

BAT GATES FOR LARGE COLONIES AND MATERNITY SITES

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Abstract

Bat gates have steadily evolved to provide increased security while becoming more ecologically transparent. Recently-developed modifications to the standard horizontal bat gate include cupola gates, flyover (or half) gates, bay-window gates, window gates, chute gates, and combinations, such as a bay window with a chute. Gate location is critical, and the numbers of bats and timing of cave use are critical to the design. Engineering becomes more complicated with modifications, and novices should consult with experts before attempting to construct any bat gate. But almost any bat colony in any type of cave or mine can now be protected by a secure gate without negative impact to the cave ecosystem.
