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NCKRI News and Announcements for 2021-12-13:

The International Year of Caves and Karst: Closing 2021 and Starting 2022!

Student and Training Opportunities:

- **Job Opening: Cave Management Assistant, Lincoln National Forest, USA**
- **Job Opening: Cave and Karst Assistant, Mammoth Cave National Park, USA**
- **Job Opening: Cave and Karst Assistant, Lava Beds National Monument, USA**
- **Job Opening: Natural Resource Management Assistant, Coronado National Memorial, USA**
- **Job Opening: Natural Resource Management Assistant, National Resource Program Center, USA**
- **Job Opening: Night Skies Assistant/Cave Guide, Great Basin National Park, USA**

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- **International Cave and Karst Art Contest Open for Entries!**
- **Ice Cavers: The Movie**

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- **International Congress of Speleology Update**
- **Announcing the 17th Sinkhole Conference: Save the Date!**
- **Announcing: IX International Workshop on Ice Caves: Slovakia**
- **List of Upcoming Cave and Karst Meetings**

Please contact the people and organizations listed below for more information, and feel free to share this message with anyone who may be interested.

The International Year of Caves and Karst: Closing 2021 and Starting 2022!

The first year of the International Year of Caves and Karst has been excellent thanks to our 258 partner organizations that have organized 369 events so far. As the International Year is extended through 2022, please continue your great work by:

- Recruiting new partners, especially from outside the cave community.
- Continue to organize more and new events.
- Make any in-person hybrid if possible to reach more people.
- Announce your events at <http://iyck2021.org/index.php/events/>.
- Post your event results (no matter how small or local) at <http://iyck2021.org/index.php/event-results/>.
- Don't forget we have a new International Cave Animal for 2022: the bat! Please help promote bat research and protection.

Contact managers of caves and karst and those who make land protection laws. Tell them about our success at UNESCO and elsewhere to prove the value of caves and karst. Ask them for continued and more support.

If you have questions or need support, please contact me.

For more information about the International Year, visit the website (www.iyck2021.org). Also like us at the UIS Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/uisspeleo>), UIS Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/uisspeleo>), and/or the UIS Instagram page (<https://www.instagram.com/uisspeleo/>).

George Veni
President, International Union of Speleology
Executive Director, National Cave and Karst Research Institute

Job Opening: Cave Management Assistant, Lincoln National Forest, USA

Geocorps has just opened the application period for Summer 2022 jobs, including one as a Cave Management Assistant for the Lincoln National Forest, New Mexico, USA.

The GeoCorps participant will assist in the management of world-class cave resources on the Guadalupe Ranger District of the Lincoln National Forest located in the Guadalupe Mountains of southern New Mexico. The caves on the Guadalupe Ranger District are known for their unique hypogenic formation,

mineralogy, biology, and extravagant speleothem displays. Surface topography in the Guadalupe Mountains is quite rough. The forest contains almost 200 known caves ranging from shelters to large caves up to 4 miles in length. Cave depths also vary greatly with some descending to 600 feet in depth through steeply sloping passages and vertical drops. It will be necessary to utilize single rope techniques to gain access to certain caves or within certain caves. While many caves are very spacious, it may be necessary to negotiate extended sections of crawling as well as squeezes as small as nine inches wide. Cave temperatures are pleasant, ranging from 55-65 degrees F.

This cave assistant position will work with the Lincoln National Forest Cave Program Manager to help with inventory and survey needs to assist with the nomination of significant caves located on the Lincoln National Forest. The majority of work will be conducted in the Guadalupe Mountains and will include locating, documenting, surveying (mapping), and inventorying backcountry caves. Inventories will include noting geological, mineralogical, paleontological, biological, other scientific, and recreational aspects of specific caves. This information will then be used in preparing nominations for significant cave designation under the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act. Other tasks may include helping prepare cave related educational presentations and materials, entering field data, writing reports, creating rescue plans, scanning and organizing photos, working with cave program volunteers, GPS field checking and updating GIS cave data, building and populating ArcGIS Survey123 inventory database, and conducting monitoring of sensitive cave resources. This project is offered through the Geological Society of America's GeoCorps America Program, in partnership with the Minerals and Geology Management Program of the USDA Forest Service.-

Applications must be completed by 3 February 2022. For more information: <https://rock.geosociety.org/eo/viewJob.asp?jobID=3180>.

