

# Colorado Cave Trip Report

Fill-in only the fields applicable to your trip. Just reporting on bats? OK!

Date:			
<b>Background Information</b>			
Name of Cave		Grotto/organization	
Cave location Example: White River National Forest		Date(s) of trip	
Name of trip leader(s) and team members		Number of participants (adults/children)	
Cave sections/areas visited		Tag number	
<b>Summary of Key Activities</b>			
Summarize key activities undertaken (e.g. surveying, cave monitoring, recreational caving, explore up-stream cave passage) Examples: * Inventory of newly surveyed areas. * Detailed photos of the gate, ladders, Bolts, ropes in the cave or any man-made hardware in the cave. * Cave invertebrate collecting. * Documenting the up-stream passage. * Results of general monitoring for vandalism or other human impacts.			
<b>Contact Details</b>			
Name of person(s) who prepared report		Phone number	
Email address			

## Observations and Comments

### Bats

Bats are easily disturbed by human activity. Where possible, keep clear of roosting sites and do not enter maternity sites unless otherwise approved by the Park Authority. Do not shine lights directly at bats and avoid excessive noise and movement when in proximity to colonies.

Were bats observed in the cave? If yes, describe the specific location(s) in the cave where they were observed.

What species (if known) of bats were observed and in what number (approximate only)?

Did the colony/group of bats observed include pups (i.e. infant bats)?

What characteristics or behaviors were observed? (e.g. bats roosting in colony, individually or flying in and out of passages)

If no bats were observed, were there any signs of recent activity or previous use (e.g. fresh guano, dead bats)?

Other observations

### Other Fauna

Caves provide habitat and living conditions for a variety of highly evolved invertebrate species, several of which have adapted to survive in total darkness. Many cave invertebrates are highly sensitive to changes in the environment, particularly those found in water. Other fauna including owls, swallows, racoons, packrats, or other species known to use the twilight zones of caves for refuge and shelter.

Were cave invertebrates present in the cave? If yes, What type of species? Describe the specific location(s) in the cave where they were observed.

Were other vertebrate fauna present in the cave? If yes, describe the specific locations in the cave where they were observed, their name and/or species and population size.

### Cave Formations, Bedrock, Sediments and Fossil Deposits (Cave Features)

Were cave formations in a generally good condition (i.e. intact and not muddled)? If No, describe the specific location(s) in the cave where damage was observed, and the type and scale of damage.

Did you observe any recent damage to other cave features? If yes, describe the specific location(s) in the cave where damage was observed and the type and scale of damage.

Describe any unusual or outstanding cave features that have not been previously reported (e.g. related to the caves mineralogy, sedimentary deposits, paleontology.)

Was there evidence of people straying from delineated tracks? (e.g. boot prints, muddying or scratching of formations beyond taped-off areas) If yes, describe the specific location(s) within the cave where this was observed.

**Cave Infrastructure (including gates, locks, signs, cave tags, artificial anchors, ladders, track markers, fixed ropes and handlines)**

The predominantly wet environment of many caves means that infrastructure such as gates, locks and ladders may corrode, rot or cease to operate over time. Infrastructure may also be damaged through vandalism, or in a limited number of cases, misuse. Care should be taken when using cave infrastructure and any sign of disrepair or damage should be reported to the authorities that are allowing access to the cave and or the Colorado Cave Survey CCS. <https://coloradocavesurvey.org/access-to-colorado-caves/>

Was cave infrastructure in generally good condition? If No, describe the specific location(s) in the cave where disrepair or damage to the infrastructure was observed, and the scale and type of disrepair or damage. (Pictures Helpful)

Attach photo here

Could the cave benefit from additional infrastructure? If yes, describe the rationale for the proposed infrastructure and the type required. (Pictures are helpful)

Attach photo here

Was the cave free of waste or refuse? If No, describe the location(s) within the cave where waste or refuse was observed and the type of waste or refuse.

**Risks and Hazards**

Were any unusual or unanticipated cave hazards encountered? If yes, describe the specific location(s) in the cave where they were encountered, and the type and scale of hazard (unstable rocks, high levels of CO2).

Do you have any comments or requests relating to the conservation or use of the cave accessed?

Attach any additional photos here