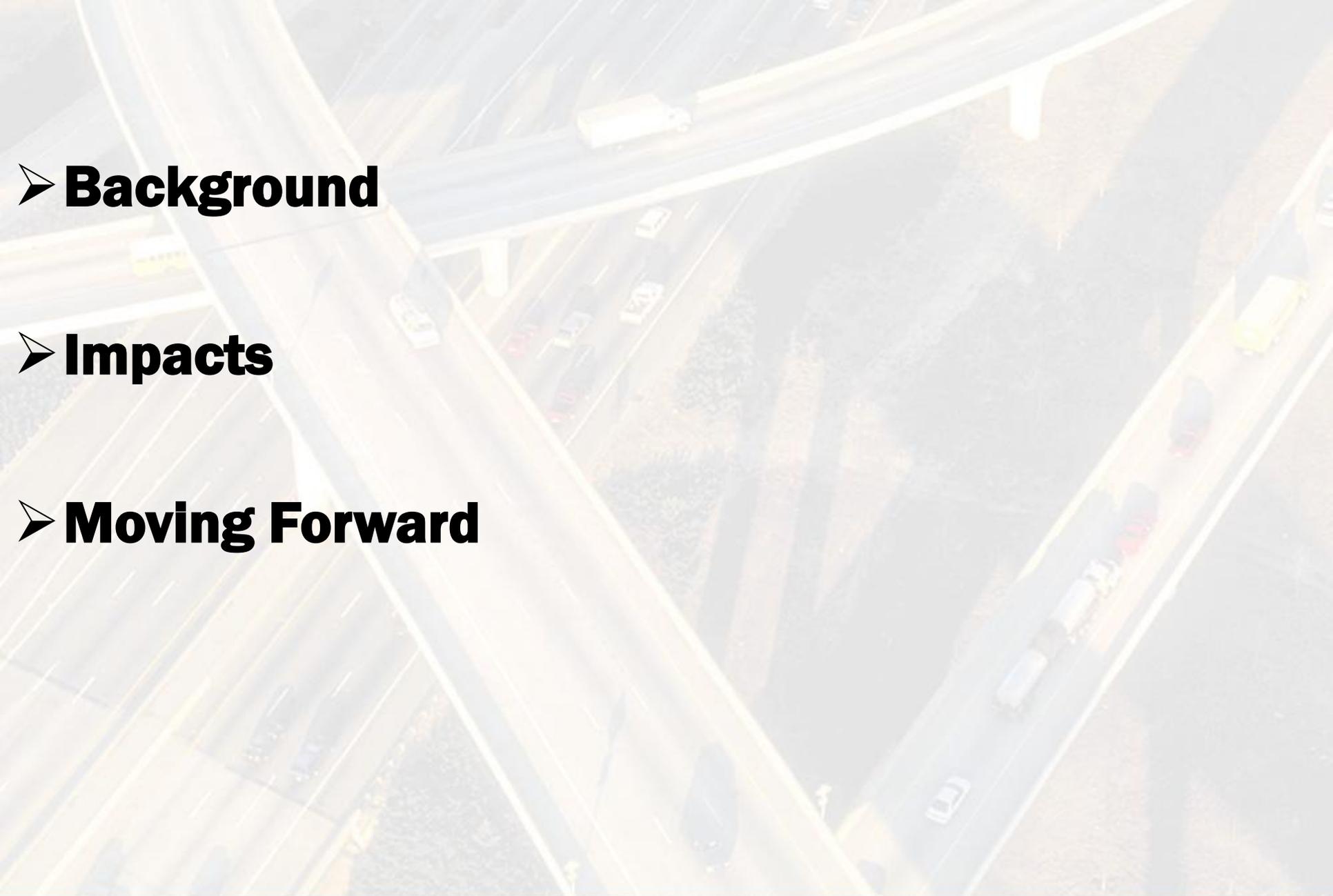


# Project Impacts

## Indiana Bat & Gray Bat





➤ **Background**

➤ **Impacts**

➤ **Moving Forward**



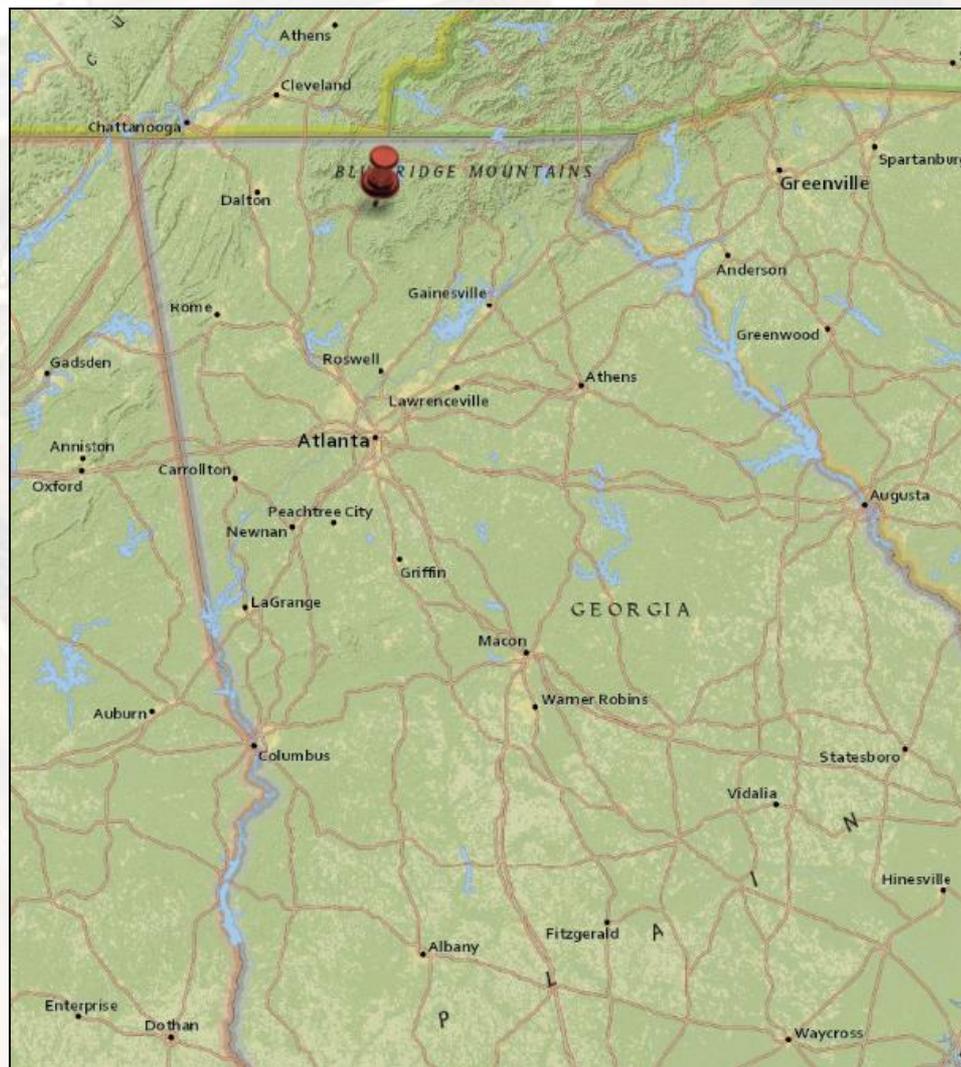
Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*)

Gray Bat (*Myotis grisescens*)



# Spring 2012

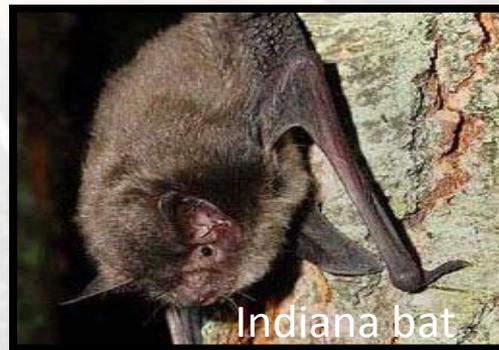
- **Female Indiana bat tracked to Gilmer County from winter hibernaculum in TN.**
- **First recorded occurrence in GA since 1966.**