Job Opening: Cave and Karst Assistant, Mammoth Cave National Park, USA

The primary duty of the internship participant will be to assist the park's Science and Resources Management Division in the field with a variety of projects. The project includes updating and expanding the inventory of caves and karst features in the park, locating and inventory of small karst springs in the park. Documentation will include collecting GPS coordinates, updating park database and photographs. Field work will include back country hiking as well as some caving. The selected person will be locating via GPS unit and map

cave sites, spring sites, karst features or paleontological sites. Checking recorded locations to determine if present, recording vital data such as GPS locations, photographs, recording data on field data sheet, and etc. Office work will include combing records for resources that have not been field verified and entering data into park databases and the GIS system. The participant will receive training in safe caving and back-country fieldwork. The majority of the work will be in the field there is little office work involved with this position.

For more information: <https://www.mosaicsinscience.org/job/cave-and-karst-assistant/>

Job Opening: Cave and Karst Assistant, Lava Beds National Monument, USA

Lava Beds National Monument (LBE) encompasses a unique geologic environment of volcanic upheaval, both above and below ground. The science that takes place focuses equally on the biological and physical sciences regarding volcanic and lava tube cave environments. LBE works in conjunction with the NPS Klamath Network Inventory & Monitoring Program to conduct long-term monitoring of cave resources at the park. The intern will learn about study design, long-term monitoring, methods for studying cave environment, flora, and fauna, safe caving practices, field navigation, park operations, and resource management. Working within the LBE Integrated Resources Management Division, the intern will collect data on cave climate, entrance vegetation, invertebrates, visitation, and organic matter input. After initial training, the intern will work within a team of two or more to plan and execute long-term monitoring of these cave components according to standard operating procedures in the cave monitoring protocol. This will include activities such as project planning and logistics, deploying and retrieving climate data loggers and human visitation logs, setting and checking cave invertebrate bait stations, and conducting transects on cave entrance vegetation and scat deposition. The intern will also learn about data management and analysis through activities such as entering and quality checking data, use of Access databases, and summarizing and reporting annual activities and data. The intern may also participate in other natural resources management projects such as bat population and pika monitoring.

For more information: <https://rock.geosociety.org/eo/viewJob.asp?jobID=3297>

Job Opening: Natural Resource Management Assistant, Coronado National Memorial, USA

The National Park Service's Southeast Arizona Group (SEAZ) includes Coronado National Memorial, Chiricahua National Monument, and Fort Bowie National Historic Site. The trio of parks are managed by one leadership team, headed by a superintendent. The selected intern will work in the division of Resource Management and will focus on various natural resource inventory, monitoring, restoration, and research projects. Work will occur as an individual and in a team setting; field and office based; and conducted primarily at Coronado National Memorial but will also include participating in projects at Chiricahua National Monument and Fort Bowie National Historic Site. The intern will be assigned 1-2 principle projects based on the intern's interest and experience but will also assist with other resource management projects and routine activities as necessary. Projects could include: cave monitoring, mapping, and restoration, geohazard mapping, native plant/habitat restoration, GIS and data management, imagery analysis, air quality monitoring, hydrological monitoring, border impacts assessment and mitigation, landscape photography, analyzing/summarizing past research, archiving resource management publications, reports, and other written documents. This project addresses a variety of physical science needs including cave monitoring, mapping, and restoration, geohazard mapping, native plant/habitat restoration, GIS and data management, air quality monitoring, hydrological monitoring, border impacts assessment and mitigation, and landscape photography.

