Hornaday Award Project Summary

**Project Category:** Resource Recovery and Invasive Species Control

**Bat Houses on the Poudre River Trail**

**Plan:** build ten (10) bat houses out of recycled materials, and mount along the Poudre River Trail in an effort to decrease the invasive West Nile Virus carrying mosquito population. With the help of boy scouts, make kits out of the donated materials. Lead Cub Scouts at the Centennial District Cub Scout Camp to build the pre-made kits. And teach the cub scouts about the importance of bats in the community.

**Leadership:** I organized the donations of all of the resources required to complete this project. Then I gathered a team of Boy Scouts from my troop to build bat house kits at the Scout Show. After that I recruited a new team of Boy Scouts to help me run a station at the Day Camp, where over 350 people including, Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Webelos, and adult leaders helped make ten bat houses out of the pre-made kits. Then I took a group of Boy Scouts and spent a day mounting all of the bat houses over a 4-mile stretch of the Poudre River Trail.

**Result:** in the end, I had led the installing of ten bat houses, that can hold up to 250 bats each. And I made them out of recycled and donated products. But the main part that made this project beneficial is the education that the cub scouts received as they built the bat houses. They learned about bats, and how bats help out in the ecosystem. And they learned about the invasive West Nile Virus and how to avoid getting it. The bat houses may work or not, but the Cub Scouts gained something that will never leave them, knowledge. And that is exactly what I intended to give them.

**Date Completed:** 7-01-2006

**Number of People involved:** 380