



# Santa Lucia Conservancy – *Keeping it Wild*

## The Night Shift at the Preserve



Brock Fenton

**Silver-haired bat**  
*Lasionycteris noctivagans*

*Wing span:* 10-12 in  
*Prey:* insects  
*Habitat:* forests  
*Fun Fact:* They eat flies, mosquitoes, moths, beetles, leafhoppers, ants, crickets, and occasionally spiders.

**Big brown bat**  
*Eptesicus fuscus*

*Wing span:* 12-16 in  
*Prey:* insects (preferably beetles)  
*Habitat:* a variety of habitats, including cities  
*Fun Fact:* They can reach speeds up to 40 mph.



Liam McGuire



Joel Sartore

**Hoary bat**  
*Lasiurus cinereus*

*Wing span:* 16-17 in  
*Prey:* insects  
*Habitat:* forests, chaparral, and grasslands  
*Fun Fact:* Female bats concentrate in the lowlands and males in higher foothills.

**Mexican free-tailed bat**  
*Tadarida brasiliensis*

*Wing span:* 12-14 in  
*Prey:* insects  
*Habitat:* caves near water  
*Fun Fact:* They can reach speeds up to 99 mph and have been found flying at altitudes over 10,000 ft!



Joel Sartore



Daniel Neal

### Did you know?

- 1) Bats help control populations of mosquitos and flies. In just an hour, a colony of 500 bats can consume a quarter million mosquitos!
- 2) Bats have sparkly poop! The iridescent exoskeletons of the huge volume of bugs they consume breakdown and make glittery guano.
- 3) Bats use sophisticated sonar, called echolocation, to help them navigate in the darkness.
- 4) The Conservancy is here to help! On The Preserve, bats mostly roost in old trees and crevices. If they end up in your roof eaves though, give us a call.

**Pallid bat**  
*Antrozous pallidus*

*Wing span:* 15-16 in  
*Prey:* insects, rodents, and lizards.  
*Habitat:* wide variety- rocky outcroppings to grasslands  
*Fun Fact:* They capture their prey almost exclusively on the ground. They are able to detect their prey's footsteps with the help of their large ears.