For more information: <https://rock.geosociety.org/eo/viewJob.asp?jobID=3257>

Job Opening: Natural Resource Management Assistant, National Resource Program Center, USA

The selected intern will work on two significant cave and karst management projects. The first project will be to work on a newly developed NPS national cave database. The SIP will assist with validating the efficacy of the database through data input. The SIP will help identify necessary improvements and potential expansion of database to meet individual NPS units and National level cave management needs. The second project will be to work on cave and karst summaries for individual park units. These summaries will be used not only by the individual parks, but also by regional and national level natural resources managers to inform and facilitate management projects. The SIP will primarily be working with the national cave and karst management team but will have the

opportunity to interact with additional division personnel to learn how cave and karst integrates with other program areas within the NPS. While the focus of our program is on management at a national level, the intern will be exposed to cave and karst management concerns at various parks. If COVID policy permits and funds are available, the intern will have the opportunity to participate in an appropriate cave and karst related conference. We encourage and support the intern to give presentations of their work as appropriate. This 6-month long position is intended to be based in the Geological Resources Division's main office, in Lakewood, Colorado and where the guest scientist will report generally on a daily basis. However, the possibility that the COVID-19 pandemic (ongoing at the time this position description was written) may require remote work locations (e.g., at home) for professional staff. GRD will assist the guest scientist to set up a remote office by providing a lap computer, credentials to access needed NPS networks and sundry office supplies (i.e., pens, paper, etc.) required to complete work. This position includes travel funds for remote operations when technical assistance needs require in-person support.

For more information: <https://rock.geosociety.org/eo/viewJob.asp?jobID=3317>

Job Opening: Night Skies Assistant/Cave Guide, Great Basin National Park, USA

This intern will assist with night sky programming up to four times a week. During these night programs, the intern will be responsible for connecting the public to the valuable resource of the night sky, enforcing safety guidelines to conduct successful programs, and directing visitors to safely use telescopes to view night sky objects. As part of their duties, the intern will be responsible for:

- Assisting in various special programs including Star Trains and Moon Walks.
- Assisting the lead astronomy ranger with various projects to better the astronomy programming at Great Basin National Park.
- Individually conducting solar observations during day shifts, using public speaking skills to connect visitors to the sun and daytime astronomy.
- Individually conducting cave tours of Lehman Caves. Tours last 60 to 90 minutes, during these tours the intern will be responsible for the safety and education of visitors.
- Taking night-sky darkness readings multiple times and month to continue the long term project of darkness measurement at Great Basin National Park.

For more information: <https://rock.geosociety.org/eo/viewJob.asp?jobID=3282>

Springs of Switzerland Books

Two books on the springs of Switzerland have been published by Rémy Wenger, Jean-Claude Lalou, and Roman Hapka. Both are available in French and German.

Aux Sources de la Suisse is not a catalog of the country's springs but a remarkable historical and mythological wandering through many of them. For more information and to order the book, visit:

<https://www.haupt.ch/buecher/natur-garten/aux-sources-de-la-suisse.html>

Quellen der Schweiz is a magnificent, richly illustrated volume that dives into the most remarkable springs in Switzerland. From hydrology and cave research to mythology to thermal baths, industrial use to drinking water quality, all aspects are examined. An original and fascinating journey through Switzerland! For more information and to order the book, visit: https://www.haupt.ch/buecher/natur-garten/quellen-der-schweiz.html?force_sid=qkf8b9ljebkvg4jr2fmgdsmeeg

Newest Issue of *The Midden*: Great Basin National Park, USA

As we enter an unseasonably warm December, I invite you to take a few minutes to enjoy the newest issue of *The Midden*, the Resource Management Newsletter of Great Basin National Park (which include Lehman Caves).

In this issue:

- Treatment of Baker Lake to Restore Bonneville Cutthroat Trout
- Detecting and Forecasting Change in High Elevation Species
- New Technologies to Help Win the War against Cheatgrass
- Researcher Awards [featuring one of NCKRI's students!]
- Cool Bug Facts: The Pinyon and the Engraver
- Selected Publications about the Park
- Lehman Caves Temperature and Humidity before, during, and after Closure
- 2021 Reptile BioBlitz Results
- Upcoming Events

You can download it from or view it at:

<https://www.nps.gov/grba/learn/news/upload/2021-winter-2.pdf>

Hope you enjoy it! And here's to more moisture and cool temperatures over the Great Basin this winter.

Cheers,
Gretchen Baker
Ecologist/Cave Specialist
Great Basin National Park

International Cave and Karst Art Contest Open for Entries!

