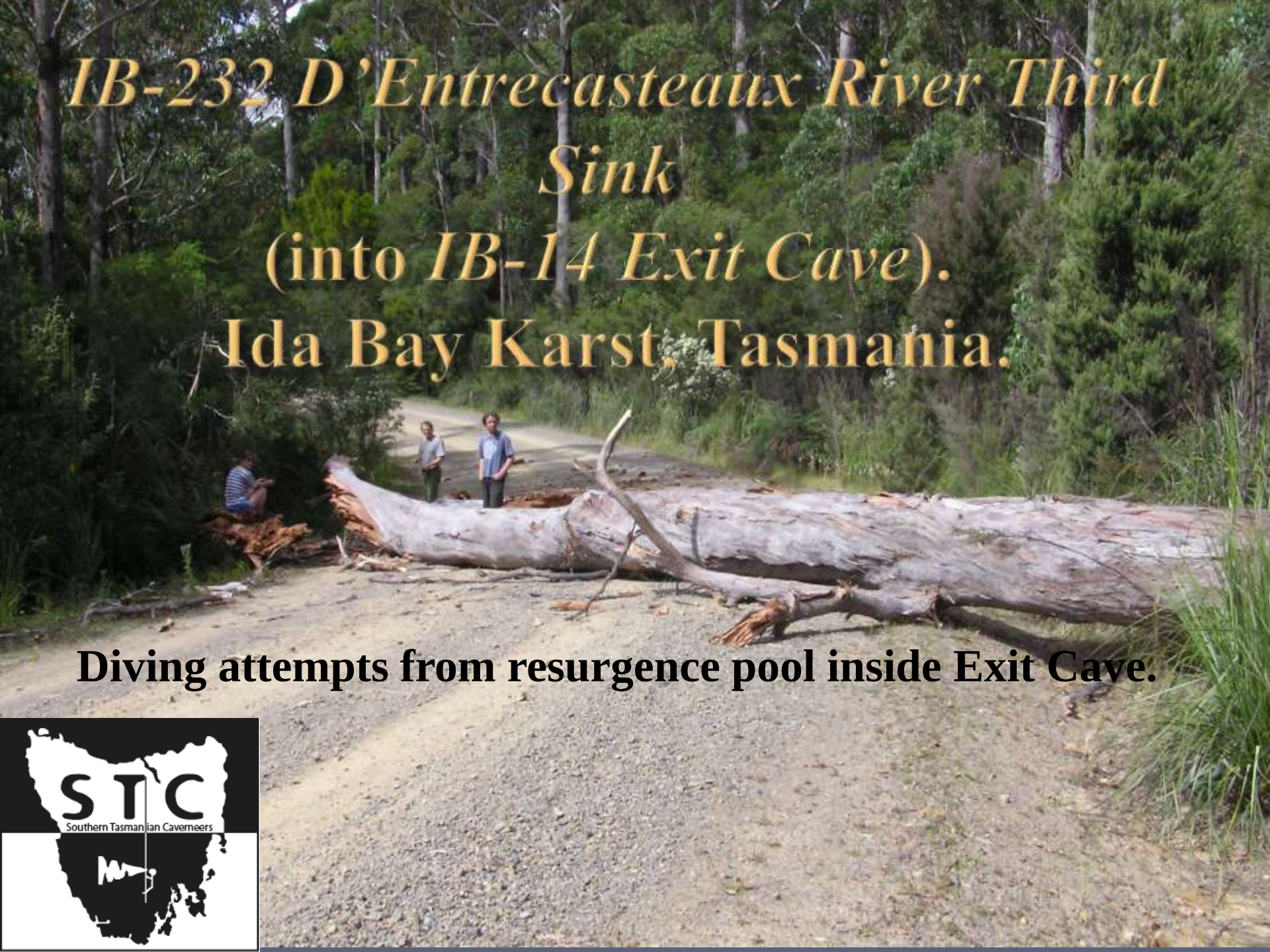
Perseverance Pays (or why being stubborn can sometimes be useful). IB-232 D'Entrecasteaux River Third Sink, (into IB-14 Exit Cave), Ida Bay Karst, Tasmania.

Janine McKinnon
Southern Tasmanian Caverneers

The D'Entrecasteaux River sinks and resurges twice before its third sink into Marble Hill. It then reappears in D'Entrecasteaux Passage inside Exit Cave. The sump had never been dived. There is 250m direct line between the sump and the reappearance. Was this to be a straightforward exploration?

The slides for this presentation are provided in Appendix E.

Appendix E - Perseverance Pays (or why being stubborn can sometimes be useful). IB-232 D'Entrecasteaux River Third Sink, (into IB-14 Exit Cave), Ida Bay Karst, Tasmania.



Diving attempts from resurgence pool inside Exit Cave.

