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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 3, 2025

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**Bats of New York: Challenges and Conservation**  
**Tug Hill Winter Wildlife Webinar Series, Part 2: February 12, 6 p.m.**

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK – The Tug Hill Commission invites the public to join a webinar on Wednesday, February 12 at 6 p.m. to learn about the challenges facing New York’s bat populations and ongoing conservation efforts. Register at [tinyurl.com/NewYorkBats](https://tinyurl.com/NewYorkBats) and a Zoom link will be sent along with your registration confirmation email.

This webinar will highlight key bat species found in the Tug Hill region, including the Indiana bat and Northern long-eared bat, both federally endangered, as well as the big brown bat and red bat, which are most prevalent in the region. Participants will learn about the impacts of white-nose syndrome, a devastating fungal disease affecting bat populations, and how DEC monitors and manages bat species across the state. The discussion will also explore the essential role bats play as biocontrol predators, helping to regulate insect populations and maintain ecological balance. Lucara Aman, a bat technician with the NYS DEC, will lead the presentation. She assists with monitoring summer and winter bat populations and supports research projects to better understand NY’s bat species.

This webinar is part of the Tug Hill Winter Wildlife Webinar Series, which explores the region’s diverse wildlife and conservation efforts. Stay tuned for upcoming sessions, including a discussion on American Chestnut Research and Restoration in March 2025.

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*The New York State Tug Hill Commission is a non-regulatory state agency charged with helping local governments, organizations, and citizens shape the future of the region, especially its environment and economy. The commission uses a grassroots approach to build local capacity and provide technical assistance in land use planning, community development, and natural resource management.*

*[Helping local governments and citizens shape the future of the Tug Hill region.](http://www.tughill.org)*