Caves and karst are unique resources on our beautiful earth. In order to make them more visible and also to better understand these two phenomena, the global speleological community is working together in a one grand project: the International Year of Caves and Karst. The European Speleological Federation (FSE) invites artists as well as art lovers to participate in this international celebration by holding a contest in all fields of art.

The contest will be conducted with particular themes in relation to the protection of caves and karst. The participants will present their ideas, emotions and fantasies with different media in five categories:

- A. Painting, Sketching
- B. Ceramics and Sculpture
- C. Graphic Design, Mixing techniques, Textiles, Prints
- D. Art Performance, Art Video, Music, Sound
- E. Publications, Poetry

Up to three winners will be selected by an international jury in each category for a certificate of appreciation. A certificate will be sent to each of the selected artists per post.

The top three of each category will be awarded with a certificate and the winner of each category will receive a money-prize of 100 euros. The main prize, a Scurion lamp, will go to the overall winner. This lamp is kindly provided by the FSE sponsor Scurion from Switzerland. The selected Art works will be presented on the website and social media of the FSE.

To apply, please fill out the entry form which you can find here:

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show...> , attach photos of your art works or links to a performance, video, music or sound, and send it to the following email-address: art@eurospeleo.org

Registration Deadline is 31st January 2022. You can find more information about The International Year of Karst and Caves at <http://www.iyck2021.org/>

Taraneh Khaleghi
Head of the Organizing Team

Ice Cavers: The Movie

In October 2021, under the Palaeolus scientific project, a caving expedition was organized in the White Mountains of Crete with the help of Proteas caving club (Thessaloniki, Greece), targeting Europe's southernmost glaciers, "hidden" in caves. During the expedition, the team (Christos Pennos, Aurel Perşoiu, Yorgos Sotiriadis, Stavros Zachariadis) explored and mapped the underground glacier in Laggonia Cave. Ice, dust and organic matter were sampled for analyses aiming to decipher the accumulation history of the ice body and the dynamics of climate in Southern Europe. A film detailing the expedition was edited by Yorgos Sotiriadis and is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5duYaK4CCGQ>. The scientific results will be published in the coming months in scientific journals. Financial support was provided by UEFISCDI Romania and the International Union of Speleology.

International Congress of Speleology Update

Hello to all Cavers, Scientists and Karst lovers!

As you know, the International Congress of Speleology planned in 2021 was postponed because of the pandemic and will finally be held from July 24 to 31, 2022!

It will be the major event of the International Year of Caves and Karst, not to be missed next year!

The scientific conference, the animations, the bookshops, the stands, the equipped caves, the beaches of the Lac du Bourget, everything is there! And you, will you be there?

We have the pleasure to share you the newest newsletter of the congress:

https://depots.ffspeleo.fr/uploads/Newsletter_UIS_4En.pdf

Find all the other information on the website: <https://uis2021.speleos.fr/>

We are looking forward to welcoming you and sharing this moment with you

Yannick, for the organizing committee ICS 2022

French Version

Bonjour à tous, Spéléologues, scientifiques et tous les amoureux du Karst !

Comme vous le savez, le congrès international de spéléologie prévue en 2021 mais reporté à cause de la pandémie, se tiendra finalement du 24 au 31 juillet 2022 !

Ce sera l'évènement majeur de l'année du Karst, à ne pas manquer l'année prochaine !

La conférence scientifique, les animations, les librairies, les stands, les cavités équipées, les plages du Lac du Bourget, tout y est ! Et vous, vous y serez ?

Nous avons donc le plaisir de vous faire découvrir la nouvelle Newsletter du congrès : https://depots.ffspeleo.fr/uploads/Newsletter_UIS_4Fr.pdf

Retrouvez les autres informations sur le site internet : <https://uis2021.speleos.fr/>

Nous sommes impatients de vous accueillir et de partager ce moment avec vous.

Yannick Decker, pour le comité d'organisation UIS 2022

Directeur administratif

Fédération Française de Spéléologie

28, rue Delandine - 69002 LYON - Tel. : 04 72 56 09 63

<https://ffspeleo.fr>

Announcing the 17th Sinkhole Conference: Save the Date!

