



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CAVE DIVING
2006 - FOURTH QUARTER SAFETY REPORT



Region: California – Northern Region

Date Prepared: December 12, 2006

Prepared By:

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Cave Name: Ocean Caverns Only	Cave Location: Monterey, CA
Current Conditions: Varied	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: Surge	

Region: Florida - Northern Suwannee Valley

Date Prepared: Dec 15, 2006

Prepared By:

Name :	Lance M. Ohl
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Cave Name: MADISON BLUE SPRINGS State Park	Cave Location: Madison County
Current Conditions: River is low, flow is minimal, vis is great. Cross-under tunnel is beginning to siphon. Marst entry difficult with water so low.	

Cave Name: PEACOCK State Park	Cave Location: Suwannee County
Current Conditions: River is low, flow is minimal, vis is good, but slow to clear if disturbed.	

Cave Name: TELFORD	Cave Location: Suwannee County
Current Conditions: River is low, flow is minimal, vis is good.	

Cave Name: LAFAYETTE BLUE SPRINGS S.P.	Cave Location: Lafayette County
Current Conditions: River is low, flow is minimal except thru Snake sink shallows, vis is fair (20-30ft). The only available entry is on the river side of the natural bridge.	

Cave Name: LITTLE RIVER County Park	Cave Location: Suwannee County
Current Conditions: River is low, flow is minimal, vis is very good. Entry / exit can be tricky with water so low.	

Region: Florida - Santa Fe River Valley Region

Date Prepared: 12/16/06

Prepared By:

Name :	Richard Courtney
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Cave Name: Devil's System	Cave Location: Gilchrist County, FL
Current Conditions: 100'+ vis, flow down, water table low	
Safety Concerns: expect a lot of cave diver traffic, especially on weekends! Lines were fixed in the Mud Tunnel, behind the Bats, and July Spring. Please be aware that the River Intrusion Tunnel and Mainland have been relined, and may not be similar to expectations.	

Cave Name: Hart Springs	Cave Location: Gilchrist County, FL
Current Conditions: 70'+ vis, flow down, water table low	
Safety Concerns: black water entrance & exit , must have 100+ cave dives and dive with a Hart Springs Guide	

Cave Name: Hornsby Springs	Cave Location: Alachua County, FL
Current Conditions: Unknown, currently closed to cave diving	

Cave Name: Mill Creek Sink	Cave Location: Alachua County, FL
Current Conditions: 60+ in system, 5' in basin	
Safety Concerns: very steep stairs for entrance/exit so use care after decompressing, deep cave with trimix recommended, must have 100+ cave dives and dive with Mill Creek Guide, downstream is a siphon	

Cave Name: Rock Bluff	Cave Location: Gilchrist County, FL
Safety Concerns: Tight, sidemount cave, typically high flow	

Region: Florida – Tallahassee Region

Date Prepared: 11/27/2006

Prepared By:

Name :	Jeff Bauer
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Cave Name: Indian Springs	Cave Location: South of Tallahassee
Current Conditions: clear, but only diveable to Camp Indian Springs project members – open access being negotiated.	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: Trimix cave	

Cave Name: Emerald	Cave Location: South of Tallahassee
Current Conditions: clear, but not diveable pending completion of steps and finalizing of dive procedures from Wakulla Springs State Park	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: Trimix cave	

Cave Name: Harvey's	Cave Location: South of Crawfordville
Current Conditions: 30 feet vis, not on public land, need landowner permission to dive	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: low viz, deep section > 200 feet, to be relined	

Cave Name: Church Sink	Cave Location: South of Tallahassee
Current Conditions: Clear. On private property and need landowner permission to dive	
Outstanding Safety Concerns:	
Description of Recent Incidents: -none-	

Region: 4th QTR for Georgia Region

Date Prepared: December 06

Prepared By:

Name :	Lewis Puckett
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Cave Name: Radium Springs	Cave Location: South Georgia. Dougherty County
Description of Recent Incidents: Mapping and research lead by Paul DeLoach and other divers in Radium Springs. Said to be using electromagnetic field readings to map the passages. Permission from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources which controls the property was given.	