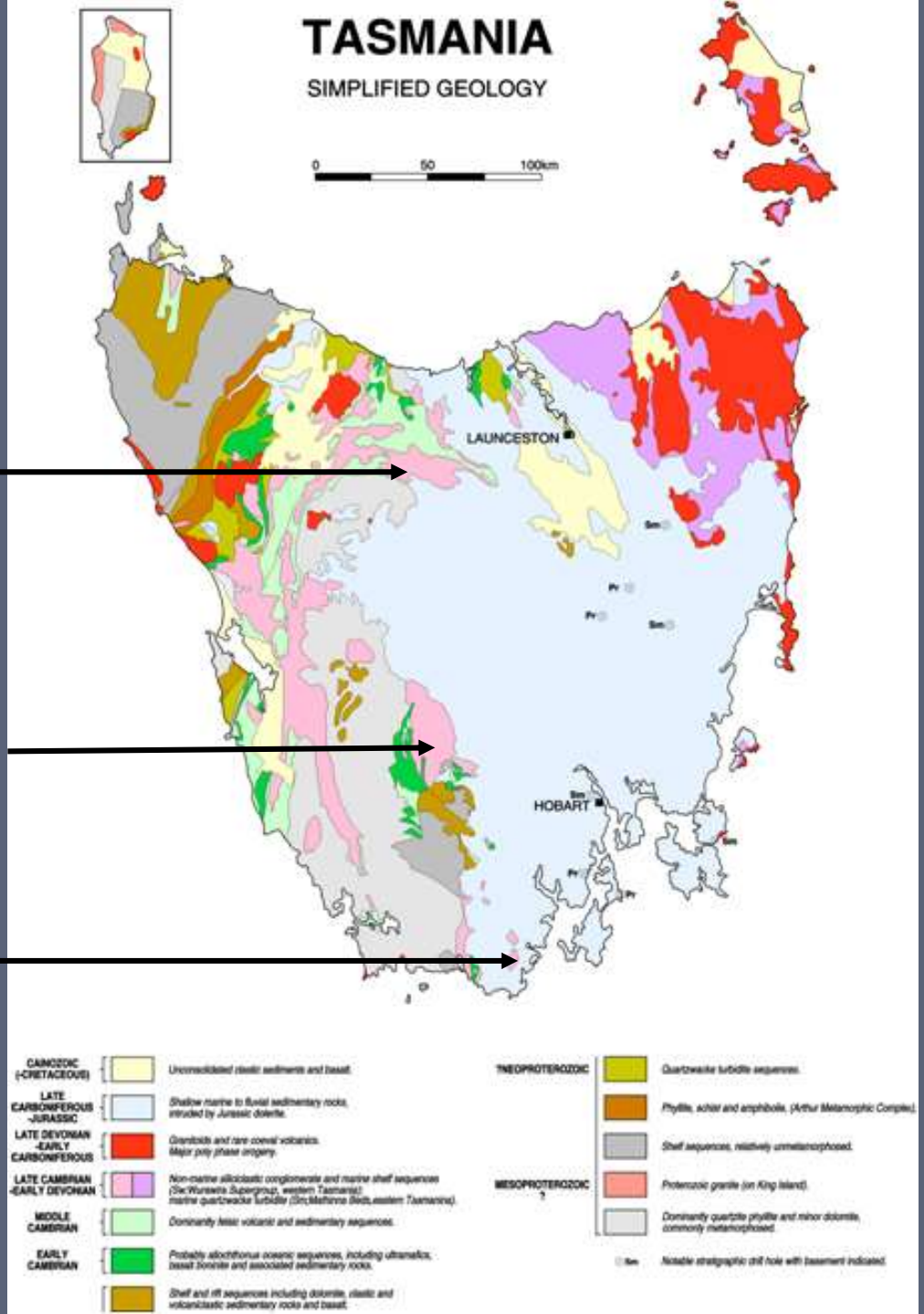
STC
Southern Tasmanian Caverneers

Karst Areas

MC Mole Creek

JF Junee Florentine

IB Ida Bay



