or loss of consciousness
- Convulsions

WILDLIFE ON MT. HOPKINS

Arizona Black Bears

The Black Bears often have dark, brown fur and are not necessarily black. On Mt. Hopkins, you may see bears any time during the year but they are most often seen in the summer and fall. During these seasons, the bears instinctively feel the urge to eat more and start accumulating reserves for the winter months. There are wildlife drinkers (small, man-made structures) in the bowl picnic area and by the Gamma Ray building so bears will frequently visit these areas.

Trash with discarded food or food wrappers/containers is never left outside on the mountain without being locked up. Once bears have access to human food and have been conditioned to expect food, then they lose their instinctive fear of humans and more apt to be more aggressive in a confrontational situation. "A fed bear is a dead bear" is a catch phrase used by wildlife biologists who try to educate humans about the consequences of their actions.

Some basic precautions to practice on the mountain include:



- * Never feed human food to any bear. If you eat outside on the patio or in the picnic area, be sure to take any leftover food and food containers inside the buildings.
- * Never tease a bear as you could easily provoke an attack.
- * Never allow yourself to be located between a mother bear and her cubs.

Poisonous Insects, Bugs and Snakes

There are a large variety of biting and stinging insects in this part of the desert as well as reptiles and animals. Please review the following link to familiarize yourself with potential hazards as well as what to do in the event of a bite or sting.

<http://azpoison.com/venom>

BEES

Bees have a barbed stinger at the base of their abdomen which carries their venom. The bee forces the tip of the stinger through the skin of the victim and leaves the stinger, poison sac and attached muscle in the victim's skin. It may take hundreds of bee stings to inflict a fatal toxic dose of venom in a healthy adult. However, one sting can cause a fatal allergic (anaphylactic) reaction in a hypersensitive person. Africanized bees or "killer bees" have now invaded many parts of the United States, including Arizona. Although their sting is treated the same as other bee stings, these bees are very aggressive and much more likely to attack when threatened.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS:

Most victims have local reactions: redness, itching, swelling and local pain, which may persist for several hours. Sensitive individuals may have more severe reactions: welts, itching palms and feet, headache, nausea, vomiting, labored breathing.

FIRST AID:

The honey bee's stinger is barbed and will frequently be left by the stinging bee. The venom sac attached to the stinger may continue to inject venom even after the bee has flown away.

For many years it was recommended that bee stingers be removed by scraping. Now we know that the bee's stinger should be removed within seconds of the sting by any possible means.

The patient should observe closely the progression of symptoms, especially in the first hour following the sting. Mild local symptoms may be relieved by taking antihistamines. More severe or rapidly progressing symptoms may require aggressive, life-supporting therapy in a healthcare facility. Patients demonstrating hypersensitivity should obtain an emergency kit to be carried at all times.

BLACK WIDOW SPIDERS

A mature female is a globe-shaped, black, shiny spider with a red or orange marking or hourglass on the underside of her abdomen. Males are smaller, brown and not a significant threat to people. A strong, irregular web indicates the presence of a black widow spider. They weave egg sacs which may contain up to 300 eggs. Removal or destruction of the egg sacs may help control the population. This spider is resistant to many insecticides.



SIGNS & SYMPTOMS:

The initial sensation may be painful, with little local reaction. Later, pain, cramping and stiffness may appear in the shoulders, back, chest or abdomen. Other symptoms include nausea, vomiting, headache, anxiety and high blood pressure.

FIRST AID:

Clean the site well with soap and water. Apply a cool compress over the bite location and keep the affected limb elevated to about heart level. Over-the-counter pain relievers may be used to relieve minor symptoms. Treatment in a medical facility may be necessary for children less than 5 years old or for adults with severe symptoms.

BROWN SPIDERS

This non-aggressive spider is found in dry, littered and undisturbed areas such as closets, woodpiles and under sinks. Bites often occur when the victim puts on clothing in which a spider has been hiding. This spider is light tan to brown with a violin-shaped marking on the back of the head-chest region. With legs extended, it is approximately the size of a nickel to a quarter. Sometimes it is mistakenly referred to as the Brown Recluse; the Brown Recluse resides in the Midwest.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS:

Generally, a patient experiences little or no local pain at the time of the bite. However, localized pain may develop in the first few hours. The site may become inflamed. Blister formations may develop as early as 12 hours to several days following the bite. This site will evolve into what has classically been described as a "bull's-eye lesion" with a dark center (dead skin) outlined by white and set on a red and inflamed background.

