



Species fact sheet

Myotis capaccinii

Long-fingered bat

Langfussfledermaus
Murin de Capaccini
Vespertilio di Capaccini
Vespertil da Capaccini

Characteristics

Wingspan: 23-26 cm
Weight: 7-10 g
Max. age: unknown
Offspring/year: 1

Status

Protection: protected by NCHA
Red List: DD (Data Deficient)
National Priority: n (none)
Other: -

Synergies: [Bechstein's bat](#), [Brandt's bat](#), [Daubenton's bat](#), [Natterer's bat](#), [Soprano pipistrelle](#)



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Foraging habitat: Lago Maggiore

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Habitat use

Roosts

Mediterranean species of water-rich karst areas. Roosts all year round in caves, tunnels or mines, less often also in buildings, crevices in rocks or bridges. Nursery roosts consist of 30 to 500 females, rarely several 1000. Often associated with other species. Accumulations of several 10,000 individuals are possible in winter roosts.

Foraging grounds

Forages at a height of 10-25 cm above standing or slowly flowing water. Catches its prey - insects and small fish - with its long toes or its tail membrane from the water surface, but sometimes also forages in the forest. Size of foraging areas approx. 1-10 ha, at distances of up to 30 km from the roost.

Flight corridors

Little is known about flight corridors. However, the species appears to be heavily dependent on watercourses. Distances between summer and winter roosts can be over 100 km, but are usually much shorter if sufficient roosts are available.

Distribution

The only known colony in a cave in Ticino was abandoned in the middle of the 20th century. Only two recent (bioacoustic) records from Ticino, from Lago Maggiore. These were probably animals from neighboring Italy.



Database KOF/CCO/CSCF

Threats

Due to the rarity of the species in Switzerland, it is not possible to make well-founded statements on the causes of endangerment in this country, nor on site-specific support measures. Based on Nevertheless, a few general statements can be made based on findings from neighboring countries.

- Lack of food due to pesticide ingress in water bodies
- Loss of energy due to disturbance from cave tourism during hibernation

Mitigation measures

Due to the erratic occurrence of the species in Switzerland, specific conservation measures are currently not a priority. The situation should be monitored, particularly with regard to the discovery of new colonies. Involvement of the [Regional Coordination Offices for Bat Conservation](#) in all measures.

Roosts

No specific measures are currently necessary, but the protection of caves from disturbance (cave tourism) can not only promote colonization by the species, but also benefit numerous other species.

Foraging grounds

Reduction in the use of pesticides in bodies of water (e.g. Bti toxin), in private households and in agriculture. Revitalization or renaturation of the riparian zones of larger standing and slow-flowing bodies of water.

Flight corridors

No specific measures currently required in Switzerland. However, numerous other species benefit from improved landscape connectivity, particularly between forests and watercourses (structural and dark corridors), too.

Literature

- Bohnenstengel et al. (2014). [Rote Liste Fledermäuse, Stand 2011](#). Umwelt-Vollzug 1412.
- Dietz et al. (2018). Bats of Britain and Europe. Bloomsbury Academic, London.
- Krättli et al. (2012). [Konzept Artenförderung Fledermäuse 2013-2020](#). Schweizerische Koordinationsstelle für Fledermausschutz.
- Rodrigues et al. (2014). [Guidelines for consideration of bats in wind farm projects](#). UNEP/EUROBATS, Bonn.

Links

- fledermausschutz.ch
- institutions.ville-geneve.ch/fr/cco/pipistrelliticino.ch