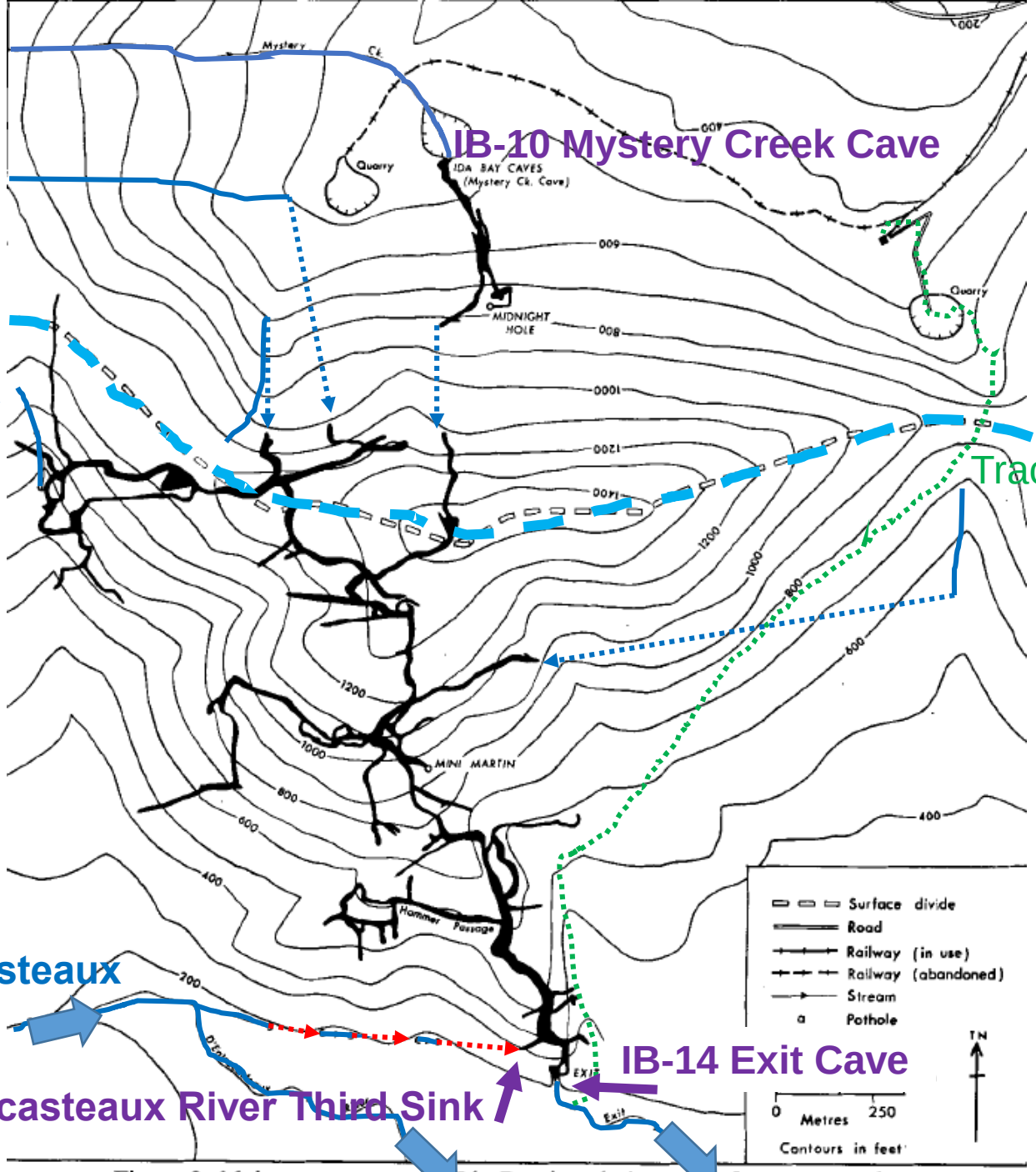
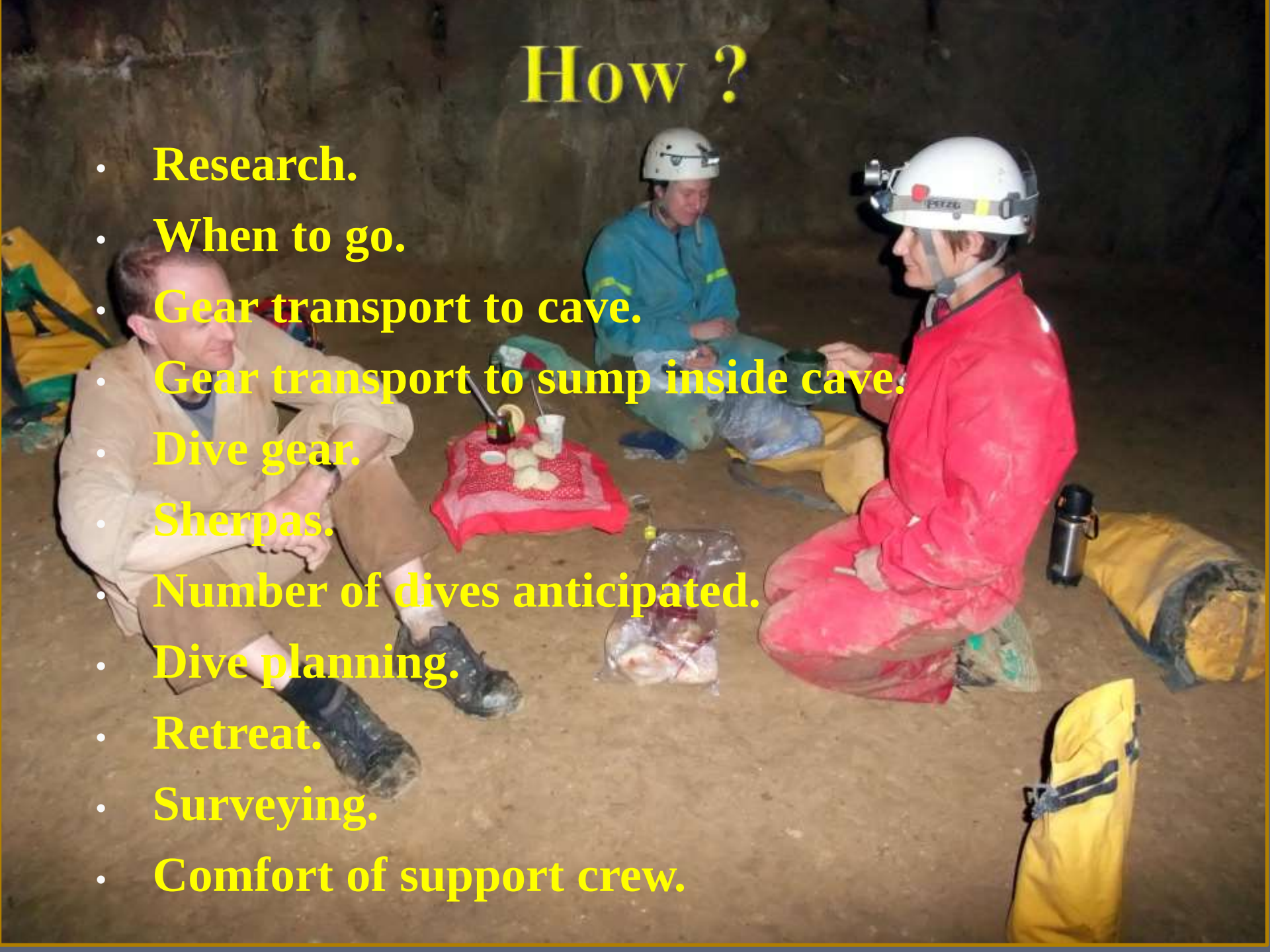


Figure 2. Main cave systems of Ida Bay in relation to surface topography.

How ?

