

# *Macrotus waterhousii*

(Waterhouse's leaf-nosed bat)

**Distribution:** Found from southeast United States down to Guatemala and Greater Antilles including the Bahamas and Caiman Islands. There are a total of six subspecies where *Macrotus waterhousii minor* can be commonly found on the Cuban archipelago and on Isla Juventud. It is most abundant in the Cuban keys located on the north of the island.

**Physical description:** It is a medium-sized bat weighing in at 12-18 g, with a forearm length of 47-56 mm and a wingspan of 333-365 mm. It has a slender snout with a defined nose leaf and large eyes. The fur is a light brown color. It is differentiated from other insectivorous bats by the presence of the nose leaf and its large ears.

**Roost:** It roosts predominantly in caves, often in groups of up to several hundred, though finding them in smaller numbers is not uncommon. Some roosts are used only seasonally.

**Diet:** They feed on insects like moths, butterflies, dragonflies, beetles, and cicadas.

