



Cave Survey Synopsis

April 25, 2013

Team members:

Kelly Mathis (trip leader) Jessica Reese
MaryBeth Wells

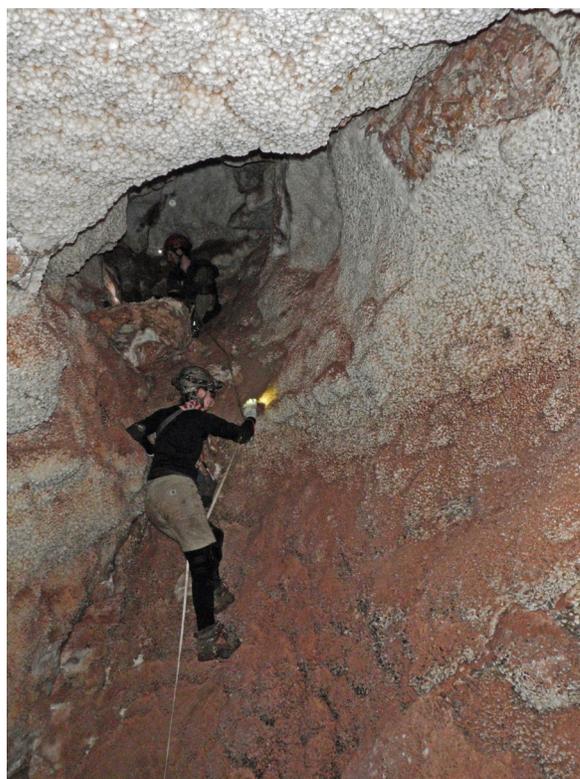
This 5-hour trip was a continuation of efforts to map passages in the G survey area, north of the Scenic Tour route.

The team began near station G52, where the map indicated an opening to an unexplored passage. The passage appeared to continue up a short climb, which the cavers safely negotiated using a hand line. Unfortunately, the passage ends shortly past that.

They next surveyed some areas that had been sketched in on the old map but not surveyed. The original surveyors often sketched short passages in lieu of an actual survey. With the advantage of a modern laser distance meter, instead of a fiber-glass measuring tape, these areas can now be surveyed more easily.

The team continued mapping these sketched-in passages until their allotted time was up.

For each trip, there is a person on the surface



MaryBeth uses a handline to access an upper level. NPS Photo

who is responsible for initiating a rescue if the team doesn't come out of the cave on time. This

is just one of many preparations that explorers make to ensure safety.

318 feet were surveyed on this trip, and the current length of Jewel Cave is 166.57 miles.