- Research.
- When to go.
- Gear transport to cave.
- Gear transport to sump inside cave.
- Dive gear.
- Sherpas.
- Number of dives anticipated.
- Dive planning.
- Retreat.
- Surveying.
- Comfort of support crew.



Trip one - frustration and disappointment

D’Entrecasteaux Passage, Exit Cave


Trip two - the other end
The main passage named Sign of the Times (SOTT)

SUCCESS

Trip three - dive attempt two

FINALLY

Trip Four - exploration & surveying.

Exit Cave

The Ball Room, Exit Cave

The Ball Room, Exit Cave

The Ball Room, Exit Cave


Trip five - continuation of exploration & surveying

Dives.

- Found sump II.
- Explored beyond - large swimming passage to rockpile.
- Explored beyond - crawling, very muddy passage (usually sump).
- Surveyed sump II to start.
- Found sump III.
- Explored beyond - swimming to rockpile both ends of passage.
- Looked for bypass of rockpiles.
- Surveyed from sump III.

Surveying.

- Solo.
- Poor visibility.
- Some time constraints.
- Instruments:

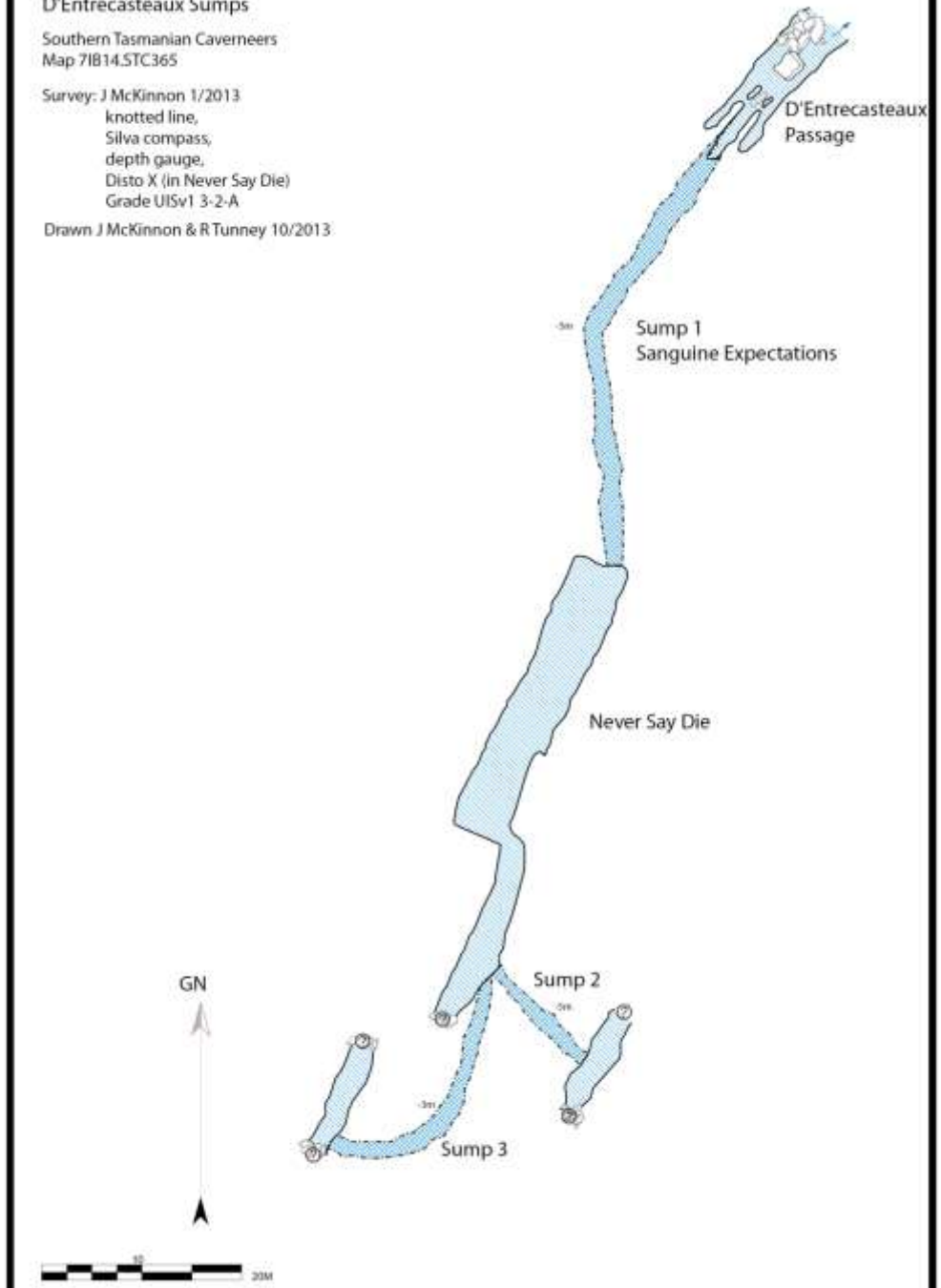
1. Never Say Die (chamber) - Disto X (laser distance measure with electronic compass and clinometer).
2. IB232 to rockpile- Disto X
3. Elsewhere - depth gauge, knotted line and compass. Line plot only.

