

## **APPENDIX W**

### **CAVE VANDALISM DETERRENCE REWARD**

(Refer to Act 50-395)

A. The National Speleological Society will pay a reward of from \$250 to \$1,000 for information leading to the conviction of any person (or persons) who:

Was convicted of breaking, breaking off, cracking, carving upon, writing on, burning, or otherwise marking upon, removing or in any manner destroying, disturbing, defacing, marring, or harming the surfaces of any cave or any natural material which may be found therein, whether attached or broken, including speleothems, speleogens, and sedimentary deposits.

Was convicted of breaking, forcing, tampering with, or otherwise disturbing a lock, gate, door, or other obstruction designed to control or prevent access to any cave.

Was convicted of dumping, littering, disposing of or otherwise placing any refuse, garbage, dead animals, sewage, toxic substances harmful to cave life or humans in any cave or sinkhole.

Was convicted of removing, killing, harming or otherwise disturbing any naturally occurring organisms within any cave.

Was convicted of excavating, removing, destroying, injuring, defacing, or in any manner disturbing any burial grounds, historic or prehistoric resources, archeological or paleontological site or any part thereof, including relics, inscriptions, saltpetre workings, fossils, bones, remains of historical human activity, or any other such features which may be found in any cave.

Application for this reward must be made within three months of such conviction to the National Speleological Society, Cave Avenue, Huntsville, Alabama 35810. The NSS Vandalism Deterrence Reward Commission may elect to provide one reward when several individuals are convicted for the same offense or when convictions for a series of offenses could reasonably be considered as a single crime.

B. The NSS offers this reward to anyone providing information that leads to the conviction under any law, of anyone vandalizing a cave anywhere in the United States, providing that the conviction obtained was directly related to cave vandalism as described under Item A.

Conviction under cave laws will justify paying the reward to a person who supplied information that led to a conviction. Convictions under other laws such as property laws might justify a reward provided the conviction was for activities described under Item A. Out of court settlements may also justify a reward provided the offenders were formally charged for activities described under Item A and the settlement promotes cave conservation.

The NSS Vandalism Deterrence Reward Commission will make final determination as to whether a particular set of information qualifies for the reward.

The NSS Vandalism Deterrence Reward Commission shall determine the size of the reward based upon the seriousness of the offense and the success of the prosecution. In the event the prosecution is settled out-of-court, the size of the reward will be based upon how much the settlement promotes

cave conservation including such factors as the deterrence of future cave vandalism, the restoration of a specific cave, and the fostering of a cave conservation ethic in the community.

C. The NSS Vandalism Deterrence Reward Commission will not grant a reward in the event of fraud, conspiracy, entrapment, etc. For example, when the informant has deliberately encouraged cave vandalism so that he could later become an informant to get the reward.

D. If several people supply information leading to a conviction of a person (or persons) for the same act of vandalism, then the reward will be split equally among them.

E. All awards will be reviewed by the NSS Administrative Vice President and are subject to AVP approval.