

BIBEKap

The Big Bend Karst Project (BIBEKap), an official National Park Scientific study and permitted project has been operation since 1998. (Steve Fleming, Steve Peerman and Keith Heuss were the original co-investigators – Steve Fleming continued as Principal Investigator until 2007 when Evelyn Townsend took over as Principal Investigator and Han Boudinet as co-investigator).

When the GUG was formed most of the participants in BIBEKap were GUG members. Over the years this project has continued to be supported by GUG members with 90-100% of participants being Guggers.

The main objective of this study is to find caves in Big Bend National Park and document them. Big Bend terrain is rugged and far reaching, requiring many beautiful hiking miles to ridge walk looking for cars.

We locate and document with GPS, Cave Surveys and Photos. Many of the caves (shelters) we have found are of archaeological significance. Some of the caves we found were of Historic or Biological significance. All of them are interesting in the geologic sense. If we keep looking, we may find a big one, but as it is so far most of the caves have been less than 300 feet.

An annual report is required by the National Park Service and can be perused by the general public by going on line. In addition to this we submit written reports of our research to the Resource Management office in Big Bend National Park where these are on file in their library. These are probably not accessible to the general public, but are for other researchers to use.

