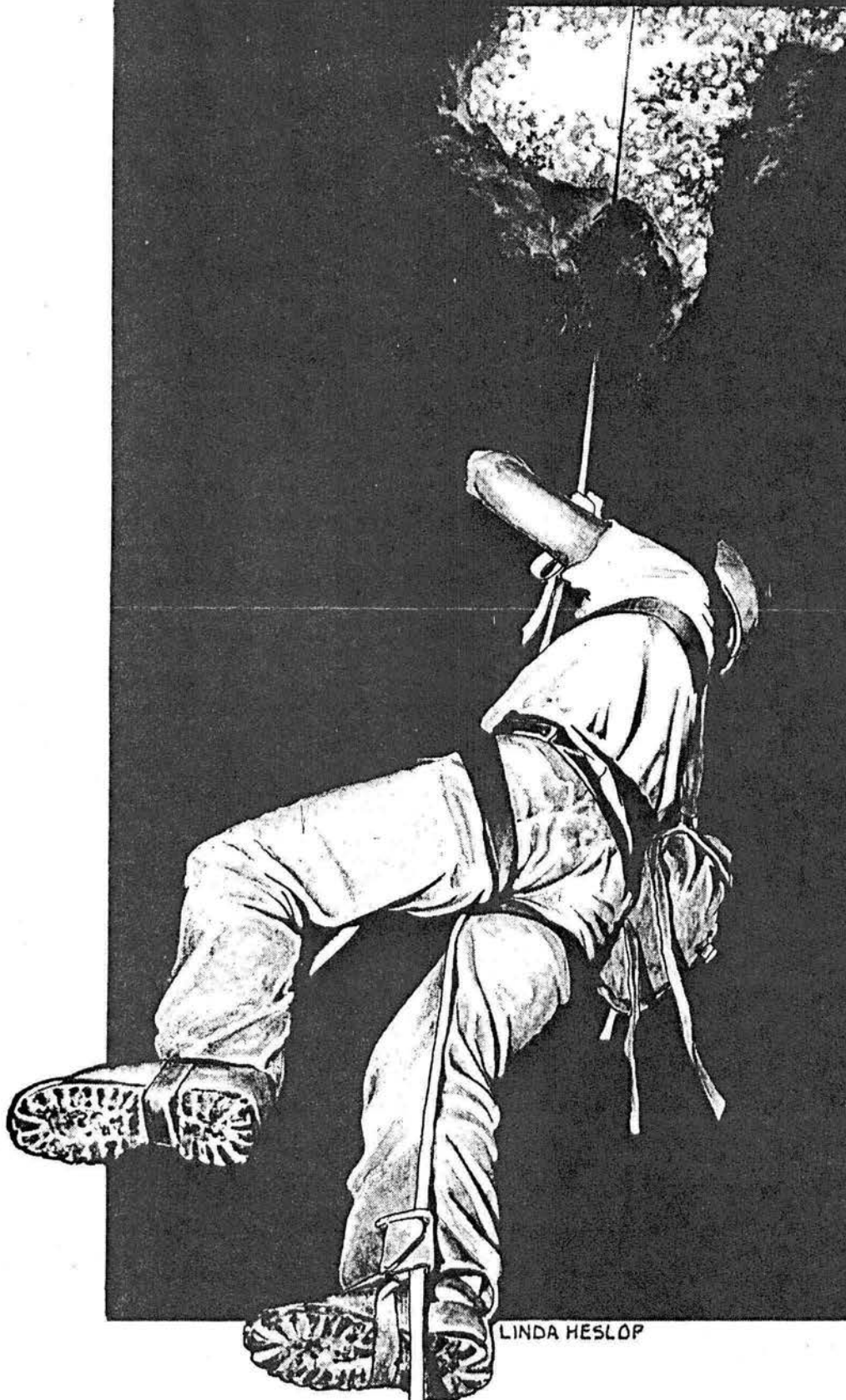


# *Cascade Caver*

Volume 29, No. 5-6 May-June 1990



LINDA HESLOP

## Cascade Caver

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**Cover:** "Miller Time minus 50 feet". Drawing by Linda Heslop. Cover correction: Scott Fee wrote to say that the cover of the January-February issue showed Glenn LeMasters in Glory Hole, Indiana, not Jewel Cave as stated.