# Background

- **Both are Federally listed as “Endangered” and protected under the 1973 Endangered Species Act (ESA). The ESA:**

- Protects the Indiana and Gray Bats from take (harming, harassing, killing) and also their critical habitat
- Establishes civil and criminal penalties for any person who violates its protections
- Requires all federal agencies to consult with and gain approval of US Fish and Wildlife Service before they commit project funds

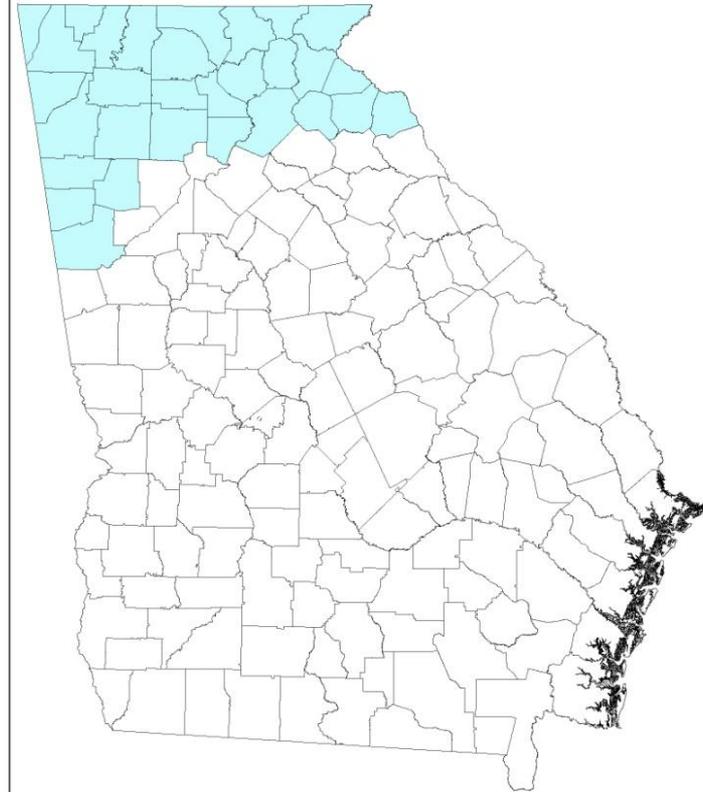


# Indiana bat summer range in Georgia



Prior to summer 2012

- 2 counties; 622 sq. mi.
- Approx. 20 Projects in the Area



After summer 2012

- 30 counties; 9,503 sq. mi.
- Approx. 182 Projects in the Area

# Acoustic surveys

- **Anabat™ captures echolocation calls.**
- **Set up along flyways.**
- **Must follow FWS protocol.**

