Introductory course on the bioacoustics of bats

A training program of the [Swiss Bat Bioacoustics Group](#)

In cooperation with the coordination centers for bat conservation [KOF](#)/[CCO](#)
and support by [WSL](#)

Fri. 28.4.2023,14h - **Sun. 30.4.2023**, **16h, Büschiheim, Köniz near Bern**

Summer field work (individual schedule / own planning)

Sat. 11.11.2023,10h - **Sun. 12.11.2023**, **17h, Büschiheim, Köniz near Bern**

Objectives and course content
The course gives an introduction to bioacoustics and the study of bats through classification of their ultrasound calls. The main objective of the course is to learn how to correctly perform bioacoustic surveys in the field using bat detectors and recording devices, and to distinguish the five main bioacoustic groups of bats in Switzerland. The identification of individual species is covered in the course, but a reliable species identification requires long experience. The course provides the necessary tools and the corresponding network. The focus of the course will be on practical work, but the most important theoretical basics will be taught.

– First module: introduction, hardware/software, surveys, call types
– Second module: field recordings supported by a supervisor
– Third module: analysing sound files and species identification

Target audience
This course is open to all interested people who want to learn and apply appropriate bioacoustic techniques, with a priority for newcomers.

Requirements for the participants / Conditions of participation
Basic knowledge of the bat species in Switzerland and their biology is expected, but a sound knowledge of bioacoustics is not necessary. All three modules are mandatory.

Course location
The course takes place in the [Pfadiheim Büschiheim](#) in Köniz BE (https://www.pfadi-falkenstein.ch/heime/bueschiheim). You can reach the Pfadiheim by private car or by public transport until Köniz, Schloss (from there approx. 400m by foot).

Course language
The course is held in English. However, questions can also be asked in German and French. During the course, parts of the theory that were not understood can be repeated orally, also in German or French.

Number of participants
For logistical reasons the number of participants is limited to 25. The course will only take place if there are at least 15 participants.

Course fee

The course fee is Fr. 750.- (Fr. 500.- for students). This includes course materials (electronic documents), lectures and accommodation with dinner on Friday, three meals on Saturday and two meals on Sunday (first part), accomodation and two meals on Saturday and two meals on Sunday (third part).

Take along

Sleeping bag; towel; good shoes and clothing appropriate to the weather (we go out at night); house shoes; headphones; headlamp / flashlight and spare batteries; eventually existing identification literature; personal belongings.

Laptop computer / tablet (with CH-plug!) if available, with installed sound analysis software, e.g. Raven Lite (can be downloaded for free) or Raven Pro (http://ravensoundsoftware.com/), optionally also further analysis software.

If available: bat detector with recording function, incl. charger or spare batteries.

Registration and information

Until 31. March 2023 via e-mail to info@sbbg.ch. Please fill out the following form completely and return it as an e-mail attachment. The registration is binding. For cancellations until 31. March 50% of the course fee is due, after that the full amount has to be paid.

Registration for the introductory course on the bioacoustics of bats: ..

Last name: ....

First name: ....

Full address: ....

Mobile phone: ....

E-mail: ....

By filling out this form I agree that my contact details will be shared with the other course participants, e.g. for carpooling. (If you do not agree, please cross out the previous sentence.)

□ Dietary preferences/restrictions...

□ I understand the following languages   □ DE □ FR □ EN

□ I can bring the following detectors …………………………....................

□ I am using the following acoustics software ....

□ I am a student (please enclose a copy of your student card)

Further information about the SBBG can be found here: www.sbbg.ch