



CAVE TRAILS REHABILITATION

The National Park Service (NPS) is continuing efforts to rehabilitate public cave tour trails at Mammoth Cave National Park (the park) to improve safety, improve the durability of surfaces, and protect natural and cultural resources. As the next step in this process, the National Park Service (NPS) is currently planning for the rehabilitation of the Frozen Niagara Tour Route between the New Entrance and the Frozen Niagara Entrance. The purpose of the project is to provide safer walking surfaces for park visitors, staff, and volunteers; reduce or eliminate the impact of lint and dust on delicate cave resources; and protect cave resources by keeping visitors on defined trails and away from sensitive cave resources. This work supplements the improvements previously planned for nine tour routes between the Historic Entrance and the Frozen Niagara Entrance.



Where Are We Now?

The NPS is now in the initial design phase of the trail rehabilitation project. To support this project, the park is conducting a survey of potential cultural resources located along this trail route. These resources will be evaluated for their eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and the potential impacts of the project on these resources will be analyzed. Additional surveys will be conducted along the Cleveland Avenue Trail, as well as other route segments near the Historic Entrance for potential future projects.

Sample Improvements

The following are examples of improvements that would occur along the trail:

- Reconstruct trail surface with sustainable, consistent material throughout trail
- Install and/or replace steps, elevated walkways, and handrails/guardrails
- Harden trail surface and install benches at key gathering areas
- Install electrical and communication conduits under the new trail surface for existing and future cables



Timeline

2009
Rehabilitate Cave
Trails EA

2020
Initial Design

2021
Cultural
Resource Survey

NOW
Civic Engagement

2021
Assessment
of Effect

2022
Construction
begins



We Welcome Your Input

If you have any feedback on the items above, we welcome your feedback via one of the two methods below. Please provide your comments by **April 26 2021**

Online (Preferred):

<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/macac>

Or By Mail:

Superintendent
Re: Rehabilitate Cave Trails
P.O. Box 7
Mammoth Cave, KY 42259-0007