Cave Name: Craigs Mill Blue Pond	Cave Location: North West Georgia
Current Conditions: Unknown at this time	

Region: Grand Bahama

Date Prepared: 14th December, 2006

Prepared By:

Name :	Ben Cook
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Cave Name: Mermaid's Lair	Cave Location: Grand Bahama
Current Conditions: Great	
Description of Recent Incidents: No Incidents. Continued Stalagmite reconstruction project with help from Cristina Zenato	

Cave Name: Owl Hole	Cave Location: Grand Bahama
Current Conditions: Great	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: The old forty foot steel ladder, installed in 1996, was showing it's age, and recently suffered a broken rung. The old ladder was removed with the help of Steve Robinson, David Cook, and a large amount of rope and winches. Steve has organized the manufacture of a new, superior, ladder, which is in the process of being installed.	

Cave Name: Ben's Cave	Cave Location: Lucayan National Park, Grand Bahama
Current Conditions: Great	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: Only cave divers who have applied for and received a scientific permit from the Bahamas National Trust's headquarters in Nassau are permitted to dive the caves within the boundaries of the Lucayan National Park. These rules should be adhered to, helping to ensure that the limited access currently enjoyed by National Trust Cavern Guides and their groups continues.	

Cave Name: Burial Mound Cave	Cave Location: Lucayan National Park, Grand Bahama
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Current Conditions: Great

Cave Name: Chimney Hole

Cave Location: Hunter's, Grand Bahama
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Cave Name: Zoo Hole

Cave Location: Eight Mile Rock, Grand Bahama

Cave Name: Cemetary Hole

Cave Location: Crabbin Bay, Grand Bahama

Cave Name: Sagittarius

Cave Location: Sweeting's Cay, Grand Bahama
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Current Conditions: Great.

Outstanding Safety Concerns: This relatively short (900 ft), highly decorated system boasted 3 parallel/overlapping permanent guidelines. Two of these lines had been installed by the original explorers led by Rob Palmer in the 1980's and consisted of quarter inch floating polypropylene; the third had been installed by the members of 'Team Karst', more recently, and consists of #18 nylon line, knotted every 10ft. The 3 lines in places formed a jumble which would have been extremely difficult to follow in a reduced visibility emergency situation. The floating polypropylene lines were removed with the help of Kevin Jones, all original line markers were transferred to the nylon guideline which was checked to make sure the route it takes would be possible to follow in adverse circumstances, and that impact on the cave's astounding formations would be minimized by following line protocol.
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Cave Name: Shark Hole

Cave Location: Rocky Creek, Grand Bahama

Region: Mexico - Quintana Roo

Date Prepared: Dec. 21, 2006

Prepared By:

Name :	Chuck Stevens
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Cave Name:Chac Mool	Cave Location: hwy 307 near Puerto aventuras
Current Conditions: normal	

Cave Name: Actun Koh	Cave Location: hwy 307 near xpuha palace
Current Conditions: normal	
Description of Recent Incidents: site undergoing landowners disputes – owner doesn't want divers on site. New gate with lock	

Cave Name: Kantunchi	Cave Location: hwy 307 near xpuha palace
Current Conditions: normal	

Cave Name: Chikin Ha	Cave Location: hwy307 next to Kantunchi entrance
Current Conditions: normal	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: unauthorized line changes	
Description of Recent Incidents: permanent lines have been tampered with and will have to be rectified	

Cave Name:Eden system (Ponderosa)	Cave Location: hwy 307 down from xpuha palace
Current Conditions: normal	
Description of Recent Incidents: underwater safety sign tampering have been rectified	