IB-14 Exit Cave
D'Entrecasteaux Sumps

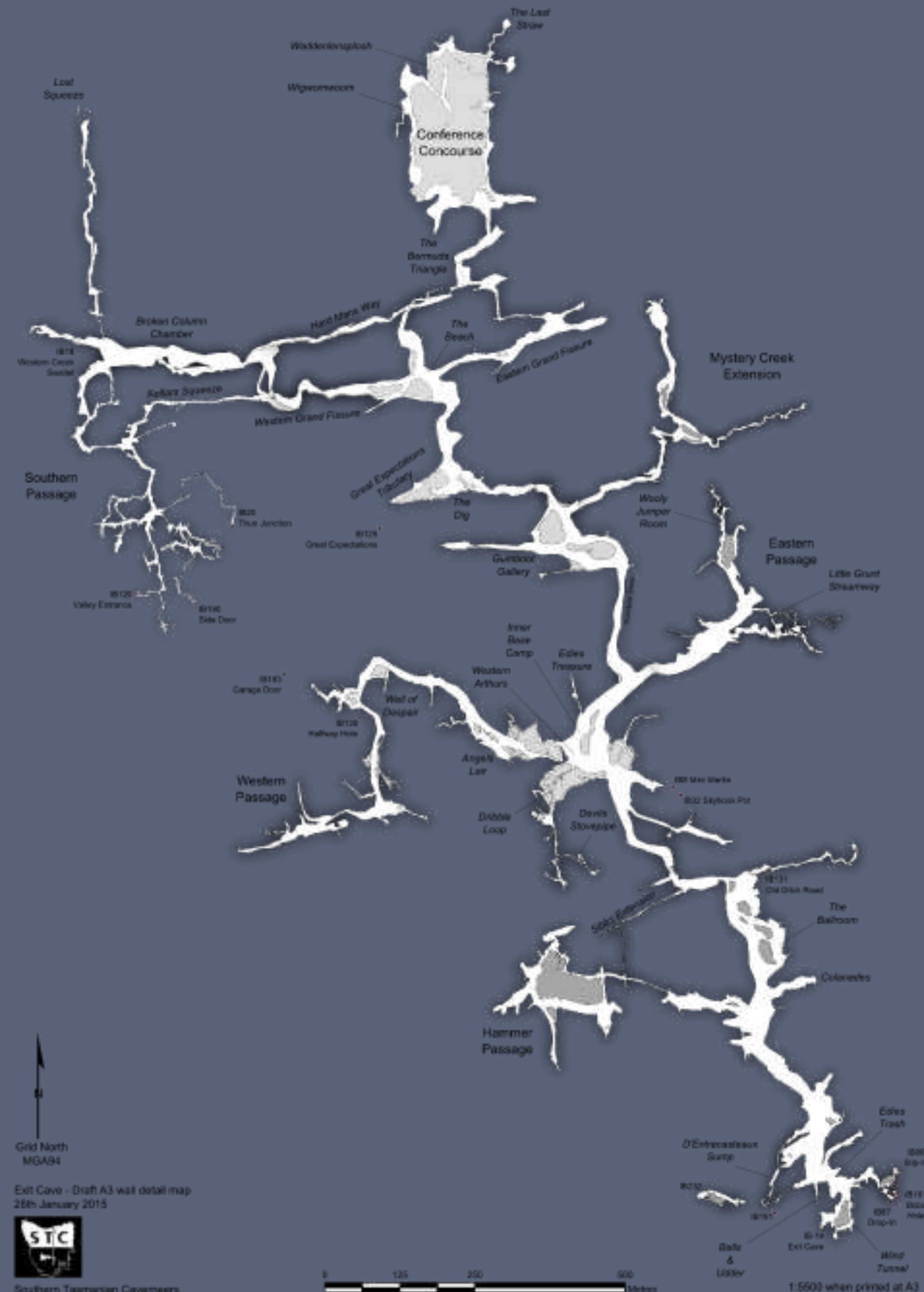
Southern Tasmanian Caverneers
Map 7IB14.STC365

Survey: J McKinnon 1/2013
knotted line,
Silva compass,
depth gauge,
Disto X (in Never Say Die)
Grade UISv1 3-2-A