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## Cascade Grotto

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Trips: Mark Wilson . . . . . 206 283-3369

**Mailing Address:** Cascade Grotto; P.O. Box 75663; Seattle, WA 98125-0663.

**Meeting times:** Regular grotto meetings are held monthly at 7:00 pm on the third Friday of each month at the University of Washington, Room 6, in the basement of Johnson Hall. Regular business meetings are held on the first Monday of even-numbered months at 7:00 p.m. The location varies so contact a grotto officer for specifics.

**Dues:** Subscription, 1 year . . . . . \$7.50  
Membership . . . . . \$7.50  
Additional family . . . . . \$1.50

Members and subscribers please note the date on your mailing label that shows when your dues expire.

Drop: 11/89 John Day  
11/89 Robert H. Martin 11/89 Art Tasker

Overdue: 05/90 Boyd E. Benson  
05/90 Robert Brown 04/90 John Collins  
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06/90 Mike Ramey

Coming up: 08/90 Kevin Bagley  
10/90 Walter Bjornstedt 10/90 Fredrick Dickey  
07/90 Dr. Stephen Gates 09/90 Howard Hoyt  
10/90 Richard James 08/90 Robert Stitt  
10/90 Marty Verbarendse

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## Upcoming Events

Here is our current list of planned and proposed trips. Call the trip leader or Mark Wilson, grotto trip coordinator, for more information. Any other trip ideas are also welcome, contact Mark at 283-3369.

- Jun 23 Third year of the NCRI Jewel Cave Project and final year on the existing contract. Eighty-some miles of mapped cave. Take part in inventory, writing route descriptions, reflagging trails, and radio location work. Contact Mark Sherman at (206) 542-8780. (June 23-30)
- Jul 1 Lava Beds Nat'l Monument restoration trip. Rod Crawford, 543-8953. (July 1-7)
- Jul 9 NSS Convention in Yreka, California. (July 9-13)
- Jul 20 GROTTO MEETING
- Jul 28 Mt. Index Ice Caves. Howard Hoyt, 782-4567.
- Aug 6 Grotto Business Meeting
- Aug 11 Deadhorse Cave, Trout Lake area. Bob Brown, 569-2724. (Aug 11-12)
- Aug 17 GROTTO MEETING

- Aug 31 Papoose Cave, Idaho. Jim Harp, 745-1010. (Aug 31-Sep 3 Labor Day weekend)
- Sep 22 Cave Ridge. Jim Harp, 745-1010.
- Oct 6 Windy Creek Cave. Jerry Thompson, 355-4900.
- 1991 NSS Convention in Cobleskill, NY  
NCA Regional in Idaho (tentatively).

## May Grotto Meeting

The first item discussed was the June business meeting at the home of Ben Tompkins scheduled for June 4 at 7:00.

The next topic was the Regional which will be held Memorial Day weekend at Lehman Caves Nevada. Gem State Grotto, whose turn it is to hold next year's regional, has asked if we would trade with them so that they could hold the 1992 regional (it is some anniversary for them). It was voted on and passed for Cascade Grotto to volunteer to hold the 1991 Regional.

On a different subject, Bob Brown spent a couple of minutes discussing a project he is involved with. He is with a group that is trying to set up a series of cross country ski trails in the Mt. Rainier area. If anyone is interested in helping please give him a call.

After the trip reports Steve Moon gave an excellent talk on cave photography and also of caving in his home state of Iowa. He is temporarily teaching photography at Everett Community College and will be heading back to Iowa in a couple of weeks.

