



Fax Message



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DATE: 5/21/02

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REMARKS:

Here is the Crystal Ice Cave
Portion of the Desert Area Fact Sheet.
-Bill

CRYSTAL ICE CAVES/KING BOWL AREA DEVELOPMENT HISTORY

7/63

James L. Pakadakis signs Small Track Lease for 5 years on 7½ acres to develop tours to fissure ice caves.

5/64

Pakadakis constructs 7 miles of road to leased land. Builds cinder block house, business trailer, drills well, constructs small parking area and trail into King's Bowl with ralling. Then trail goes north to first ice cave.

6/64

King's Bowl and one Ice cave open to the public for tour. Over 1800 visitors 1st year.

1/71

Pakadakis issued a Special Land Use Permit for 20 years on 60 acres for expansion. New entrance to caves on east side of fissure rather than through bottom of Kings Bowl. Has plans for visitor center, camping area, additional trails and lookouts and parking. Builds east tunnel entrance sometime in the late 60's with lights and refrigerator unit with fans to keep ice from melting. Seals the three ice caves with glass for safety and better viewing. Visitor use is averaging 10,000 visits a year in the mid to late 70's.

1/81

SLUP transferred to Arthur Linschield who buys concession from Pakadakis. Operates site for 2 years.

7/83

Concession is sold to Ralph Metcalf, SLUP is transferred over to him. He and Velma Morrow operates site the next 4 years where the site receives inadequate maintenance causing the facilities to deteriorate making it unsafe for visitors and the protection of the ice formations inside the caves. Visitor use declines and permittee delinquent on permit fees.

7/87

Metcalf abandons site, leaves area.

3/88

BLM terminates permit with Metcalf.

88/89

BLM looks for new concessionaire. Vandalism increases on existing facilities.

Rec (ML)

8/89	BLM removes most outside facilities and signs. Seals tunnel doors. Installs signs informing public about site closure.
90	Idaho Cave Survey (ICS) group installs cave gate at natural entrance on top of lava field.
92	BLM/ICS form Cooperative Management Agreement (CMA) partnership to monitor use and sign fissure caves within the Kings Bowl Lava Field.
93-Present	Seasonal litter cleanup of area by BLM personnel boy scouts and ICS GROUP. Replacement of Information signs (98)
10/95	BLM removes wire and lights inside tunnel & caves. Repaired doors after site is vandalized.
98	District team formed to look at safety concerns of King Bowl Lava Field area. Old diesel tank removed from site. (9/98)
99	Deferred Maintenance Project approved to remove existing surface facilities still at site.
10/00	Beginning of contract to remove unsafe and unneeded surface facilities, and to construct informational/interpretation signs explaining historical and geological information of the area.