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Volunteers go bats in the Bankhead National Forest

The annual 2008 Bat Blitz in the Bankhead National Forest will be held Tuesday and Wednesday.

The annual event, sponsored by the Southeastern Bat Diversity Network, attracts numerous scientists, students, professional biologists and media to view one of the most misunderstood species -- bats.

Participants will work in teams to collect data and learn as much as possible about the bat fauna of northwest Alabama. It is a coordinated, intensive survey designed to sample the bat community in a specific area.

This will be the first time the event is held in Alabama's Bankhead National Forest.

Participating agencies include the U.S. Forest Service, Southeastern Bat Diversity Network, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources -- Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division.

The Bat Blitz Headquarters will be at Camp McDowell, 105 DeLong Road, Nauvoo 35578.

For information call 205-387-1806.

-- Posted by Gary E. Maitland