## Materials received

Nittany Grotto News, PA, 1990 business issue.  
American Caves (ACCA), Fall 1990  
American Caving Accidents, NSS News, Dec. 1989  
part 2  
B.C. Caver, BC, Nov-Dec 1989  
Cave Conservationist (NSS Cons. and Management Sect.), Oct. 1989, Dec. 1989, Jan. 1990  
CIG Newsletter, IN, May 1990  
Cleve-O-Grotto News, OH, Jan. 1990, Feb. 1990  
DC Speleograph, VA, Jan. 1990, Mar. 1990, Apr. 1990  
Dripline, NY (Cornell Outing Club) Fall 1989  
(Vol. 1 #2)  
Gem Caver, ID, Winter 1989  
Massachusetts Caver, MA, Sep-Oct 1989, Nov-Dec 1989, Jan-Feb 1990  
Pholeos, OH, (Wittenberg University) Jan. 1990  
San Francisco Bay Chapter, CA, Jan. 1990, Mar. 1990, Apr. 1990  
Speleograph, OR, Feb. 1990, Mar. 1990, Apr. 1990  
Windy City Speleoneews, OH, Feb. 1990  
Preliminary schedule for the 1991-6th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology. From W.R. Halliday.  
Letter to W.R. Halliday from manager of the Mount St. Helens Nat. Volcanic Monument about road work causing runoff into Little Peoples and Gremlin Caves and the possibility of these caves filling in. Also a reply from WRH citing evidence that problem is more serious than stated by the Monument.  
Requirements for access to the Mount St. Helens Administrative Closure Area, i.e., the Red Zone, from the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. Reply from W.R. Halliday to renew the existing access permit. Schedule of planned trips into the closure area by W.R.H.  
NSS A/V Library program catalog  
Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting, March 1990  
Permit forms from W.R.Halliday for July 1 trip into the Spirit Lake Pseudokarst.

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## Spirit Lake Pseudokarst

William R. Halliday, MD

Here is the latest information on permits for the Mount St. Helens Administrative Closure Area. The 1990 WSS permit has been received for the July 1 Spirit Lake Pseudokarst field trip.

Because of seeming ambiguity in the 1990 Waiver of Liability instructions, I called Renee Corso at Amboy. She told me that new signatures are required for 1990 and each year to follow but that these can be signed just before entry and dropped in the mail.

This will be done at 7:30 a.m., Sunday July 1, at Jack's Place, about 5 miles west of Cougar. Those wanting to have breakfast there should arrive by at least 6:45 a.m.

Cavers coming from the north via Randle and Morton should mail a copy of the form to me c/o Charlie Larson (13318 NE 12th, Vancouver, WA 98685) in time for it to have reached Charlie NO LATER THAN SATURDAY, JUNE 30. It won't count if I can't put it in the mail personally at Jack's Place on July 1.

The upper Cave Basalt reconnaissance on Saturday, June 30, will still leave from Jack's Place at 8 a.m. as planned. No permit is required for this part of the annual field work.

(NOTE: Mark Sherman has the permit forms. Anyone interested in this trip should contact Mark before June 20 or plan on being at Jack's Place on Sunday morning. -Ed)

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## Speleofest 1990 Megin River

The Speleofest, an annual British Columbia regional caving event, is scheduled for August 4-11, 1990. Note that expenses mentioned below are in Canadian Dollars. Quoting from the *B.C. Caver*, Jan-Feb 1990:

Things are looking good for the Speleofest this year. We will be taking as many people as possible into the Megin River area by helicopter from the pulp mill at Gold River. The flight time should be short and so the cost might be kept to around \$100 per person for the round trip. In order to have a good idea how many people we are dealing with please submit a deposit of \$50 by July 15th. Address deposits or questions to Steve Grundy,

1971 Cromwell Rd.; Victoria, B.C.; Canada.  
V8P1R6.

Brian Bischoff provides a short history of the area. Beginning in 1975 when members of the Ecological Reserves unit discussed the presence of limestones in the Pierce ranges with Paul Griffiths.

In 1978 a group of cavers from the Quebec Speleological Society travelled by boat to the end of Matchlie Bay. After much difficulty with fog, orientation and cougars, they reached the limestone area but were not able to spend more than few minutes looking it over. On the way out they noticed distress flares and eventually met survivors of a small plane crash.

Paul Griffiths flew by the area in 1983 and confirmed the presence of a large sub-alpine karst area. In the same year members of the Ecological Reserves Unit spent several days in the area researching the local botany. They reported to Paul Griffiths that they had seen cave-like features.

After the 1989 Clayoquot Plateau trip Bischoff had the chance to hitch a ride on the helicopter on its return trip to Gold River. The karst area is roughly 1 km by 2.5 km in size. The deepest part of the formation is probably under a peak whose elevation is 1320 meters. This peak is 2 km northeast of another limestone knoll (1120 m) and a ridge or plateau runs between the two peaks at around 1000 meters. The limestone on the southeast side of the ridge could be seen descending almost to the valley bottom.

In summary, this is a massive deposit of Quatsino limestone that cannot help but produce some excellent vertical caving.

