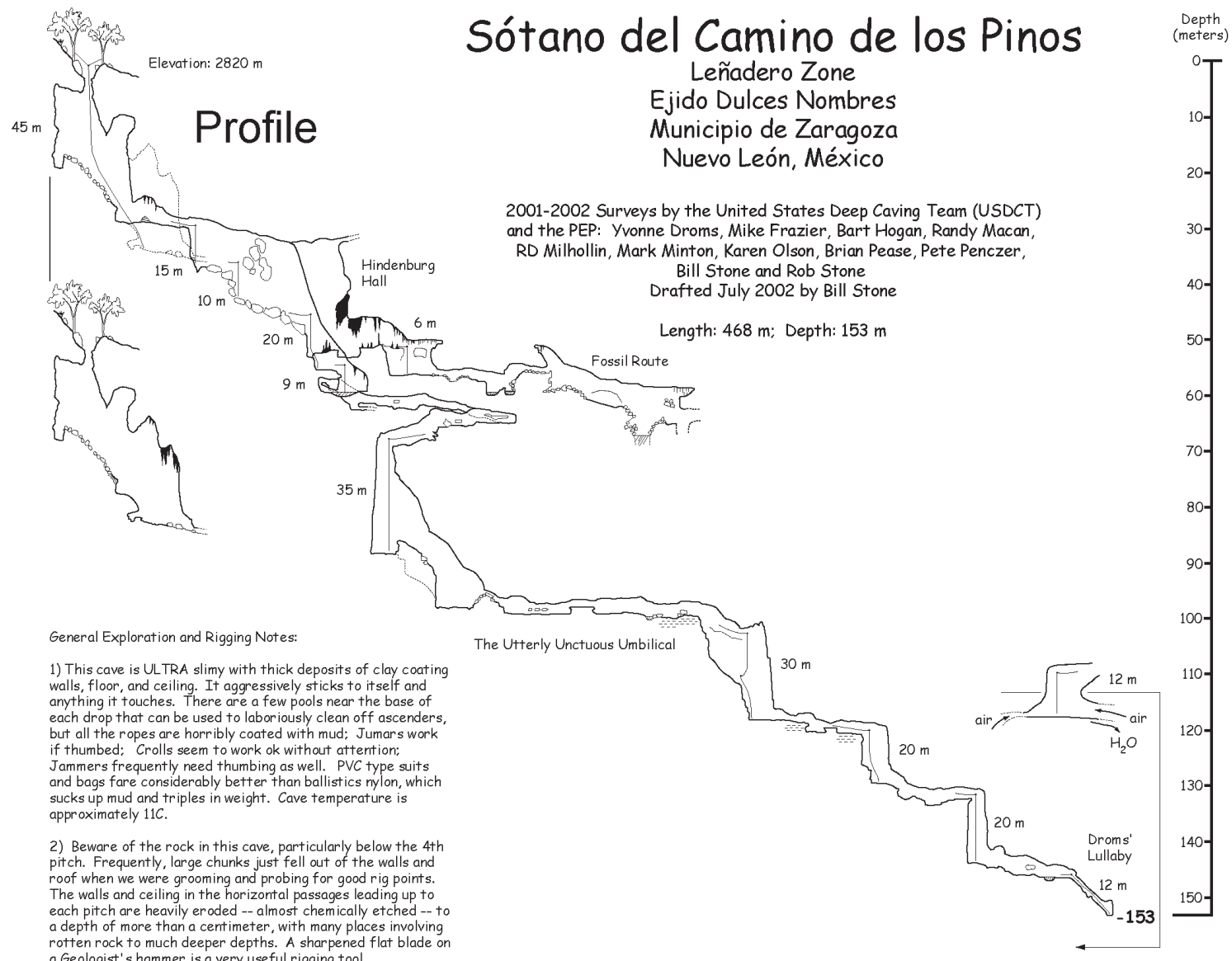
Sótano del Camino de los Pinos

Leñadero Zone
Ejido Dulces Nombres
Municipio de Zaragoza
Nuevo León, México

2001-2002 Surveys by the United States Deep Caving Team (USDCT) and the PEP: Yvonne Droms, Mike Frazier, Bart Hogan, Randy Macan, RD Milhollin, Mark Minton, Karen Olson, Brian Pease, Pete Penczer, Bill Stone and Rob Stone
Drafted July 2002 by Bill Stone

Length: 468 m; Depth: 153 m

Profile



General Exploration and Rigging Notes:

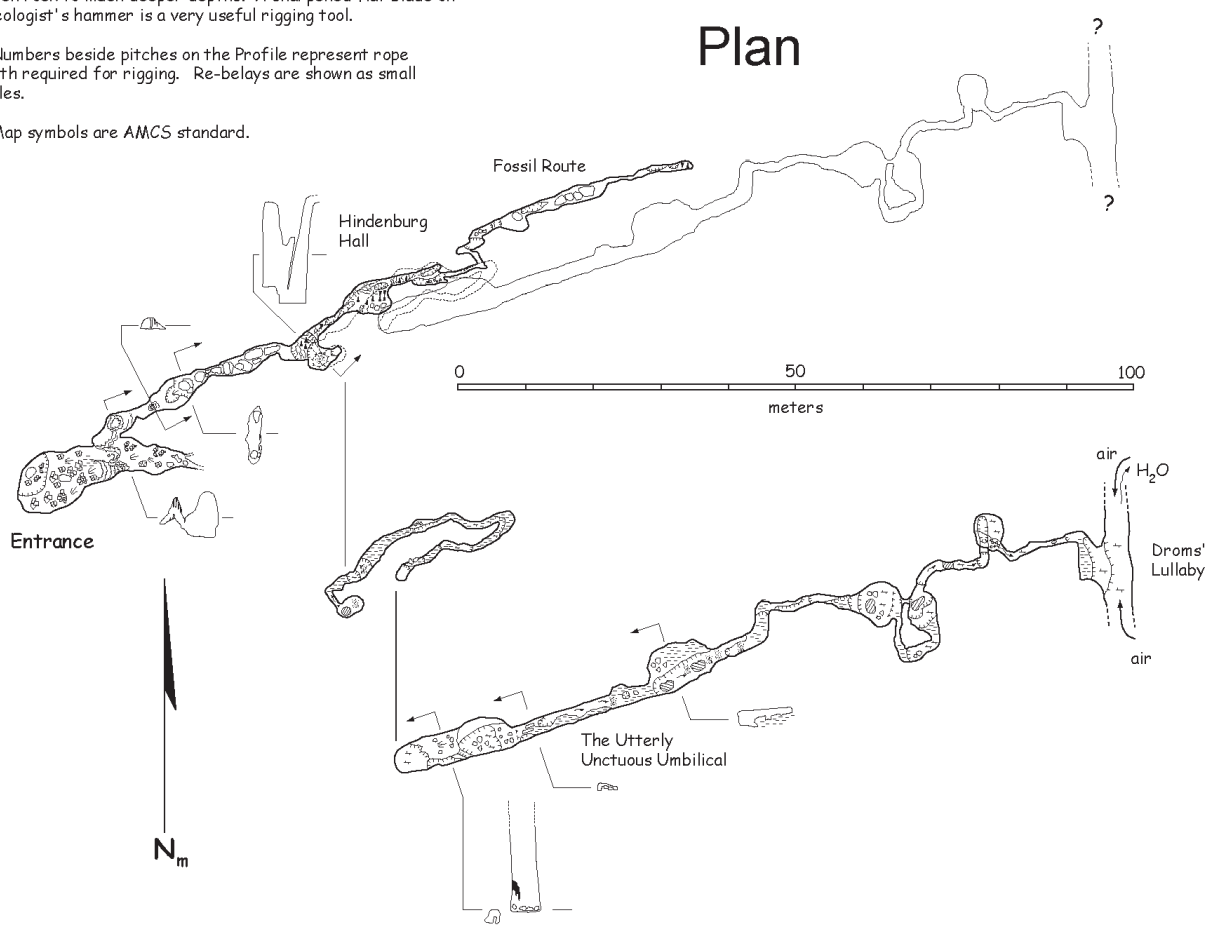
1) This cave is ULTRA slimy with thick deposits of clay coating walls, floor, and ceiling. It aggressively sticks to itself and anything it touches. There are a few pools near the base of each drop that can be used to laboriously clean off ascenders, but all the ropes are horribly coated with mud; Jumars work if thumbed; Crolls seem to work ok without attention; Jammers frequently need thumbing as well. PVC type suits and bags fare considerably better than ballistics nylon, which sucks up mud and triples in weight. Cave temperature is approximately 11C.

2) Beware of the rock in this cave, particularly below the 4th pitch. Frequently, large chunks just fell out of the walls and roof when we were grooming and probing for good rig points. The walls and ceiling in the horizontal passages leading up to each pitch are heavily eroded -- almost chemically etched -- to a depth of more than a centimeter, with many places involving rotten rock to much deeper depths. A sharpened flat blade on a Geologist's hammer is a very useful rigging tool.

3) Numbers beside pitches on the Profile represent rope length required for rigging. Re-belays are shown as small circles.

4) Map symbols are AMCS standard.

Plan



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