

## **Guads Trip: October 2004**

### **Red Lake Cave:** by ET

*Kristen Nielsen, Randy Waslien, Hank Boudiont, ET, Doug Noel*

We had picked up permits for Pink Dragon for Thursday but I had to admit that I did not feel capable of doing this cave so we went to town and cancelled that one and got permits for others. So, we went first to find Red Lake cave. The directions to it were a bit murky and after driving around a bit we found the right road, but since we had not gotten GPS location we set out to hunt for the cave and soon found it. The ribbons and rock cairn helped a bit. It is a gated cave and we had the key from the Forest service. This was only about a forty-foot repel. I went in first and immediately discovered the resident tiger salamanders feasting on a dead mouse. I also saw two snakes. One was a garter snake and the other a gopher snake. When Kristen got down there, Doug and I told her to go to the far side away from the snakes (having told her there was only one small garter snake present). She did not listen and wandered to a portion where we had not looked and found a much larger (6 feet long) coach whip snake. She decided to leave the cave immediately. Three snakes were way too much for her. The rest of us took pictures and poked around in the one room cave. It had an old historic wire and wood ladder in it also and a small coke bottle. From Kristen - the snakes were really giant dragons ready to devour me.