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## Jackman Creek and Ramsey's Caves

By Howard Hoyt

On April 28, Jerry Thompson and I revisited Jackman Creek Cave to update the cave register sign. Either our memories were wrong or someone had taken the sign because there definitely was no sign there. Also the sign-in register was missing out of the plastic jar so someone's been to the cave since I was last there in June, 1989.

Neither of us had seen Ramsey's Cave before. It turned out to be a really fun cave because its two domepits are reached via small holes and both are surprises. One of them you enter from the ceiling and Jerry didn't fit through the other. One has a waterfall, at least at this time of the year, and the

stream passes out through the bottom. Rod Crawford tells me that you used to enter at the bottom of the domepit whereas now you squeeze through right at the ceiling. The passage adjacent to this entrance would seem to be filling up fast. Unless it washes out again this part of the cave may soon be inaccessible. The register in this cave was barely legible - is there a plastic that will hold up to the damp and the cold? - Also, the sign-in register was gone, canister and all. We assume it washed away. The entrance to this cave is in the ditch at the side of the road and so acts like a storm sewer. There must be times when a tremendous amount of water empties into it.

We wanted to explore some of the other caves in that area but time got away from us. Soon we had to go back up the road a ways to pick up Rod who was spider collecting.

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## Secret cave? What secret cave?

*I saw this posted to computer news group rec.backcountry a few weeks ago in response to comments from someone else on the secretiveness of the caving community. I just thought it was kind of interesting - MS*

I have posted here previously in defense of the secretiveness of cavers (or spelunkers) based on environmental concerns. There are very good reasons to minimize the impact of people on caves since caves are so delicate and take so long to form.

To get on with the topic, if you are a climber and decide to get into caving, you are in for a shock. About 30 of us local climbers took up caving en mass 4 years ago.

Climbers have a tendency to be friendly and open. Information about routes is spread purposefully so that others can share our thrills on routes, hence the proliferation of guidebooks and the openness of discussion at camp in the evening. There are times that climbers are secretive but nowhere near the degree of cavers.

When we took up caving we found the caving community to be very secretive, suspicious, almost unfriendly at times, and distrusting of people until they get to know them well. Cavers have a lot more grudges with each other about who found passages and mapped them.

There are presently three different cliques of cavers in Idaho Falls, Idaho that won't even speak to each other. They're all paranoid that someone

might find the caves they're mapping in the Tetons. The worst part is that they spread rumors about the other groups and badmouth each other. I've gone to an NSS convention and found this trait is common to cavers all over the U.S.

You may wonder, why is Steve posting this? Last night I heard that a couple of cavers in Wyoming are considering putting a steel and concrete gate system with a padlock on a cave in the Tetons because a couple of friends of mine accidentally found it and had a look around inside. The Wyoming cavers have a grudge against us simply because we are exploring the same canyons for new caves. They seem to think they own every cave they find.

The corollary would be: Edmund Hillary putting a homestead on top of Mount Everest so he can kick everybody off the mountain, claiming ownership, since he was the first one up there. Or, Alan Watts declaring that only he can climb at Smith Rocks, so everyone else stay away.

I much prefer the personalities of climbers to hardcore cavers and only force myself to fit into their system in order to get along with them.

There are a lot of easy-going friendly cavers, so I'm not trying to stereotype, but there enough of the strange ones that you can't miss running into a few if you get serious about caving.

If you take up caving, you have to play a lot of politics to get information and even some of the best cavers don't trust each other. One friend of mine sent survey data to another caver with a computer CAD system which he programmed for cave mapping. The programmer made a map and now refuses to send the map to the guy who supplied the data! Why? He doesn't trust the guy who surveyed the cave as far as who he'll give copies of the map to. This is a bit crazy.

I'm just disappointed by all this and hope that somehow the personalities involved become more reasonable. Meanwhile, I'll feel a little cozier calling myself a climber.

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## Caving in Utah and Nevada

or

Four days before the shower  
by Steve Sprague

The 1990 Northwest Regional Meet was held at Lehman Cave in the Great Basin National Park.

### The Road

We left the gray skies of Washington on Thursday the 25th after work. Ben Tompkins, Jim and myself met at Jim's house to load up for the trip over. Ben decided that he was still sick and that it would be a poor decision to come, so he waved good-bye from Jim's driveway at about 5:00 PM. We drove until 2:00 AM and sacked out in the car at a rest stop somewhere in Idaho. Friday the 26th we were up and on the road about 6:00 AM. The Lehman Cave parking lot was under our wheels by 3:25 PM, just in time for the 3:30 commercial tour.

