

Important Bat Underground Habitats (IBUH) in Bulgaria

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Abstract: Number of bats and number of species are used as criteria to identify the Important Bat Underground Habitats (IBUH) in Bulgaria. There are 92 underground habitats identified as IBUH: 89 (97%) - natural caves and 3 (3%) - artificial galleries. Fifty-two of them are assessed as IBUHs of national and international importance, and proposed for a basis of the National Schedule for Monitoring of Cave-Dwelling Bat Species and Underground Habitats.

Key words: Chiroptera, conservation, monitoring, bat caves