

# White-Nose Syndrome

*A coordinated response to the devastating bat disease*

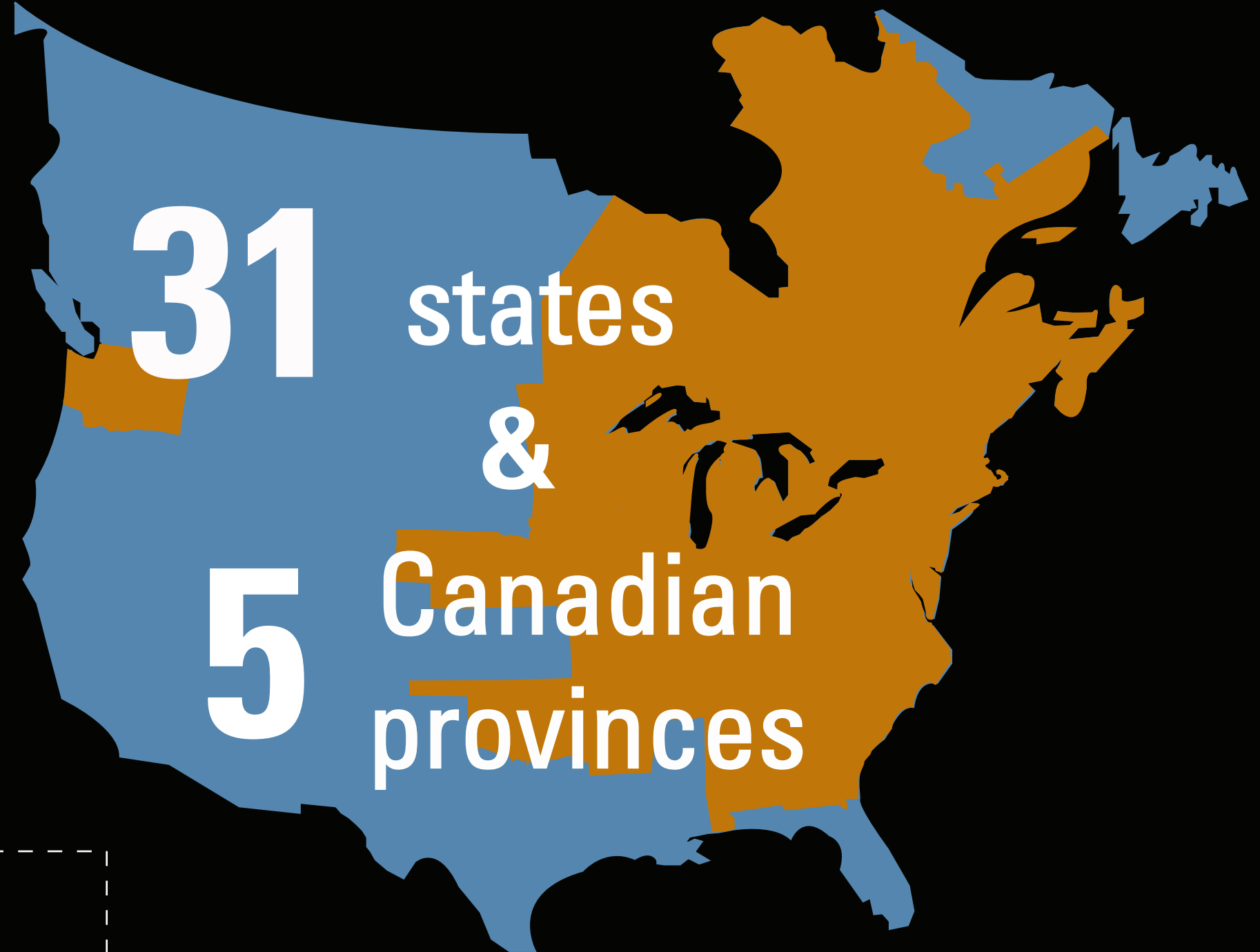


White-nose syndrome (WNS) is a disease killing hibernating bats.

First documented in  
**2006**  
in eastern New York

Afflicted bats may show white fungus on their muzzles and wings, abnormal behavior and eventual death.

WNS is confirmed in ...



**90-100%**  
mortality rate  
in many hibernacula

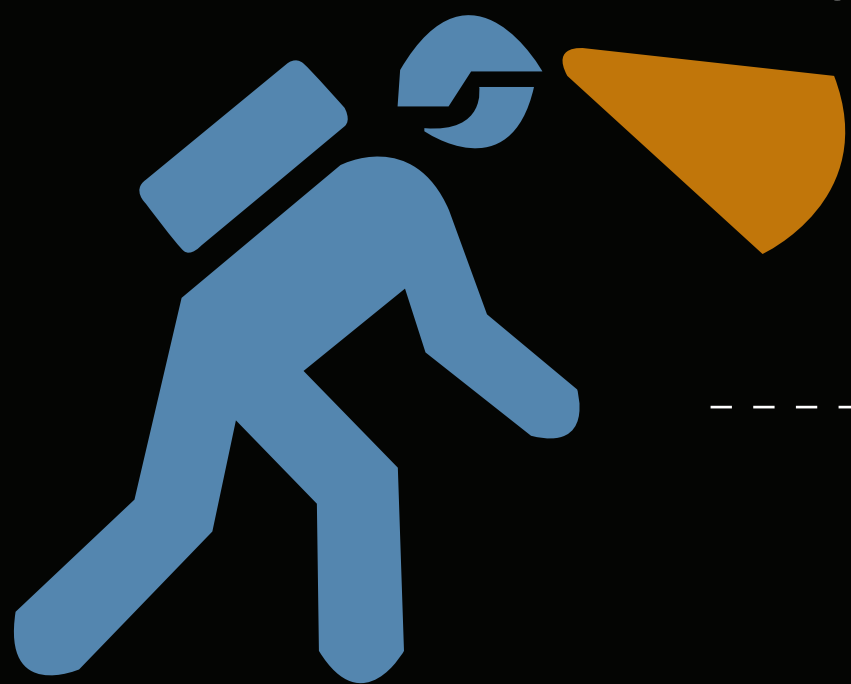
## What can I do?

Observe all cave closures and advisories.

Avoid caves with hibernating bats.

Researchers and cavers should decontaminate before and after visiting caves and mines.

If bats are in your home and you don't want them there, work with your local natural resource agency to remove the bats without harming them.



## What's being done?

More than 100 agencies and organizations are collaborating under one plan to address WNS.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service funds research to better understand the fungus, the disease and its effects on bats.

We are collaborating to contain the spread by limiting access to sensitive sites and developing decontamination protocols for researchers and cavers.