### Lehman Cave

If you have the opportunity to visit Lehman Cave make sure you don't pass it up. It is one of the most decorated caves I have ever been in. As with almost all older developed caves it has suffered some vandalism, both by it's private owners and by the Park when they did the development work. Since almost every surface of the cave is covered with some type of speleothem, you feel that you are in a pristine cave.

Bring your flash light since the cave lighting system provides a low light to give the tour a mysterious feel. If you want to look at a particular feature you have to use your flash light. I even found myself using my light to illuminate the trail.

The cave is noted for its shields. Most of the scenic portions of the Cave are along the tour route. The two exceptions are the Talus room and a section called the Gypsum Extension. The former was closed because the Park feared that a portion of the ceiling would collapse, the latter because it is too delicate to withstand the rigors of a commercial tour.

After the tour was over we trundled off to camp. What a camp! The Gray Cliffs Campground is next to a limestone escarpment that has Baker Creek running at its base. We were camped among low pine trees with the sound of the creek echoing from the cliffs. Dale Green (the person responsible for putting on the regional) and Dave Klinger met us in camp and we signed in. The camp is almost in the midst of The Baker Creek Cave System which is a short walk from the campground.

The guide book was excellent. Almost all the maps are new, Dale Green remapped most of the caves in the guide book for the regional. The book contains brief descriptions of each cave and a road log that was pretty good for finding the listed caves.

We visited the Baker Creek System that night. It is very complicated and has many levels and

entrances. The sections we were in reminded me of Washington limestone caves. There is more limestone at Baker Creek than in the whole of Washington, and more cave!

#### **Crystal Ball Cave**

Saturday the 27th saw most of those in camp going to Crystal Ball cave. The large group (about 35 people) was lead by Mrs. Bates and her daughter. Admission was \$3.00 and they lead tours for people by appointment. Call Gerald or Marlene Bates at (801) 693-3145. Their address: Gandy Route, Garrison, UT 84728. They don't open the cave on Sundays. The cave is on BLM land and is currently being managed by the Bates. There is a dispute over control of the cave between the BLM and the Bates so the reservation situation may change.

The cave is a large geode with large spar crystals coating the cave surfaces. The tour goes right through the mountain, you exit on the opposite side and hike back on a trail. It was a nice tour that was enhanced by Mrs. Bates's stories of the cave. There is also a warm spring near the cave that would make a refreshing apre' cave side trip.

#### **Indian Burial Cave**

Some of the group went to Old Man Cave but we went to Indian Burial. Inside, there was a sign stating that a paleontological dig was in progress. The guide book states that "many bones were removed." Talking with another caver later it was stated that the Indians in the area used the cave as a burial site, "throwing the bodies down the entrance". The theory seems a little far fetched to me, I'd like to talk over the site's history with anyone that knows anything about it. The cave would be well suited for such a use, it is a domed pit with a 35 foot drop, with a conical talus slope. There was one rock with an assortment of bones placed on it, most likely gathered from various parts of the cave. It also had an unusual number of speleothems called folia which looked like layers of small shields stacked like pages of a book.

#### **Northwest Caving Association**

The NCA held its annual meeting on Sunday at 7:50 AM. New officers were elected including Dave Klinger, Chairman and Ben Tompkins, Vice Chairman. Phil Whitfield retained his grip on the treasurership. A supporting donation of \$100.00 was approved for the Northwest Cave Research Institute. Cascade Grotto volunteered to host the 1991 Regional because Gem State wanted to do it

in 1992 in conjunction with their 25th anniversary. Sites were discussed and Trout Lake was mentioned. Dave Klinger announced the 1990 scouting and exploration trip to Prince of Edwards Island in August.

#### **Whipple Cave**

After the meeting we went to Whipple Cave. Nevada distances are deceiving and we took a short cut, off pavement, that probably added an hour to our transit. Whipple's entrance is a beautiful double pit that was rigged with both a cable ladder and a number of ropes. The cave is loaded with formations including a marvelous, massive 48 foot tall column with a slight tilt. This cave is a must-see if you are in the area. Bring your rope.

