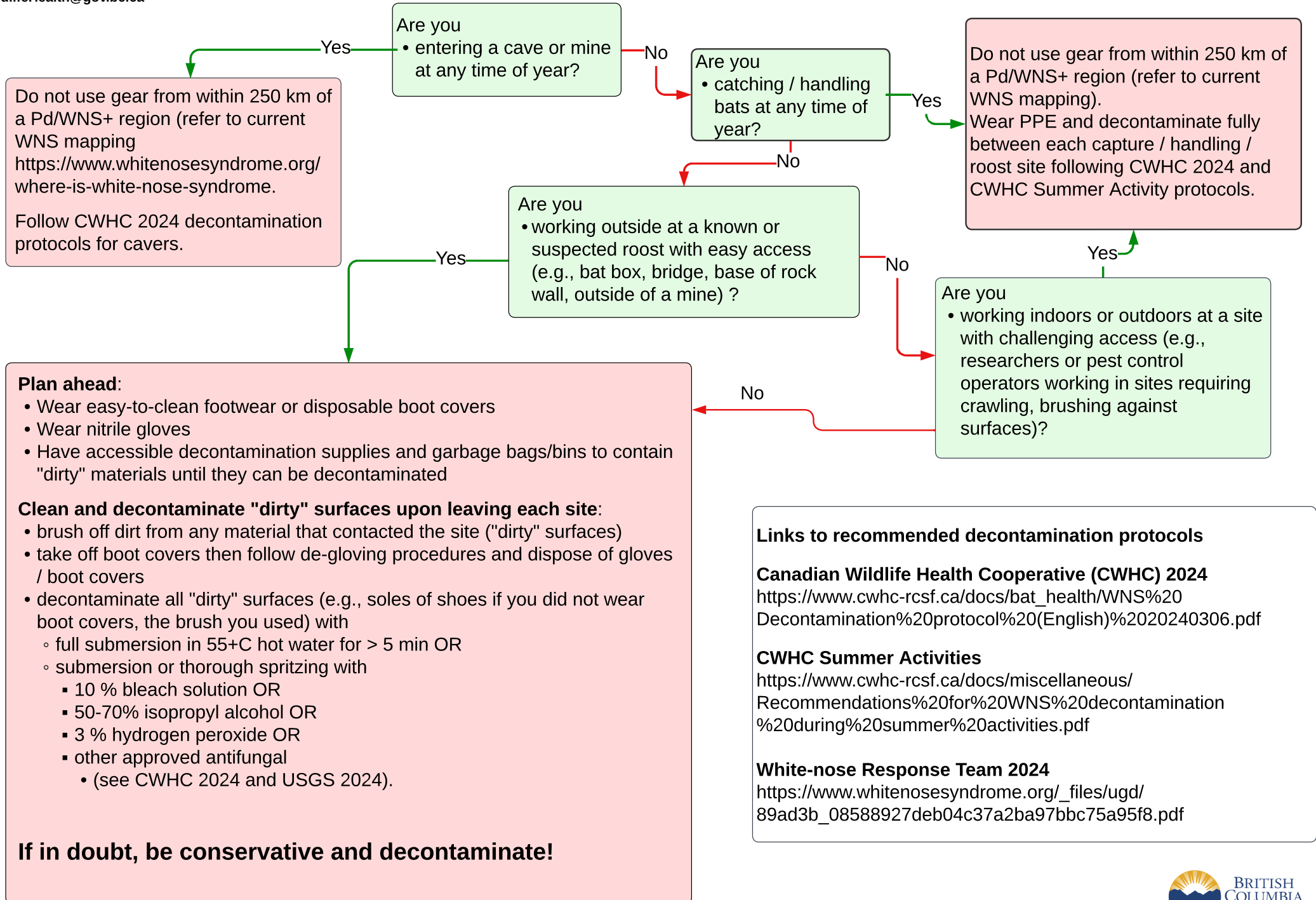


## B.C. Decontamination Flowchart April 2026

for white-nose syndrome (WNS) and *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* (Pd)