Cave Name: Minitaura	Cave Location: hwy 307 across from Club Maeva
Current Conditions: normal	
Description of Recent Incidents: graffiti to cave walls	

Cave Name: Taj Mahal	Cave Location: hwy 307 down from Club Maeva
Current Conditions: normal	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: cave instability	
Description of Recent Incidents: quarrying being done on next land parcel and some cave collapse has occurred in the downstream section	

Cave Name: Dos Ojos	Cave Location: hwy 307 south of Cheymuyil town
Current Conditions: normal	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: cavern line requires attention	

Cave Name:Nohoch Nah Chich	Cave Location: hwy 307 south of Dos Ojos
Current Conditions:normal	
Outstanding Safety Concerns:unauthorized permanent line changes	
Description of Recent Incidents: Main lines have been returned to their original positions after unauthorized gold lines were installed	

Cave Name:Tankah cenote	Cave Location: hwy 307 then to the coast near Sunscape/Dreams resort
Current Conditions:normal	

Cave Name:Temple of Doom	Cave Location: km.2 of Coba highway
Current Conditions: normal	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: ladder into system damaged	
Description of Recent Incidents:exiting water will be a problem as ladder is now lashed to the cave entrance	

Cave Name:Grand cenote/Sac Actun	Cave Location: km.5 of Coba High way
Current Conditions: normal	

Cave Name:Calimba	Cave Location: km.5.5 of Coba Highway
Current Conditions: normal	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: line maker changes	
Description of Recent Incidents: expect line marker changes and changes to the T at the line going to rio de lagarto. These will be rectified within the next week	

Cave Name: Vaca Ha	Cave Location: km.7 Coba highway
Current Conditions: normal	

Cave Name:Tortuga	Cave Location: km.7 Coba highway
Current Conditions:normal	

Cave Name: Carwash Cenote	Cave Location: km. 8 Coba Highway
Current Conditions: normal	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: u/w signs in deteriorated state	

Cave Name: Naharon	Cave Location: 2 kms. South of Tulum
Current Conditions: normal	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: u/w signs in bad shape	

Cave Name:Maya Blue	Cave Location: Across from Naharon entrance
Current Conditions: normal	
Outstanding Safety Concerns: unauthorized line changes	
Description of Recent Incidents: unauthorized main line changes have occurred at 3 different time periods to A, B, and E lines. At this date the lines are at their original positions	

Cave Name:Angelita	Cave Location: 8 kms south of Tulum
Current Conditions: normal	

SAFETY OFFICER REPORT – Dec 2006

Cedric Verdier, NACD Safety Officer, South-East Asia

Thailand:

- Kao Sok National Park, South Thailand. 3 lines have been added to the Pra Deng cave. A complete survey of the system is in process.

- Sra Keow, Krabi. The exploration Sra Keow 1 has been done to a maximum depth of 201m/660ffw so far. Further exploration of Sra Keow 1, 2 and 3 should take place in January.

Vietnam:

N/A

Malaysia:

- A cave has been discovered in Tioman Island. Local contact is Erik Enberg from Kuala Lumpur.

- Local cave divers are exploring the huge number of cave systems in Sulawesi. Local contact is Spencer Coca from Miri.

Singapore:

N/A

Philippines islands:

- Two cave systems have been explored in Cebu Island. Survey is in process. Local contact is Paul Neilsen.

Korea:

- A team of Korean divers is exploring different cave systems in Korea. Information should be provided soon by Jason Park.

Hong Kong:

- A team of Chinese divers has explored a few cave systems in mainland China. Information should be provided soon by Steve Chan.

Taiwan:

N/A

South-East Asia:

A press release will be send to all the local diving magazines and a letter will be emailed to all the dive shops in the area to present the duties of the NACD Safety Officer and to encourage local cave diving team to contact me and share the information they have about local cave systems, maps, exploration projects, etc.

Cedric Verdier
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Reports have been compiled by Richard Dreher – International Safety Director