After the climb out we sat around the entrance and hurled good natured insults at the other cavers climbing out. We were caving with people from all over the West and it was one of those moments of caving fellowship that is the most rewarding part of caving. We reluctantly said goodbye when we counted the hours remaining in the Memorial Day weekend: Too few hours and too many miles between Whipple Cave and home.

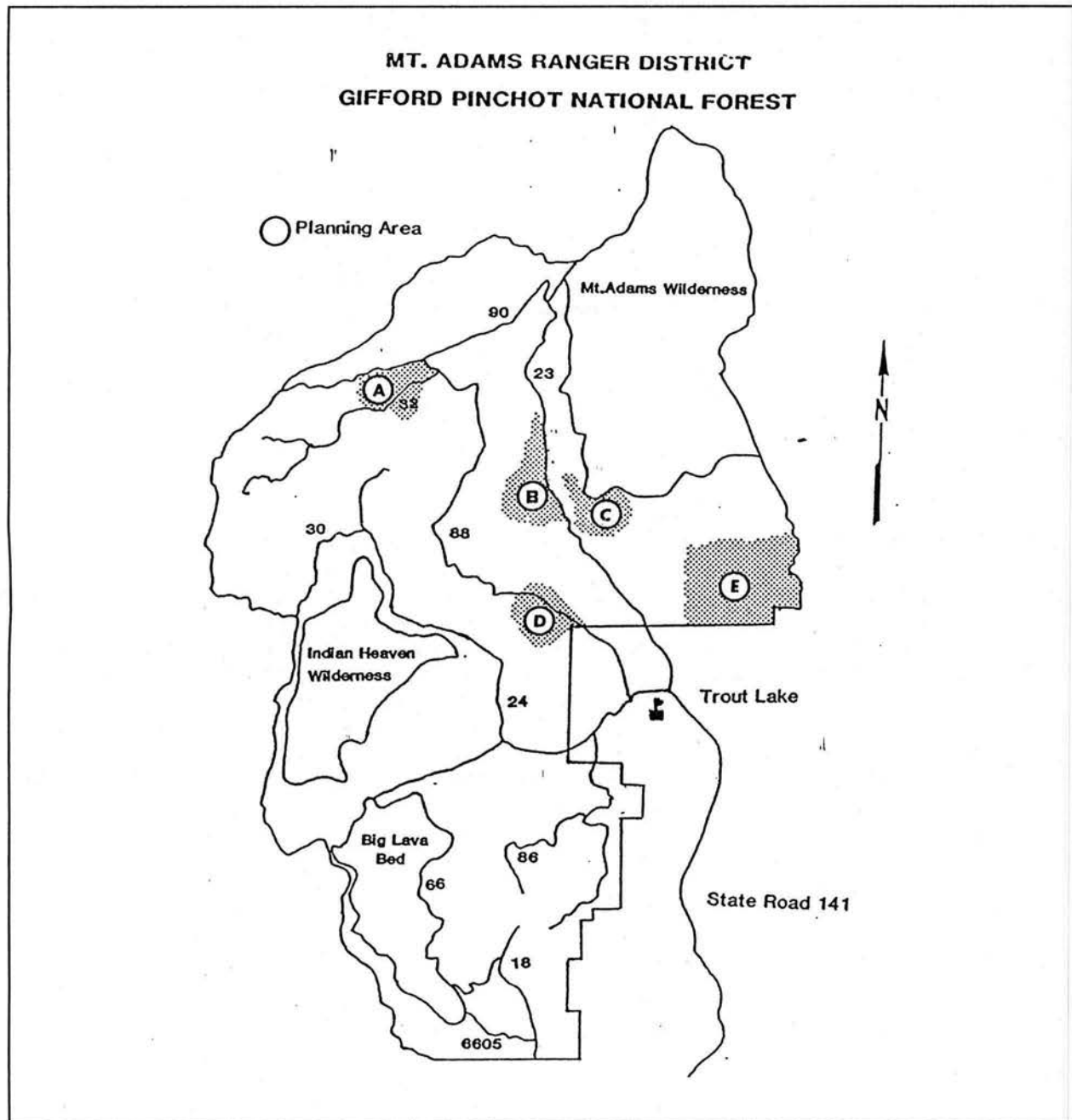
#### **Goshute Cave**

On the way home our route took us within 15 miles of Goshute Cave so we decided to give it a try even though it was awfully dark (yes I know caves are dark, what I meant was that it was a dark night.) We followed the road log through a number of intersections and dodged jack rabbits until we ran out of road. A check of the map indicated that we had to climb the hill to reach the cave. So we set off on foot in the dark wondering if rattle snakes have good night vision. We didn't really know if we were in the right area so didn't put on our cave togs. The plan was to find the cave and then get the cave gear. Well, we found the entrance but were so tired from the climb that we headed down the hill with our tails between our legs. I guess we had to save something for our next trip!

