
WILLIAMS CANYON PROJECT, NSS

Spring Meeting

Cave of the Winds,

May 2, 1998

10:00 a.m.

A G E N D A

WELCOME

? Any general announcements or news.

1997-98 CAVE PROJECTS

Narrows Cave: Jon Barker

Plans for digging in Narrows for the new season. North end? South end? Update on surveying efforts in the cave by Paul Burger.

? *Discussion:* 1997/98 dig objectives; surveying timetable and distribution of data and maps.

Breezeway Cave: Randy Reck

Little Mountain Room Dig: Update on major effort along the eastern wall of the Little Mountain Room.

Plans for new season; considerations for protection of any new passageways discovered upon the successful completion of the dig project.

Celestial City Dig: Update on projected dig project from north end of Celestial City. Environmental concerns - where to put debris from the dig, protection of the helictites in Celestial City.

Other Projects: Digging in south end of Cowboy Heaven; Rattlesnake Canyon proposed climb (protection of cave features below climb); any other projected digs or other science/surveying projects.

? *Discussion:* project logistics.

East Wall Project: Rick Rhinehart

Continued efforts this season in digging in prospects along the "East Wall" of lower Williams Canyon. Alpha Beta prospect key. Continued search for legendary Hackleman's Cave.

? *Discussion:* project logistics.

Other Dig Projects

Any other dig projects for the caves of Williams Canyon for 1997-98?

WILLIAMS CANYON PROJECT SURVEY SECTION

Update: Paul Burger, Tom Dotter

Surveying is continuing of smaller Williams Canyon caves. The overland baseline survey has begun, goal is to establish accurate survey line through the canyon tied into a USGS benchmark. A laser theodolite will be used for this survey, which will eventually tie in all major caves and be the basis of the Williams Canyon quadrangle cave map system. Also, this fall will begin inventory of caves. Training sessions are planned for cavers to learn this system adapted from successful inventory systems currently in use in Carlsbad Caverns and Wind Cave National Parks.

? *Discussion:* Current projects; available maps; scheduling of training sessions.

WILLIAMS CANYON PROJECT WEEKENDS

Discussion:

This season, the Project will held monthly work weekends that are open to the caving community of Colorado. The weekends are the third Saturday of each month:

OCTOBER 18

NOVEMBER 15

DECEMBER 20

JANUARY 17

FEBRUARY 21

MARCH 21

APRIL 18

Trustees are needed to lead general interest projects for each of these Saturdays. Examples might be similar to the test work days of earlier this year - trash pickups, open digs, cave hunting, inventory, surveying, trail maintenance, etc.

? *Discussion:* Set 1997/98 work weekend projects, trip leaders.

ANNUAL REPORT

Discussion: Mark Maslyn, Paul Burger

The first Annual Report for the Williams Canyon Project is scheduled for completion later this year or in early 1998. Volunteers are needed to assist with this major project, including assistance with surveying, writing, and photo selection.

? *Discussion:* Project timeline, financial considerations.

NON-PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN THE CANYON CAVES

From time to time, non-Williams Canyon Project trips and activities are held in Williams Canyon caves. This November 8-9, for instance, a cave rescue seminar is planned by the non-NSS Colorado Cave Rescue Network for the canyon. Cavers who are not approved WCP Trustees will lead trips into Huccacove and possibly other canyon caves. Participants will include a large number of non-cavers from the El Paso County Search and Rescue Group. At other times, photographic and geologic teams have visited and toured other caves, including Breezeway. Certainly, the management of the Cave of the Winds has the authority to determine who and who does not enter their property. But, doesn't the Project also have a responsibility in

approving these trips? One possibility is for these non-Project trips to request a “Special Use” permit for their activities to be approved by both the Cave and the Project. Any comments?

CAVE OF THE WINDS TOPICS

Discussion: Susan Berdeaux, Grant Carey

Cave of the Winds staff may have some topics for review and consideration by the Board and Project Trustees.

OTHER TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

? Topics from the Floor

? Upcoming Meetings – February 7, May 2.