The healing process is slow, often taking months, and leaving a scar which may require reconstructive or cosmetic surgery. In addition to the local effects, systemic flu-like symptoms, including nausea, vomiting and malaise may appear in the first 24 hours.

FIRST AID:

Keep the site clean with soap and water to prevent infection.

Call **1-800-222-1222** if you think you have been bitten. Medical treatment is always advised when a brown spider bite is suspected.

CENTIPEDES

Centipedes have an elongated, segmented body with each segment bearing a pair of legs. The name inaccurately implies one hundred legs when, in fact, the number of legs varies between 20 and more than 100. They range in length from 1 to 9 inches.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS:

A centipede bite will cause local inflammation and pain. Symptoms are frequently short-lived, lasting only a few hours. Although cases of persistent tenderness lasting for several weeks can be found, they are extremely rare.



FIRST AID:

Many centipede bites can be treated at home. If the pain is severe, or lasts longer than 12 hours, relief may be found in an emergency room or urgent care facility.

CONENOSE BUGS

Arizona has four species of conenose bugs known by many common names. These are parasites frequently residing in rodent nests. They may be attracted to our homes at night by outside lighting and take refuge inside at dawn. Once inside, they will appear at night to feed on us or our pets. They are approximately 1/2 to 1 inch in length with an elongated cone-shaped head.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS:

Typically, no pain is felt at the time of the bite. Sometime later, a local reaction including pain, redness, swelling and itching may occur. Later bites may lead to sensitization and all levels of allergic reaction, including life-threatening ones.

FIRST AID:

Keep the bite sites clean with soap and water. Emergency allergy kits often are prescribed for patients who suffer severe reactions to use in case of future bites. These reactions require medical treatment.

TARANTULAS

These are the gentle giants of the spider world. But when adequately provoked, they will bite and their impressive fangs can produce painful puncture wounds. Hairs located on the tarantula's abdomen act to discourage predators--these hairs can cause itching and burning if a person comes in contact with them.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS:

Bites are unlikely to cause problems other than pain at the site. Skin exposure to the hairs on the abdomen will cause itching and a rash.

FIRST AID:

Clean the bite site with soap and water and protect against infection. Skin exposures to the hairs are managed by removing the hairs with tape. There is a risk of tetanus from a bite, so be sure your tetanus vaccination is up-to-date.

SCORPIONS

Scorpions are relatively inactive during the daylight hours. The majority of stings reported to the poison center occur at night during the warm summer months.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS:

Scorpion stings can cause immediate local pain with minimal swelling. Numbness and tingling are frequently reported. The injured area may be very sensitive to touch, pressure, heat and cold. Small children are at highest risk of severe reactions. They can show jerky body and wild eye movements.



FIRST AID:

The majority of stings occurring in healthy young adults may be managed at home with basic first aid measures and follow-up.

First aid should include:

- cleaning the site with soap and water
- cool compress
- position affected limb to a comfortable position
- over the counter medication as needed for minor discomfort

RATTLESNAKES

Of all the snakes encountered in the United States, approximately 10% are venomous. The most frequently cited statistics estimate that there are approximately 8,000 venomous snakebites each year in the U.S. -- these typically result in eight to 15 deaths.

Fortunately, fatalities from reptile bites are extremely rare when modern medical resources are available. But despite the fact that the recent death rate has dropped to less than 1%, serious symptoms are possible and **bite victims must be seen in a medical facility without delay.**

There are 17 different types of rattlesnakes in Arizona and all are venomous. Venoms are complex poisons which vary greatly in composition and potency among species and individuals. In addition to rattles, all rattlesnakes share some common physical characteristics:

- a triangular shaped head
- cat-like pupils
- foldable fangs

FIRST AID

In many cases, first aid performed in the field by the patient or companions only causes additional injury. The best first aid kit for snakebite includes your car keys and cell phone. Get help quickly if you are bitten

IF YOU ARE BITTEN,

- **Don't** use ice or electricity.
- **Don't** use constricting bands or suction. Using "extractors" does not remove a significant amount of venom and the process can increase tissue damage.
- **Don't** give alcohol or medication.
- **Don't** wait to see if you get symptoms.
- **Don't** try to catch the snake.
- The snake may bite again.
- Capture will delay your getting to the hospital.
- Treatment will be the same no matter which kind of rattlesnake bit you.
- **Do** relax and move as little as possible.
- **Do** remove tight clothing, shoes or jewelry from the bitten limb.
- **DO GO to the nearest medical facility immediately.**