WildlifeHealth@gov.bc.ca



B.C. Decontamination Flowchart April 2026 for white-nose syndrome (WNS) and Pseudogymnoascus destructans (Pd)

[WildlifeHealth@gov.bc.ca](mailto:WildlifeHealth@gov.bc.ca)

Text version

1. Are you - entering a cave or mine at any time of year?
  - a. Yes - Do not use gear from within 250 km of a Pd/WNS+ region (refer to current WNS mapping <https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/where-is-white-nose-syndrome>. Follow CWHC 2024 decontamination protocols for cavers.
  - b. No - go to 2
2. Are you - catching / handling bats at any time of year?
  - a. Yes - Do not use gear from within 250 km of a Pd/WNS+ region (refer to current WNS mapping. Wear PPE and decontaminate fully between each capture / handling / roost site following CWHC 2024 and CWHC Summer Activity protocols.
  - b. No – go to 3
3. Are you - working outside at a known or suspected roost with easy access (e.g., bat box, bridge, base of rock wall, outside of a mine) ?
  - a. Yes - Plan ahead: - Wear easy-to-clean footwear or disposable boot covers - Wear nitrile gloves - Have accessible decontamination supplies and garbage bags/bins to contain "dirty" materials until they can be decontaminated  
Clean and decontaminate "dirty" surfaces upon leaving each site: - brush off dirt from any material that contacted the site ("dirty" surfaces) - take off boot covers then follow de-gloving procedures and dispose of gloves / boot covers - decontaminate all "dirty" surfaces (e.g., soles of shoes if you did not wear boot covers, the brush you used) with - full submersion in 55+C hot water for > 5 min OR - submersion or thorough spritzing with - 10 % bleach solution OR - 50-70% isopropyl alcohol OR - 3 % hydrogen peroxide OR - other approved antifungal - (see CWHC 2024 and USGS 2024). If in doubt, be conservative and decontaminate!
  - b. No – go to 4
4. Are you - working indoors or outdoors at a site with challenging access (e.g., researchers or pest control operators working in sites requiring crawling, brushing against surfaces)?
  - a. Yes - Do not use gear from within 250 km of a Pd/WNS+ region (refer to current WNS mapping. Wear PPE and decontaminate fully between each

capture / handling / roost site following CWHC 2024 and CWHC Summer Activity protocols.

- b. No - Yes - Plan ahead: - Wear easy-to-clean footwear or disposable boot covers - Wear nitrile gloves - Have accessible decontamination supplies and garbage bags/bins to contain "dirty" materials until they can be decontaminated Clean and decontaminate "dirty" surfaces upon leaving each site: - brush off dirt from any material that contacted the site ("dirty" surfaces) - take off boot covers then follow de-gloving procedures and dispose of gloves / boot covers - decontaminate all "dirty" surfaces (e.g., soles of shoes if you did not wear boot covers, the brush you used) with - full submersion in 55+C hot water for > 5 min OR - submersion or thorough spritzing with - 10 % bleach solution OR - 50-70% isopropyl alcohol OR - 3 % hydrogen peroxide OR - other approved antifungal - (see CWHC 2024 and USGS 2024). If in doubt, be conservative and decontaminate!

Links to recommended decontamination protocols

Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative (CWHC) 2024

[https://www.cwhc-rscf.ca/docs/bat\\_health/WNS%20Decontamination%20protocol%20\(English\)%2020240306.pdf](https://www.cwhc-rscf.ca/docs/bat_health/WNS%20Decontamination%20protocol%20(English)%2020240306.pdf)

CWHC Summer Activities

[https://www.cwhc-rscf.ca/docs/bat\\_health/Recommendations%20for%20decontamination%20during%20summer%20activities%20\(English\)%2020240306.pdf](https://www.cwhc-rscf.ca/docs/bat_health/Recommendations%20for%20decontamination%20during%20summer%20activities%20(English)%2020240306.pdf)

White-nose Response Team 2024

[https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/files/ugd/89ad3b\\_08588927deb04c37a2ba97bbc75a95f8.pdf](https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/files/ugd/89ad3b_08588927deb04c37a2ba97bbc75a95f8.pdf)