



- 50-245 Cave Surveys 8-18-72  
 In accordance with the Society conservation policy, where it can be determined that publication of cave lists or surveys would lead to damage to caves before adequate protection can be provided, the Society will oppose such publication, and, to determine whether there is a potential danger from publication of a cave list or survey, upon request the Society Conservation Committee will solicit opinions from cavers and speleologists who are actively working in the caves involved, as well as from other persons, organizations, or governmental agencies who have some jurisdiction over the caves involved. The Conservation Committee will then prepare a report and recommendation for consideration and possible action by the Board of Governors.
- 50-262 Award Programs 6-23-73  
 The NSS formally opposes award programs which encourage visits to particular caves or groups of caves.
- 50-264 Hellhole Cave 11-21-81, 8-1-80, 11-3-73  
 The National Speleological Society supports and encourages the 7-1/2 month mandatory moratorium on visits to Hellhole Cave, Pendleton County, West Virginia, specified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect the cave's endangered bat colonies, and requests all cavers, regardless of affiliation, to honor this moratorium.
- 50-347 Explosives 6-23-78  
 The National Speleological Society opposes the indiscriminate use of explosives in cave exploration and encourages their wise and minimal use in ways which will minimize adverse impacts on the cave environment.
- 50-350 Circulars Distribution 6-23-78  
 Circulars relating to cave conservation, underground wilderness, bat protection, cave science and exploration, and NSS membership, as available, may be distributed to selected commercial caves on a regular basis, for public distribution.
- 50-355 Bat Policy 10-21-78  
 The NSS, recognizing the importance of bats in the ecosystem, promotes environmental management programs to protect and enhance the survival of bat species, encourages research on non-lethal methods of resolving human/bat conflicts, urges an end to the use of chemicals to kill bats, and encourages the United States government to establish a system to license all collection and marking of bat species. In order to carry out the intent of this motion, the Bat Subcommittee of the Conservation Committee shall communicate the NSS position to other concerned individuals and agencies and shall develop programs to educate the public to the ecological, scientific, and economic value of bats.

The NSS Cave Vandalism Reward is established as detailed in Appendix W to the Acts. The NSS Cave Vandalism Deterrence Reward Commission, consisting of six members, nominated by the existing commission, appointed by the Administrative Vice-President, and confirmed by the Board of Governors, is established in the Department of the Administrative Vice-President to administer the reward.

The President shall appoint the Chairman of the Commission from among the commissioners for a term of three years. The Commission shall elect from its membership a Vice Chairman who shall serve until his successor is elected.

The Commission Chairman shall be responsible for managing the reward determination process, appointing subcommittees and regional coordinators as needed, reporting Commission activities to the President, and managing all other Commission business.

The Vice-Chairman shall assume the duties of the Chairman should the Chairman become incapacitated or resign. He shall perform all other mutually agreed upon duties as assigned by the Commission Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall manage the determination process of any Commission reward if and when the Chairman declares that he has a conflict of interest in a specific reward.

Each Commissioner shall be responsible to:

1. Assist in determining if each reward request meets the criteria established by the Board of Governors.
2. Assist in determining the amount of each approved reward.
3. Assist the Commission in other Commission business as needed.

Regional coordinators may be appointed by the Chairman in order to facilitate and otherwise promote the work of the Commission in the various regions of the NSS.

The NSS Vandalism Deterrence Reward Commission shall cooperate with and encourage any other organizations interested in cave conservation that would supplement the NSS reward with additional funds under the same procedures as the NSS reward, including the possibility that the NSS reward administrative structure could be used to make the reward determination for all organizations.

The NSS Vandalism Deterrence Reward Commission shall cooperate, where practical, with local organizations or individuals wishing to make a one-time or one-event reward for a particular act of vandalism.

The NSS Vandalism Deterrence Reward Commission shall publish a regular notice in the *NSS News* to remind the NSS members of the reward, or combination of rewards if there are any.

Votes to approve the payment must be made by majority affirmative vote of the commissioners. Commissioners are required to vote on each reward request unless the commissioner declares that he has a conflict of interest. Any commissioner having knowledge or reasonable doubt concerning the applicants eligibility for the reward must convey that information to the chairman of the commission upon receipt of the first ballot. The chairman may require a second ballot regardless of the vote on the first ballot if significant new information that might influence the result of the vote is received as a result of the initial mailing.

The minimum reward is \$250 and the maximum \$1000. Primarily, larger awards will be paid to qualifying persons who provided information that leads to a significant judicial decision, resulted in significantly increased public respect for the cave and karst environment, resulted

in significantly increased public understanding of the desirability of cave and karst environmental conservation, or otherwise significantly contributed to furthering the mission of the NSS.