Mountain Lions

Mountain lions can be found throughout Arizona and are most common in rocky or mountainous terrain. Because mountain lions are shy and elusive, people do not often see them. However, the Arizona Game and Fish Department estimates the state's mountain lion population is robust and increasing at 2,500 to 3,000. Mountain lions are solitary animals with the exception of females with kittens or breeding pairs. Signs of mountain lion presence include large tracks (3-5 inches wide) without claw marks; large segmented, cylindrical droppings; food caches where a kill has been partially eaten and then covered with leaves, brush or dirt; and scrapes in soft dirt or leaf litter

What Should I Do?

Mountain lions are predators capable of seriously injuring or killing humans. The Arizona Game and Fish Department is committed to helping people learn how to behave responsibly and live safely in proximity to mountain lions, and to removing animals that are a potential threat to the public.

The risk of attack by a mountain lion is small, but real; children are most at risk.

Mountain lions may return repeatedly if food, water, or shelter is available. However,

mountain lions use natural areas, such as washes, to move through populated areas to more remote areas, and such movements are necessary to prevent problems with

inbreeding and local extinction associated with habitat fragmentation. If food, water, and

shelter are not available, mountain lions generally move on to other areas more quickly.

If you live or recreate in lion country, remain aware of your surroundings and take steps to minimize risks to yourself, your family, and pets.

If you encounter a mountain lion

- Do not approach the animal. Most mountain lions will try to avoid a confrontation. Give them a way to escape.
- Stay calm and speak loudly and firmly.
- Do not run from a mountain lion. Running may stimulate a mountain lion's instinct to chase.
- Stand and face the animal. Make eye contact.
- Appear larger by raising your arms or opening your jacket if you are wearing one. Throw stones, branches, or whatever you can reach without crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly. The idea is to convince the lion that you are not easy prey and that you may be a danger to it.
- Maintain eye contact and slowly back away toward a building, vehicle, or busy area.
- Protect small children so they won't panic and run.
- Fight back if attacked. Many potential victims have fought back successfully with rocks, sticks, caps, jackets, garden tools, their bare hands, and even mountain bikes. Since a mountain lion usually tries to bite the head or neck, try to remain standing and face the animal.
- Report all mountain lion attacks to 911. All mountain lion encounters and attacks, sightings in urban areas, property damage due to mountain lions or possession of a live mountain lion should also be reported to your local Arizona Game and Fish Department office (8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday excluding holidays). After hours and weekends, a radio dispatcher is available at (623) 236-7201.



Possible Health Concerns

Mountain lions are at risk of getting a variety of diseases, including those common to house cats, but little is known about their rates of illness. They are also subject to death by secondary poisoning from common rodent poisons that contain blood anticoagulants.

Rabies - Symptoms of rabies can include foaming at the mouth, staggering, circling, and/or fearful, paralyzed, and lethargic behavior. If you see any wild animal with symptoms of rabies, call 911 or your local Game and Fish office immediately. Anyone bitten by a mountain lion must immediately seek medical attention for rabies shots unless the biting animal can be captured and tested for rabies. Notify the Arizona Game and Fish Department and your local health department immediately if any physical contact with a mountain lion occurs.

Javelina

Javelinas are in the peccary family. Peccaries are a group of hoofed mammals originating in South America. Javelinas are common in much of central and southern Arizona, including the outskirts of the Phoenix area, most of Tucson and occasionally as far north as Flagstaff. Javelina form herds of two to more than 20 animals. Javelina weight between 40 to 60 pounds and stand about 19 inches tall. They have very poor eyesight and may appear to be charging when actually trying to escape. Javelinas also have a keen sense of smell and travel in washes and areas of dense vegetation. They have a scent gland on the back and use scents to identify animals from different herds. Javelinas are most active at night, but also may be active during the day when it's cool.

What Should I Do?

While many people enjoy seeing Javelina and other wildlife in their neighborhoods, sometimes the pleasure of these encounters is marred by property damage or fear of a bite.

- Scare off animals by making loud noises, throwing small rocks in their direction, or spraying with water from a garden hose or large squirt gun filled with diluted ammonia (10% ammonia and 90% water).
- If the animal is confined, open a gate, have all people leave the area and allow it to leave on its own.
- If you see Javelina while walking your dog (always on leash), avoid going near the Javelina and quickly take your dog in a different direction.
- If a Javelina is acting in an aggressive manner toward people, is contained and cannot leave on its own or be let out easily, or is in human possession, please call your local Arizona Game and Fish Department regional office during weekday business hours. After hours and weekends, call the Arizona Game and Fish Department radio dispatcher at (602) 789-3201.