Drawn J McKinnon & R Tunney 10/2013

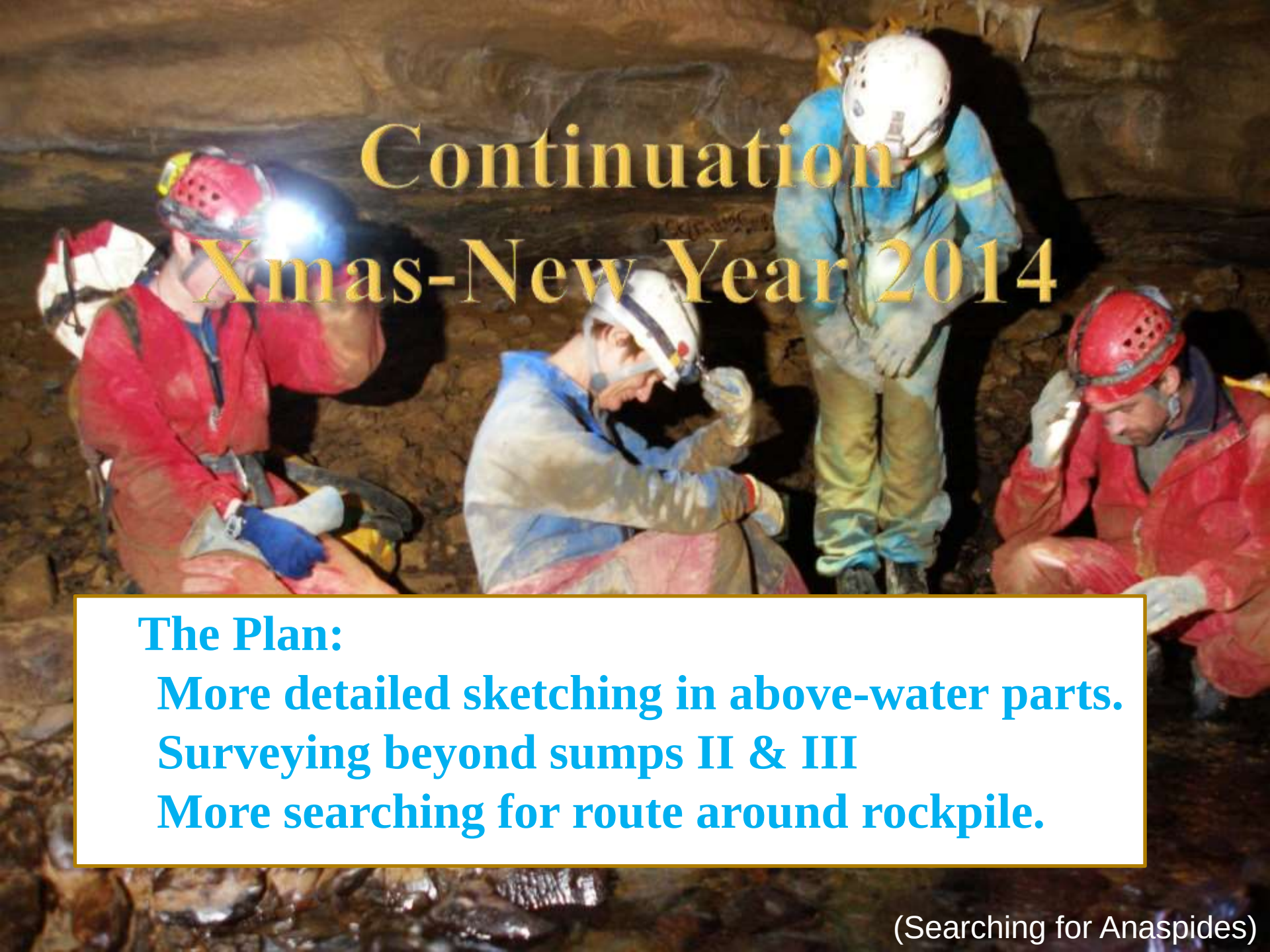



IB86
Slip-In
IB232
IB161
Bobs
Hole
IB87
Drop-In
IB191
IB-14
Exit Cave


The Last Straw
Waddenlensplosh
Wigwomecom
Conference Concourse
Lost Squeeze
The Bermuda Triangle
Hard Mans Way
Broken Column Chamber
The Beach
Eastern Grand Fissure
Kellars Squeeze
Western Grand Fissure
Mystery Creek Extension
Southern Passage
Great Expectations Tributary
The Dig
Wooly Jumper Room
Eastern Passage
Little Grunt Streamway
Gumboot Gallery
Inner Base Camp
Edies Treasure
Western Arthurs
Wall of Despair
Angels Lair
Western Passage
Dribble Loop
Devils Stovepipe
The Ballroom
Colonades
Hammer Passage
Edies Trash
D'Entrecasteaux Sump
Balls & Udder
Exit Cave
Wind Tunnel
Grid North
MGA94
Exit Cave - Draft A3 wall detail map
26th January 2015
STC
Southern Tasmanian Caverneers
0
125
250
500
Metres
1:5500 when printed at A3

Overview:

- Six trips
- Four dive trips
- Permanent line laid into SE entrance
- Exploration line left in-situ
- 150m passage surveyed
- Connection not made
- Leads poor but not exhausted



Continuation Xmas-New Year 2014

The Plan:

More detailed sketching in above-water parts.

Surveying beyond sumps II & III

More searching for route around rockpile.

(Searching for Anaspides)

