



Cave Survey Synopsis

February 21, 2013

Team members:

Kelly Mathis (trip leader)	Jessica Reese
Steve Langendorf	Brad Phillips

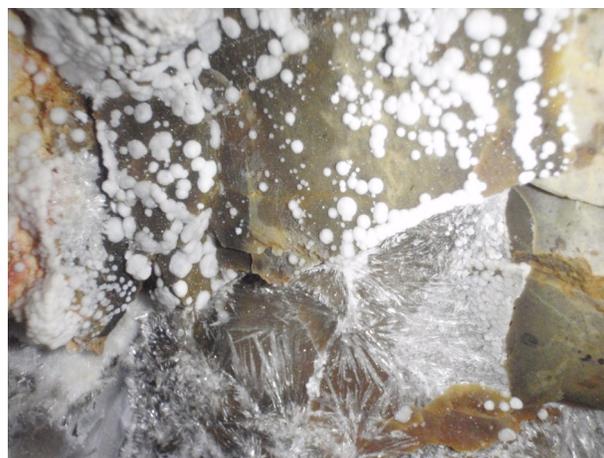
This trip was a continuation of efforts to map passages in the G survey area, north of the Scenic Tour route.

The team surveyed in two crawlways that had been sketched on the old map, but had not been surveyed. In the second of these, they found a crawl that had not been indicated on the sketch map, which appears to continue. This lead will be surveyed on the next trip to the area.



Steve Langendorf reads the clinometer, while sighting on a "point light." NPS Photo

The floors of both passages are covered in thick, black manganese minerals. Jewel Cave is well known for its extensive manganese deposits, which are composed of various manganese oxides and hydroxides. The origin of the manganese is unknown. It precipitated out of water, and the grain size of the manganese indicates that this precipitation event happened very quickly.



A variety of mineral deposits on a layer of chert. NPS Photo

The team also found several deposits of frostwork, gypsum, and dots of a white mineral that may be hydromagnesite moonmilk.

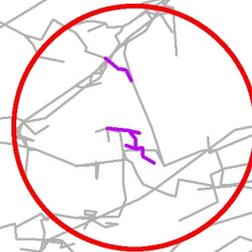
178.90 feet were surveyed on this 5.5-hour trip.

The current length of Jewel Cave is 164.88 miles.

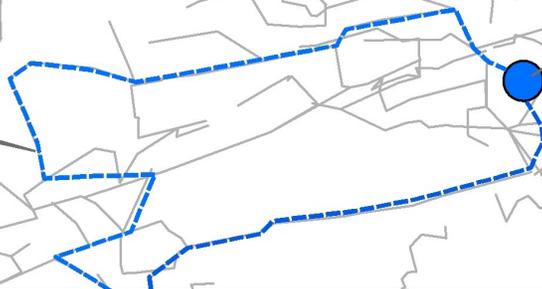
New Jewel Cave Survey

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— New Survey



Scenic Tour Route



Elevator

