

Improvements to the Slaughter Canyon Cave Tour Schedule

While very popular for those who give and take this tour, this tour is labor intensive and serves very few people per year. Tours are currently offered twice a day from Memorial Day to Labor Day and on weekends only the rest of the year. Limit is 25 people. The age limit is 6 years old.

In 2008 from Memorial Day to Labor Day –

- 80 tours given to 925 visitors at 10 am – average of 12 visitors per tour
- 77 tours given to 779 visitors at 1 pm – average of 10 visitors per tour
- To staff this it takes 2 people all day, every day

The age limit of 6 years old is too young for the physical demands of the cave tour. There are many safety issues and concerns with allowing 6 year olds to participate.

The proposal for May 23 - Sept 7, 2009 on a trial basis

- One SCC tour a day – in the morning

Increase the age from 6 years old to 8 years old.

The hike to the cave is strenuous and the trail in the cave is slippery, uneven and rocky. Cost for the tour is \$15.00 offered through the fee program which is intended to pay for the cost of the tours. Personnel costs are not being recovered at this time. Visitor safety is also a major issue with children too young being allowed at present.

On a trial basis, the number of tours will be limited to one per day from Memorial Day to Labor Day and age limit will be increased to 8 years old. The age limit will remain in effect through Dec 2009 when visitor counts will be reviewed and comments received from the public.