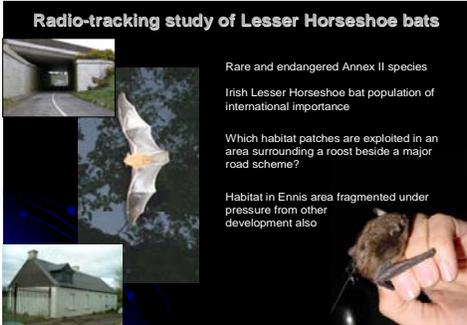


# PROJECT PROFILE

<b>Title</b>	<b>Assessment of the effectiveness of bat mitigation measures employed on Irish national road schemes</b>	
<b>Contractor</b>	University College Cork	
<b>Contact details</b>	Fidelma Butler Department of Zoology, Ecology & Plant Science University College Cork Enterprise Centre Distillery Field, North Mall, Co Cork f.butler@ucc.ie	
<b>NRA Mentor</b>	Vincent O'Malley	
<b>Start date</b>	Oct-07	
<b>End date</b>	Sep-10	
<b>Status</b>	On-going	
<b>Type of project</b>	Research Fellowship: PhD programme (Isobel Abbott)	
<b>Project reference</b>	NR/250/04 PO 6259	

<b>Description</b>	<p>Considerable efforts are made during the planning and construction stages of a road scheme to ensure that mitigation measures are provided to protect bat populations found in the natural environment. Such mitigation measures can range from the provision of simple bat boxes to a range of sophisticated compensatory bat roosts. This research is being used to assess the effectiveness of the various bat mitigation measures. Particular emphasis is being placed on the facilities provided on the Ennis by-pass scheme but other schemes are also being studied. The work is being undertaken in consultation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS).</p>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>The research project consists of a monitoring study of the various bat mitigation measures used on the national road network. The objectives of the project are to assess the effectiveness of different mitigation measures used on road schemes in Ireland. The research focuses on a number of key bat species that have the potential to be impacted by linear infrastructure, with particular emphasis on the lesser horseshoe bat which is considered an endangered species due to loss of habitat. The research will be used to develop and improve guidelines for the selection, design and management of effective mitigation measures.</p>	
<b>Benefits</b>	<p>The research will be used to develop and improve guidelines for the selection, design and management of effective mitigation measures. This is of considerable benefit to the NRA as it will ensure that the mitigation measures are effective and that the high costs involved in installing these measures provide value for money.</p>	
<b>Outputs</b>	<p>Guidelines for the selection, design and management of effective bat mitigation measures</p>	