(The following corrects an earlier announcement where the wrong year was listed accidentally.)

The 17th Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts on Karst, more commonly called “The Sinkhole Conference,” will be held on 27-31 March 2023 in at the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida, USA. This long-standing internationally acclaimed and attended meeting is multidisciplinary, with topics including geotechnical engineering, hydrogeology, land management, water supply and quality, geophysics, and many others. The conference began in Florida in 1984 and we’re happy to return it there for the best Sinkhole Conference yet!

Mark your calendar for March 2023 and look for registration and the call for abstracts to begin in early 2022. We are just starting to add information to our website, <http://www.sinkholeconference.com/>, so bookmark it to check as more details are added.

Announcing: IXth International Workshop on Ice Caves: Slovakia

Dear Scientists and Colleagues,

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I would like to invite you to the IXth International Workshop on Ice Caves. Based on the decision of the International Union of Speleology Commission (UIS Bureau) from September 2021, it will take place on May 9 – 13, 2022, in the Slovak Museum of Nature Protection and Speleology (Liptovský Mikuláš, Slovakia).

REGISTRATION:

If you plan to participate in IWIC-IX (2022), please fill in the registration form, even if you have already registered for the postponed IWIC-IX (2020). Link for the registration form: <https://forms.gle/HGnoDWsAPFCBP4sk6> (google account necessary). The deadline for sending the registration is February 28, 2022.

ABSTRACTS:

Lecture and poster abstracts from the postponed workshop IWIC-IX (2020) were published in Aragonit journal, volume 25, number 1 (http://www.ssj.sk/user_files/Aragon_25_1_web1.pdf), due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation.

- If you plan to participate with your published abstract from the postponed IWIC-IX (2020), please let us know at the registration. If you have made any significant changes in the meantime, please resubmit those abstracts.

- All the abstracts will be published in Aragonit journal, volume 27, number 1.
- The deadline for sending the abstracts is February 28, 2022, addressing: milos.melega@ssj.sk.

All the necessary information can be also found on our website (<http://www.ssj.sk/sk/akcia/22-9th-international-workshop-on-ice-caves-iwic-ix>). Let me kindly ask you to meet the deadlines.

We are looking forward to meeting you!
Best regards,

Organizing Committee

Mgr. Miloš Melega

Biospeleologist-Evertebrata
e-mail: milos.melega@ssj.sk
phone: 044/5536 401

State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic
Slovak Caves Administration
Hodžova 11, 031 01 Liptovský Mikuláš

List of Upcoming Cave and Karst Meetings

If you are interested in any of the following events, contact the organizers directly to learn if they are still planned as announced below.

- 1) Visual KARSYS Online Course, 12-13 January 2022, <https://www.visualkarsys.com/>
- 2) Karst Record IX (KR9) Conference, postponed to 2022 (Innsbruck, Austria), <https://www.uibk.ac.at/congress/kr9/>
- 3) 14th International Symposium on Pseudokarst, postponed to Spring 2022, <https://14pseudokarst.wonders4you.com/>
- 4) Fort Stanton Cave Science Conference, 7-9 April 2022 (Socorro, New Mexico, USA), <https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/FtStanton/home.cfm>
- 5) 36th Brazilian Congress of Speleology, 3-6 June 2022 (Brasilia, Brazil), <http://36cbe.org.br/>

- 6) EuroKarst 2022: The European Congress on Karst Hydrogeology and Carbonate Reservoirs, 22-25 June 2022 (Málaga, Spain), <http://www.eurokarst.org/>
- 7) 25th International Conference on Subterranean Biology, 18-22 July 2022 (Cluj-Napoca, Romania), <https://www.25icsb.com/>.
- 8) 18th International Congress of Speleology, 24-31 July 2022 (Savoie Technolac, Le Bourget du Lac, Savoie, France), <http://uis2021.speleos.fr/>
- 9) 17th Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst, 27-31 March 2023 (Tampa, Florida, USA), <http://www.sinkholeconference.com/>
- 10) 19th International Congress of Speleology, July 2025 (Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil), for preliminary information see volume 63-1 of the UIS Bulletin at <http://uis-speleo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/uisb631.pdf>