



Species fact sheet

Nyctalus noctula

Common noctule

Grosser Abendsegler
Noctule commune
Nottola comune
Sgolanotg grond

Characteristics

Wingspan: 32-45 cm
Weight: 18-34 g
Max. age: 12 years
Offspring/year: mostly 2

Status

Protection: protected by NCHA
Red List: NT (Near Threatened)
National Priority 4 (moderate)
Other: -

Synergies: [Leisler's bat](#), [Parti-colored bat](#), [Nathusius's pipistrelle](#)



Noctules in a bat box

© Wolf-Dieter Burkhard

Habitat use

Roosts

Mainly inhabits tree cavities several meters above the ground and with unobstructed access. Also uses a variety of other hiding places such as bat boxes, shutter cases, wall gaps or bridge cavities.

Foraging grounds

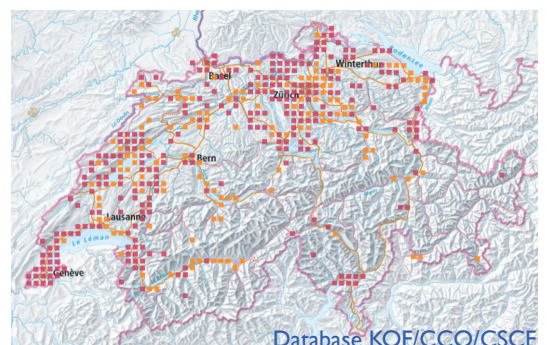
Forages in the open space from 5 to over 100 m above the ground for insects that occur in large numbers. Can be found foraging over a variety of different habitats, despite its preference for water.

Flight corridors

Hardly dependent on flight corridors due to its fast flight speed in open space. However, because it is a migratory species, supra-regional migration corridors are of great importance. Distances between summer and winter roosts can be more than 1500 km.

Distribution

Widespread at lower altitudes, especially along larger water bodies. Mainly winter visitor, in summer only scattered males. Records above 1000 m rare.



Database KOF/CCO/CSCF

Threats

- Loss of roosts due to unaccompanied building works: Renovations, energetic optimization of the building envelope, closure of access points, conversions, use of toxic wood preservatives
- Loss of habitats due to logging of hollow trees, excessive forest regeneration and short rotation periods in silviculture
- Decline in food supply due to pesticide contamination of water bodies
- Collisions with wind turbines

Mitigation measures

Conservation and propagation measures indicated. Conditionally conservation dependent. Development of cantonal action plans. Involvement of the [Regional Coordination Center for Bat Conservation](#) in all measures.

Roosts

Strengthening of the protection of existing building roosts (inclusion in regional planning acts). Protection and propagation of cave trees and ensurance of their accessibility by means of forestry interventions (clearing). Installation of suitable bat boxes on bridges and tall buildings.

Foraging grounds

Reduction of pesticide use near water bodies. Restoration of the riparian zones of larger standing and slow-flowing waters. Consideration of the species in the planning and implementation of wind energy projects.

Flight corridors

Protection of migration corridors at supra-regional (international) level. Consideration of these corridors in wind energy projects.



Foraging habitat: Wetlands



Threat: Wind turbines

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