We got home about 3:00 PM on Monday, tired but glad we took the trip. Anyone want to go to Nevada? I'm game.

## Timber sales at Trout Lake

The Mt. Adams Ranger District is preparing to analyze several proposed timber sales this summer, according to James R. Bull, District Ranger, and is seeking public comment. In a letter to the grotto he enclosed the following map and sale descriptions. If anyone wants further information or would like to make input to the sales analysis, he says to contact Jim Herring, Timber Management Assistant, or Julie Knutson, Planning Coordinator, prior to the analysis period for each sale. They can be reached by calling (509) 395-2501 or writing to: Mt. Adams Ranger District; 2455 Highway 141; Trout Lake, WA 98650-9046.



**Timber sales planning Areas  
Mt. Adams Ranger District**



The Mt. Adams Ranger District is seeking public comment on five areas proposed for timber harvest. We will conduct the analysis for each area during the dates listed. Comment is also welcomed on numerous timber salvage sale proposals (not listed here); analysis on these areas will occur throughout the summer. If you have particular concerns for any of the proposed project areas, or would like more information, please contact Jim Herring, Timber Management Assistant, or Julie Knutson, Planning Coordinator, at (509) 395-2501, or write to: Mt. Adams Ranger District

2455 Highway 141  
Trout Lake, WA 98650

Ⓐ LOUIE June 4-22

T.8 N., R.8 E., Sec. 10-15, and 23-25  
T.8 N., R.9 E., Sec. 7, 17-20, 29, and 30

This planning area is located in the north end of the Mt. Adams Ranger District, bounded on the north by the Lewis River, on the south by Steamboat Mountain Research Natural Area. There is concern for soil stability in a large portion of the area, and further fragmentation of suitable spotted owl habitat. Any proposed harvest activities would be designed so as not to be visible from the the Lewis River or Forest Road 90.

Ⓑ PACE July 8-28

T.7 N., R.9 E., Sec. 1-3, 10-15, and 24  
T.7 N., R.10 E., Sec. 7 and 18  
T.7 N., R.9 E., Sec. 25, 26, 35, and 36

Bounded by Forest Road 23 on the east, the Pacific Crest Trail on the northwest, and Haystack Butte on the south. Concerns connected with timber harvest in this area include maintaining water quality within the Trout Lake Creek drainage, and fragmentation of suitable spotted owl habitat and old growth within the planning area. No timber harvest would occur within 500 feet of the Pacific Crest Trail.

Ⓒ BARE August 6-24

T.7 N., R.10 E., Sec. 3-10, and 15-18.

This area lies between Stagman Ridge and Morrison Creek. The Mt. Adams Wilderness forms the north boundary; the White Salmon River and proposed Buck SOHA (spotted owl habitat area) form the southern boundary. Concerns include the need for sensitive unit design adjacent to the Wilderness boundary, and the need to treat mature root-diseased stands.

Ⓓ TAG September 10-29

T.6 N., R.9 E., Sec. 1-3, and 12  
T.7 N., R.9 E., Sec. 25-27, 34-36  
T.7 N., R.10 E., Sec. 31

Located adjacent to the Forest Boundary along Forest Road 88. The planning area is bounded by Trout Lake Creek on the north, Deadhorse Creek on the west, and the Forest boundary on the east. Concerns have been raised for maintaining water quality on streams within the planning area, fragmentation of suitable spotted owl habitat and old growth, and impacts to caves within the area.

Ⓔ JOKER September 10 - October 26

T.7 N., R.10 E., Sec. 13-15, 23-26, and 34-36  
T.7 N., R.11 E., Sec 8, 9, 16-21, and 28-33

Located north of the community of Trout Lake, bounded on the east by the Yakima Indian Reservation, on the south by Washington State DNR land, and on the north by the proposed Groundchen SOHA (spotted owl habitat area). Concerns for the area include the need to treat mature root-diseased stands, and reforestation problems associated with past grass seeding practices.