The Commission may also consider paying larger awards to qualifying persons who provided information that required significant personal risk or sacrifice, or demonstrated exceptional resourcefulness, creativity, or persistence.

The requirements for approval of the amount of payment of a reward are as follows: 1. A majority affirmative vote of all the commissioners for a given amount. 2. If no amount has the required majority affirmative vote, the chairman may either conduct another ballot of the commissioners or set the amount as follows: a. delete the highest and lowest amounts and take the mean of the votes of the remaining commissioners. b. the chairman may round the result to the nearest \$50 increment.

- 50-541 Cave and Karst Preservation Policy 11-6-93  
A policy statement on Cave and Karst Preservation was adopted. (Appendix AJ)
- 50-542 Land Management Plans 11-6-93  
The Society's official comments on land management plans for areas involving caves or karst will be submitted by the NSS Conservation Committee in coordination with the appropriate NSS liaison person or committee.
- 50-546 Excessive Use of Bolts in Lava Tubes 6-24-94, 3-5-94  
The NSS Supports to efforts of the Oregon, Jefferson State College, and Willamette Valley grottos to restrict rock climbing using bolts and quick draws in caves of the Fort Rock Ranger District of the Deschutes National Forest, the Prineville Management Area of the Bureau of Land Management, and the Lakeview Management Area of the Bureau of Land Management. The NSS urges the agencies to protect these caves from further damage.
- 50-574 Pictograph Cave 3-16-96  
The National Speleological Society supports the Rock Climbing Management Recommendations for Pictograph Cave proposed to the Prineville District of the Bureau of Land Management by the Oregon, Willamette Valley, Southern Oregon and Oregon High Desert Grottos. The plan calls for the restoration of Pictograph Cave by removal of bolted climbing anchors over a three year period. It is the desire of the NSS and the local grottos to establish a ALeave No Trace management policy for future Pictograph Cave visitation.
- 50-584 Cave Conservancies Committee 11-02-96  
The Cave Conservancies Committee is established in the department of the Administrative Vice President to encourage all cave Conservancies and other persons and groups responsibly managing caves to affiliate with the NSS.  
This committee will be proactive in promoting the NSS to Conservancies and other cave owners, as the major cave organization for providing cave management information, expertise and assistance. Cave managing organizations and persons may affiliate with the NSS as a conservancy by agreeing with the purposes of the NSS and applying in writing with the Cave Conservancies Committee.
- 50-601 Bat Conservation International MOU 11-08-97  
A Memorandum of Understanding (APPENDIX AK) between the National Speleological Society and Bat Conservation International is approved.

- 50-602 Mammoth Cave Restoration Committee 08-07-98, 11-08-97  
 The Mammoth Cave Restoration Committee is established to administer and manage the Cooperative Agreement between Mammoth Cave National Park (MCNP) and the National Speleological Society.  
 The Committee shall:
- 1) solicit, select, and schedule the work of volunteers at MCNP,
  - 2) monitor the work of the volunteers,
  - 3) work with NPS staff to identify and accomplish specific restoration activities in MCNP,
  - 4) meet with MCNP staff on a periodic basis to review progress made under this Cooperative Agreement and identify ways in which the volunteers can be most effectively used,
  - 5) perform financial functions required to administer the agreement under the supervision of the Secretary-Treasurer,
  - 6) carry out other restoration duties that are specifically under the terms of the Cooperative Agreement.
- 50-636 Mammoth Cave Restoration Camps 10-23-99  
 NSS members shall be given priority consideration for attendance at the Mammoth Cave Restoration Camps under the Cooperative Agreement between the NSS and Mammoth Cave National Park. The Mammoth Cave Restoration Committee will encourage participants who are not NSS members to join the NSS.
- 50-761 NSS/BCI Liaison 07-08-05  
 The Bat Conservation International Liaison Committee is established in the department of the President to act as liaison between the NSS and Bat Conservation International.
- 50-782 Conservation Statement 11-04-06:14  
 The NSS Membership Application shall include the statement: "I support the purposes of the National Speleological Society and its Policy for Cave Conservation. I have read and understand the Policy for Cave Conservation, and will uphold its fundamental principals. Please accept my application for membership".
- 50-794 Beckers Cave 10-13-07:13  
 \$5000.00 is applied from the Fund for Litigation to Protect Caves to support the Northeastern Cave Conservancy's effort to save Beckers Cave, Schoharie, New York. Receiving this grant is conditional on the Conservancy receiving full party status in the lawsuit.

07-281 Wild Cave Locations  
18-367 Conservation Funds  
19-321 Conservation Grants  
28-286 Application Form  
43-116 Conservation Award  
83-280 Scientific Publication  
88-480 Research Guidelines  
88-493 Contemporary Cave Use Study  
Appendix H: Policy for Cave Conservation  
Appendix AK: NSS-BCI MOU