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August 19, 2012

Calvin DuBrock  
Director, Wildlife Management  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Dear Mr. DuBrock;

**The Moshannon Group of the Sierra Club, which has 1,000 members in central Pennsylvania, strongly endorses the proposed listing of the northern long-eared bat, the tri-colored bat, and the little brown bat as ENDANGERED in Pennsylvania.**

All three species have seen population declines of more than 95% in the past 4 years in Pennsylvania.

Comparative pre- and post-White Nose Syndrome hibernacula surveys show a 99% decline in northern long-eared bats in the Commonwealth since 2008. Summer mist-netting in 2011 showed a 93% increase in effort was required to capture this species as compared to pre-WNS.

Comparative pre- and post-WNS hibernacula surveys show a 98% decline in tri-colored bats in this Commonwealth since 2008. Summer mist-netting in 2011 showed a 185% increase in effort was required to capture this species as compared to pre-WNS. This species also has been a significant component of bat mortalities associated with wind turbines.

Comparative pre- and post-WNS hibernacula surveys show a 99% decline in little brown bats in these hibernacula since 2008. Summer mist-netting in 2011 showed a 463% increase in effort was required to capture this species as compared to pre-WNS. As with the tri-colored bat, little browns have also been a component of bat mortalities associated with wind turbines.

With precipitous population declines remaining individuals are critical to the preservation and restoration of the species in this Commonwealth. These three bat species clearly are in imminent danger and their numbers and distribution has been severely reduced.

**All three species of bats mentioned above warrant the listing of ENDANGERED in Pennsylvania.**

Sincerely,

Gary Thornbloom  
Chair  
Sierra Club Moshannon Group