Bats

Arizona is home to 28 species of bats, more than almost any other state. Bats are the only true flying mammals and are valuable human allies. Worldwide, they are primary predators of vast numbers of insect pests, saving farmers and foresters billions of dollars annually and helping to control insect-spread human diseases. For example, large colonies of Mexican free-tailed bats (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) eat hundreds of tons of moths each week, especially the moths that prey on cotton crops.



Although bats play key roles in keeping insect populations in balance, they are North America's most rapidly declining land mammals. Declines are often caused by human fear and persecution, and each of us can help by learning how to live with these animals.

What Should I Do?

Bats should never be allowed to remain in human living areas. However, bats roosting on the porch, in the yard, or in a bat house are far more beneficial than harmful, and the small amount of guano can be cleaned up or used as fertilizer, in exchange for the reduction in flying insects and mosquitoes. The following ideas can help you coexist with bats or exclude them if necessary.

In an emergency:

If a person or pet is bitten by a bat, immediately wash the wound, attempt to capture the animal while wearing leather gloves, and contact your local county health department right away. The bat may have rabies and must be tested to determine whether the bite victim needs rabies shots.

If a bat is in human possession, please call your local Arizona Game and Fish Department regional office during weekday business hours. After hours and weekends, call the Arizona Game and Fish Department radio dispatcher at (623) 236-7201.

Possible Health Concerns:

Rabies - Bats are one of the known rabies vector species in Arizona, although less than 1 percent of wild bats are likely to have rabies at any given time. Symptoms of a rabid bat include inability to fly, flying during daylight, lethargy and paralysis. Most bats, even if sick, will not attack a person, but bats may bite if handled. If a live bat is on or near the ground, then leave it alone, keep pets and children away, and contact the local county health or animal control agency. Anyone bitten by a bat should immediately seek medical attention. If possible, the bat responsible for the bite should be captured and tested for rabies.

Histoplasmosis – This disease is caused by a fungus (*Histoplasma capsulatum*) that lives in soil enriched by bird or bat droppings. The fungus is rare in dry Western climates, although it has been found in Arizona. It could be present in dry, hot attics of buildings. Infection is caused by inhalation of airborne spores in dust enriched by animal droppings. The vast majority of histoplasmosis cases in humans is asymptomatic or results in only flu-like symptoms, though a few individuals may become seriously ill, especially if exposed to large quantities of spore-laden dust. The disease can be avoided by not breathing dust suspected of being enriched by animal feces.



Basic Safety Instructions for FLWO Users

I have discussed the following safety instructions for FLWO operations, and have been trained by my supervisor in the safe work practices necessary to ensure my safety and that of my co-workers. I agree to abide by the safety requirements of the FLWO.

- () Wildland Fire Emergency Response
- () Building Fire Alarm Procedures
- () Medical Emergency Response
- () Reporting of Accidents, Injuries, and Illnesses
- () Stop Work Program
- () Vehicle Operator's Guide
- () Safe Work Procedures as they apply to _____ specific project/working unit
- () Safety Gear/Personal Protective Equipment Training and Issuance (use PPE issuance sheet)
- () Laser Safety Alert
- () Restrictions on Use of Power Tools and Machine Shops
- () Use of Chemicals and Hazardous Materials
- () Chemical Spill and Leak Response
- () Hazardous Waste Disposal Procedures
- () Fall Protection
- () Wildlife on Mount Hopkins

Employee, visiting scientist, volunteer, student

Date

Supervisor or supervising scientist

Date

Keep a copy of this form for your records and return the original to the FLWO Safety Coordinator.

Updated 8/31/15



Appendix D

Document Revision History

Date	Revision No.	Reviser Name	Summary of Changes
8/31/2015	Draft	Thomas Gerl	New Document
4/13/2016	A	Thomas Gerl	Add Animal Control Number, Add Javelins, Remove Dan West, Add Michael Daniel. Official Document.
11/8/2016	B	Thomas Gerl	Updated information on Back Bears and Wildfires.
1/17/2018	C	Thomas Gerl	Update new Fire Monitoring Procedure

Document Approval

Name	Signature	Project Job Title	Date
Thomas Gerl		Safety Coordinator	
Pascal Fortin		Site Director	