What actually happened

I gained a dive/exploration/surveying buddy, which was good

We had NO sherpas, and two divers' worth of gear, which wasn't good

We found the way through the rockpile to SOTT on the first day

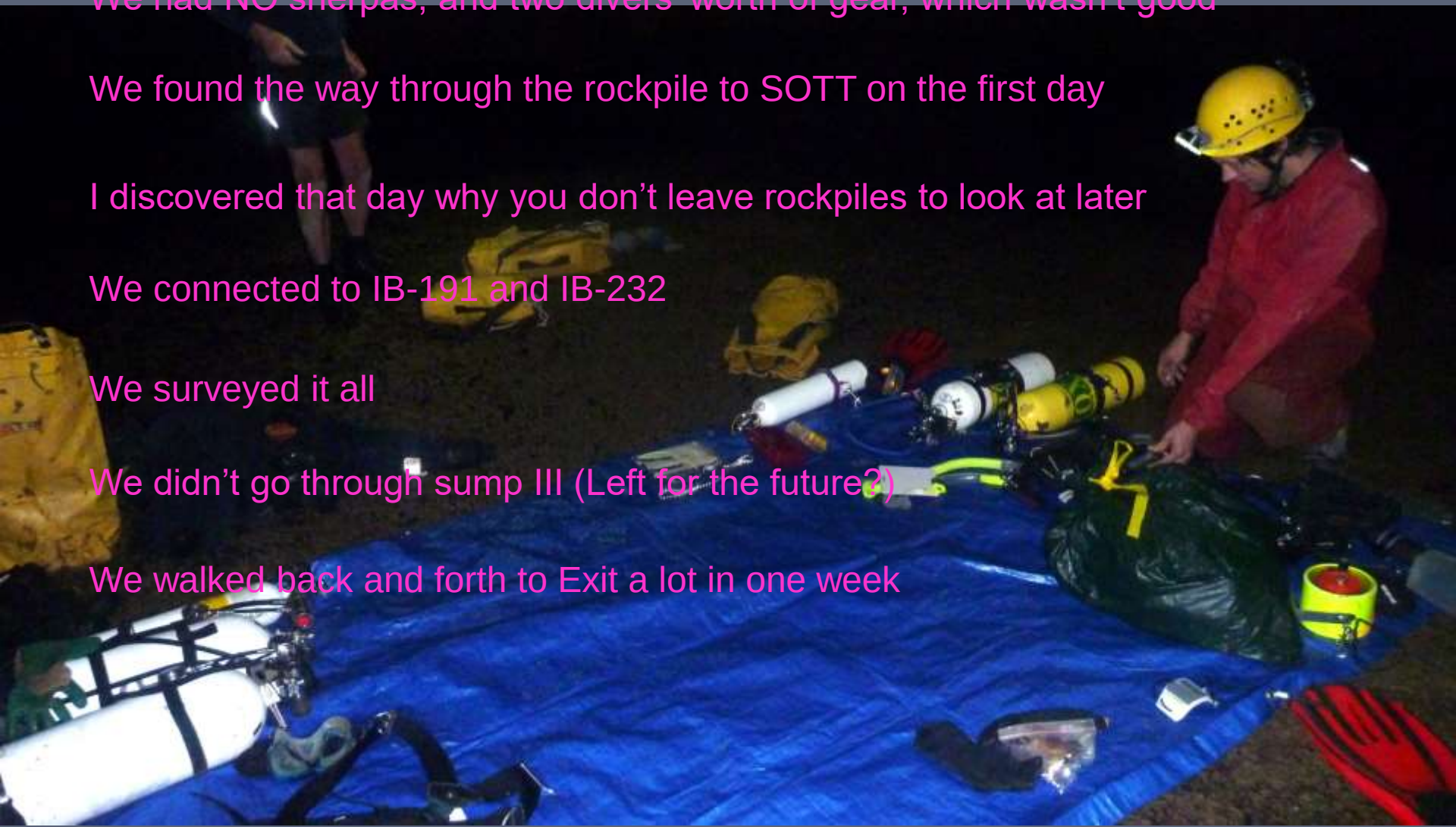
I discovered that day why you don't leave rockpiles to look at later

We connected to IB-191 and IB-232

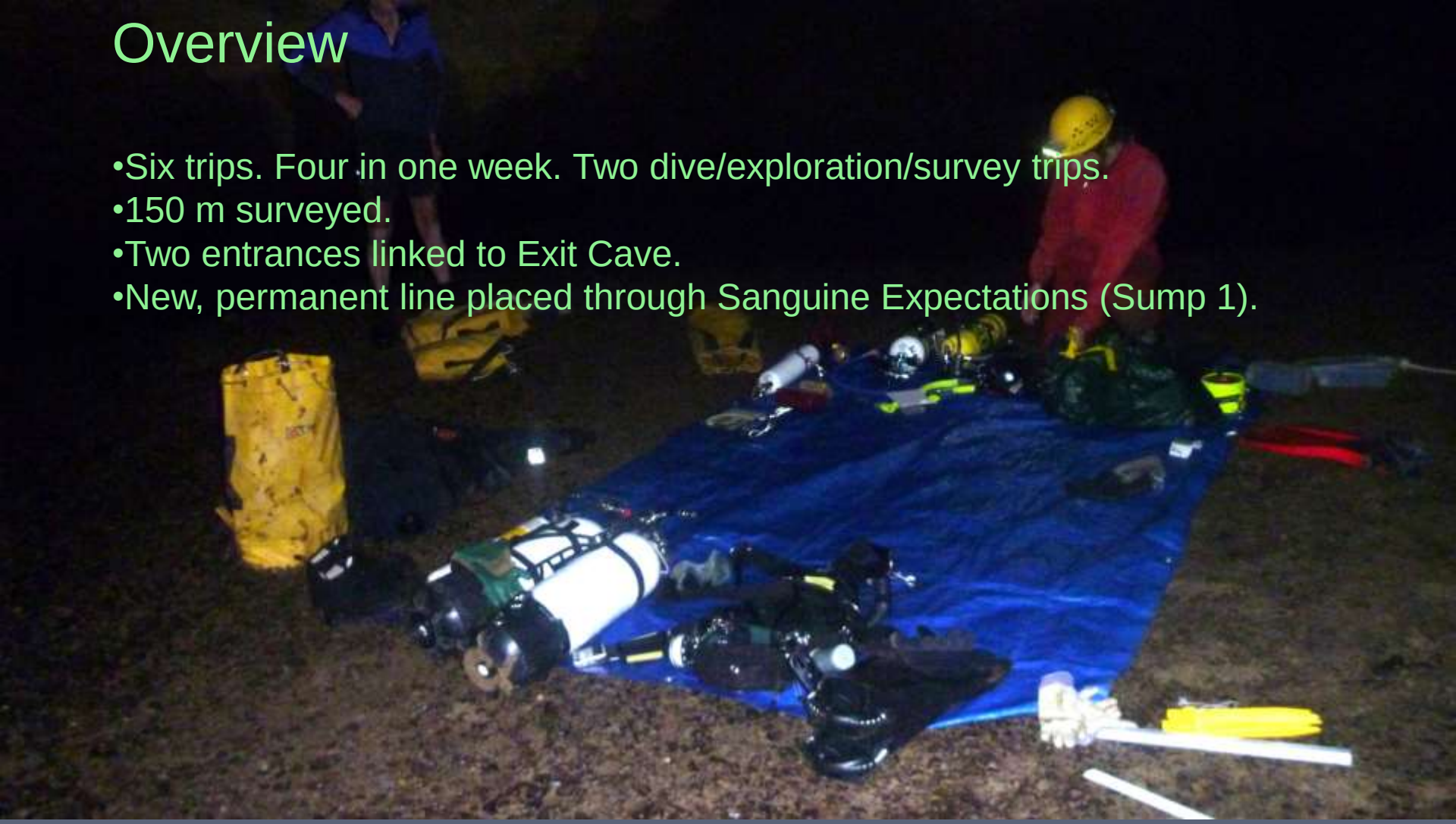
We surveyed it all

We didn't go through sump III (Left for the future?)