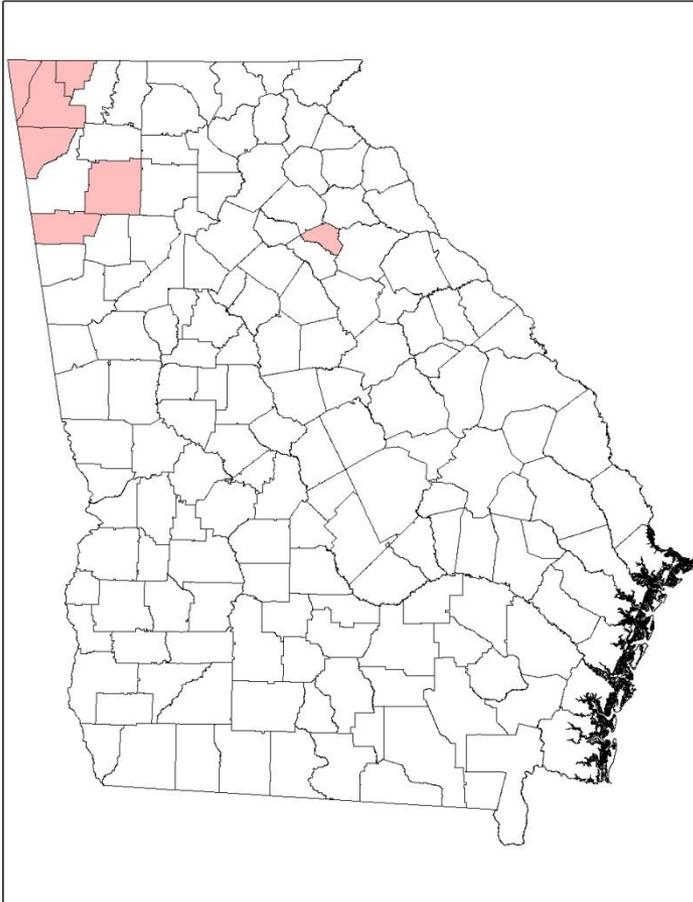


# Mist-net surveys

- **Set up nets in flyways.**
- **Must follow FWS protocol.**
- **If Indiana bat and/or gray bat is captured, then radio-tracking will be required.**

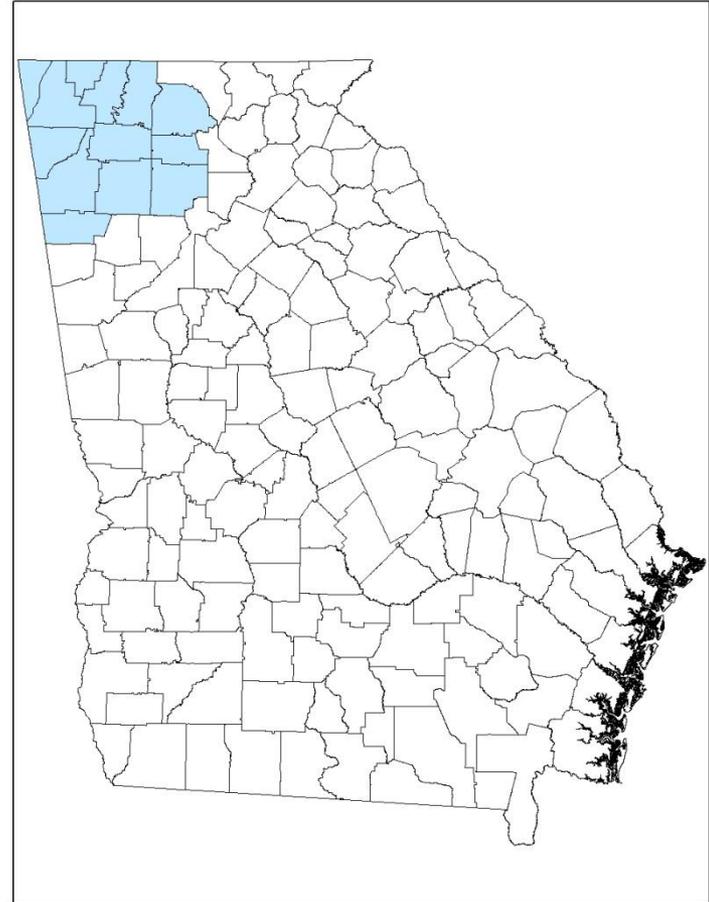


# Gray bat range in Georgia



Prior to December 2012

- 7 counties; 2001 sq. mi.
- Approx. 38 Projects in Area



After December 2012

- 13 counties; 4494 sq. mi.
- Approx. 49 Projects in Area

# Project Impacts

- **GDOT schedules may be affected on as many as 104 projects.**
- **STIP programmed years (FYs 13, 14, 15) on approximately 58 projects may be delayed.**
- **Approx. \$222 million in STIP programmed ROW funds may be delayed 9-18 months .**
- **Approx. \$237 million in STIP programmed CST funds may be delayed 9-18 months**

# Moving Forward

- **Close to executing programmatic agreement to move forward with ROW authorization on minor projects .**
- **Several ecological firms are getting permits and additional funds are being identified to survey GDOT projects for bats .**
- **GDOT is partnering with GDNR and will fund research in 2013-2014 for points in between GDOT projects.**
- **Once data is gathered, a more comprehensive programmatic agreement may be possible.**

# Questions?



Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*)

Gray Bat (*Myotis grisescens*)



# 2013 Georgia Standard Specifications of Roads & Bridges



# **Spec Book Update**

**Current: 2001 Standard Specifications**

**2008 Supplemental Specifications**

**Reviewed/approved by FHWA, GHCA**