

Artificial Light at Night (ALAN) Negatively Affects Animals

Nearby Examples

1. **Spotted Salamanders** — ALAN disrupts the natural cues they need for orientation and timing when migrating to pools to mate.
2. **Fireflies** — ALAN makes it harder for potential mates to see their light
3. **Glowworms** — ALAN limits the cover of darkness, allowing predators to see them more easily.
4. **Moths** — ALAN attracts them, then they become confused and fly around a light until they're exhausted and die.
5. **Owls** — ALAN can make their prey more cautious and less active
6. **Bats** — ALAN limits the amount of dark area, which is where bats look for food. Also, some of the insect species they eat are dying off from light-related causes.

General Effects

- **Creates bright areas** — animals move to one side of the brightness or the other, and the split limits the breeding pool, threatening long-term survival.
- **Disrupts pollination** — reduces flower visitation, changes what gets pollinated
- **Upsets circadian rhythms**, which are important to sleep, migration, dormancy, mating, hormone cycles, and more.
- **Favors light-tolerant species** — lowers species diversity.

Nighttime Flora & Fauna are Undervalued and Poorly Understood

- ★ **Bioluminescence** — for example, “Foxfire” are fungi that glow in dark, moist forests.
- ★ **Night Blooming & Fragrance** — how *primroses* and other flowers attract pollinators.
- ★ **“Bad” Animals** — night denizens like bats, opossums, and moths are not our favorites