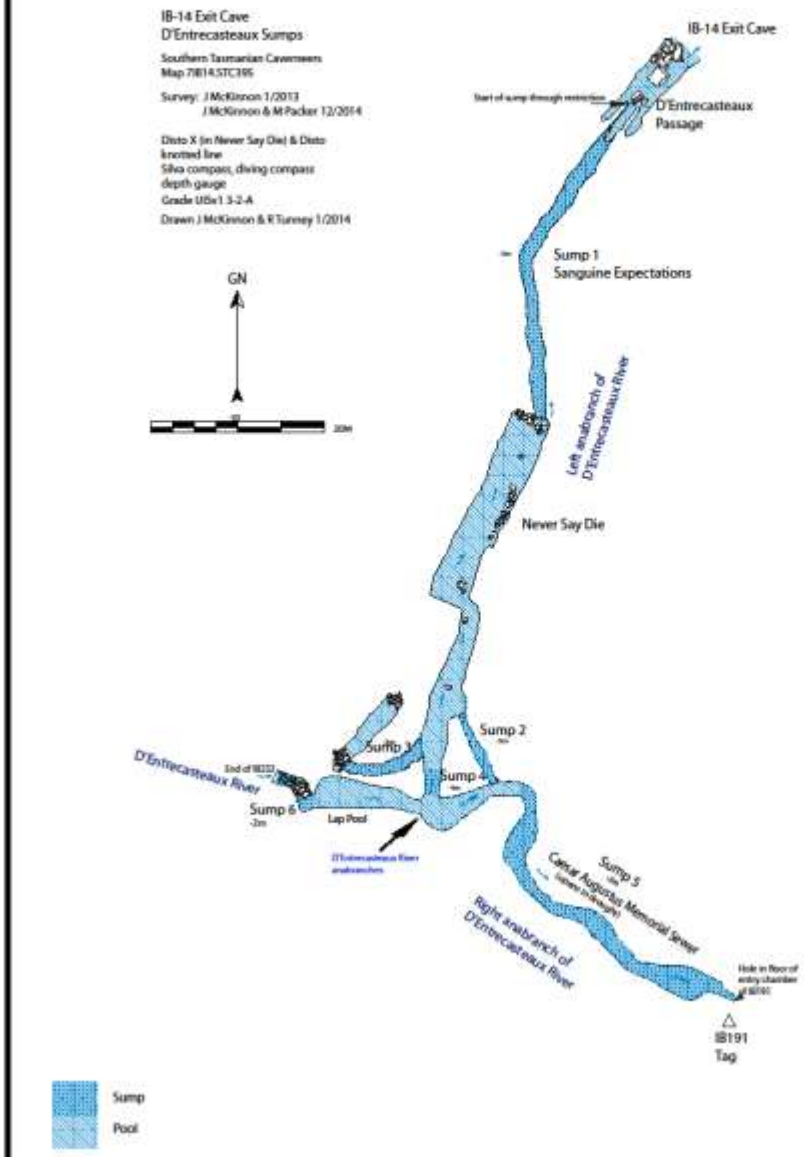
We walked back and forth to Exit a lot in one week



Overview



- Six trips. Four in one week. Two dive/exploration/survey trips.
- 150 m surveyed.
- Two entrances linked to Exit Cave.
- New, permanent line placed through Sanguine Expectations (Sump 1).


IB-14 Exit Cave
D'Entrecasteaux Sumps
Southern Tasmanian Cavemeers
Map 7IB14.STC395
Survey: J McKinnon 1/2013
J McKinnon & M Packer 12/2014
Disto X (in Never Say Die) & Disto
knotted line
Silva compass, diving compass
depth gauge
Grade UISx1 3-2-A
Drawn J McKinnon & R Tunney 1/2014
GN
IB-14 Exit Cave
D'Entrecasteaux Passage
Sump 1
Sanguine Expectations
Left anabranch of D'Entrecasteaux River
Never Say Die
Sump 2
Sump 3
Sump 4
D'Entrecasteaux River
Sump 6
-2m
Lap Pool
Sump 5
Right anabranch of D'Entrecasteaux River
IB191
Tag
Sump
Pool


The Rockpile
IB131
Old Ditch Road
The Ball Room
Hummer
Passage
Skinners Track
IB86 Slip In
IB151 Bobs Hole
IB87 Drop In
D'Entrecasteaux River
IB232
IB191
Wind
Tunnel
IB14
Exit Cave
Camp
Gumboot

Results

The end of D'Entrecasteaux Passage in *IB-14 Exit Cave* has been linked to both *IB-191* and *IB-232 D'Entrecasteaux River Third Sink*.

The D'Entrecasteau River Anabranch has been found to anabranch while underground. One anabranch flows into D'Entrecasteaux Passage, the other anabranch flows through *IB-191* and resurges in the rockpile at the entrance to *IB-14 Exit Cave*.

D’Entrecasteaux Passage, Exit Cave