[insert date]

Mr. John Doe

123 street

city, state, zip code

Dear [insert property owner, e.g., Mr. Doe],

The North American Bat Monitoring Program (NABat) is a large-scale, long-term collaborative monitoring program designed to assess the status and trends of North American bats at local, regional, and range-wide scales. Spanning the United States, Canada, and Mexico, NABat brings together an extensive network of partners who utilize the NABat program design and monitoring protocols to collect bat population data. These data are analyzed at various spatial and temporal scales and results are used to promote effective conservation actions to ensure the long-term viability of bat populations across the continent.

We [your affiliation] will be performing bat monitoring activities throughout [insert your state or region] from [insert period of monitoring activities, e.g, June 1st to July 1st, 2018]. For this effort, a two-person field crew will place acoustic detectors (pole or tree mounted) at randomly selected sites for [insert number of hours] hours to record bat echolocations, after which detectors will be removed from the site. Detectors emit no sound and are quite unobtrusive. The purpose of this effort is to use the collected data to determine which species of bats are using specific areas in [insert your state] and how many bats there are. The emergence of White-nose Syndrome (a fungal-born disease, responsible for killing millions of bats) has made it extremely important to collect accurate baseline information on bat populations throughout the region.

While many of the randomly selected sites for our project are located on public lands, some are on private lands. Developing a comprehensive understanding of bat population status across the region will require information from a variety of landscapes, not just protected areas. I would like to kindly request your approval to deploy acoustic bat detectors on your property sometime during summer [insert year]. If you consent to this request, our field crew will respectfully adhere to rules you establish for accessing the property to deploy and remove acoustic detectors.

If you have any questions regarding the work described here please don’t hesitate to contact us. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Address]

[Contact information]