



KARST

INFORMATION
PORTAL

The Impact of Grey Literature in Advancing Global Karst Research: An Information Needs Assessment for a Globally Distributed Interdisciplinary Community--A Follow-up

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Information Needs Assessment

*Conducted in 2006 to guide development of the
Karst Information Portal ...*

Purpose

- Define information content needs
- Assess role of grey information sources
- Define desired web services

Method

- “Snowball” sampling (11 initial targets)
- Web-based
- Piloted January 2006
- Administered August-September 2006



What we found:

96.6% Use Grey Information n=58

86.2% Proceedings

82.8% Trip/Cave Reports

81.0% Theses/Dissertations & Maps

89.3% Produce Grey Information n=56

80.8% Proceedings

76.9% Trip/Cave Reports

65.4% Images & Speeches/Invited Talked



To the following statements:

“Would you use the KIP as a personal digital repository?”

Yes 43.6 %

No 20.0%

“Grey literature is a very important source of information to karst researchers ...”

70.9 % agree



The Challenge

The karst research community and its knowledge base are fragmented, globally distributed, and highly interdisciplinary.

As karst issues move to the forefront of attempts to develop solutions to significant environmental degradation, information integration and linkages promoting collaboration is essential.

The Solution

The Karst Information Portal (KIP) is a growing international community seeking to create an open system for karst-related information.

The goal is a freely accessible web-based information network to inform research, to enhance collaboration, and to address policy decisions in karst environments.



Design Goals

Open-access to quality information

- Organized for discovery
- Vetted for inclusion
- Described by the community of users

Facilitate information preservation & digitization

Promote collaboration

Benefits to Community

Informs research, filters the “information avalanche,” reduces impact of economic & access limitations

Ensures long-term access to information resources

Facilitates research & information sharing

Home

Quick access to

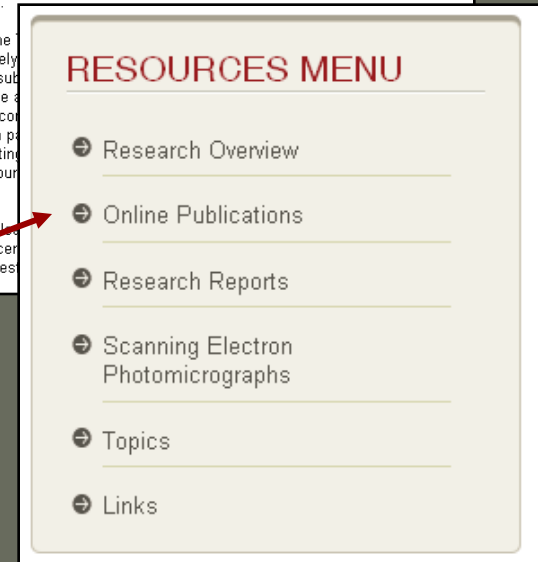
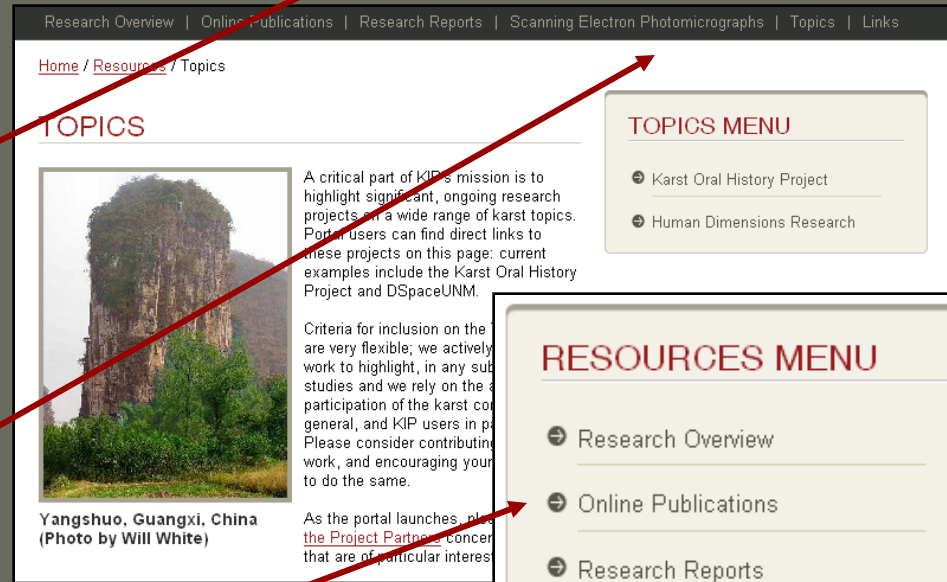
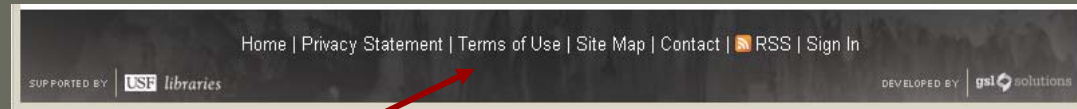
- Announcements
- News
- Events
- Research updates

Navigation

Persistent headers & footers.

“Breadcrumbs” orient to site hierarchy.

Context-valid menus guide access to sub-sections.




Resources

The “information core”
with access to ...

- Online publications
- Research reports
- Scanning Electronic Micrograph (SEM) database (UNM)
- Topics
- Links



KARST INFORMATION PORTAL

SEARCH  SIGN OUT

Type
Karst Information Portal

Keywords
Search

HOME RESOURCES COMMUNITY ABOUT NEWS CONTRIBUTE TO THE COLLECTION

Research Overview | Online Publications | Research Reports | Scanning Electron Photomicrographs | Topics | Links

RESOURCES...

As the KIP "soft-launches" in mid-June 2007, the resource base for the project includes:

- bibliographical references for over 3,000 print resources drawn from Diana Northup's *A Guide to Speleological Literature of the English Language: 1794-1996* (Cave Books, 1998);
- linkage to a customized Google-powered Co-Op search utility;
- an initial collection of links to worldwide WWW karst resources;
- a series of topical pages addressing specific karst issues; and
- the introductory stages in the Karst Oral History Project.

With user support and contributions, this collection will quickly expand in extent and value to the community it serves.

KARST COLLECTION

The Karst Collection consists of karst-related data and information, some of which are locally-stored computer files (images, PDFs, etc); others are links to karst-related websites or simply descriptions of physical resources.

Search the collection via the link on the right side of this page. Examples of the types of material you will find include:

- › technical reports;
- › dissertations and theses;
- › open-access journal articles;
- › images of karst and karst biota;
- › GIS map files and databases;
- › bibliographies and indexes.

Any karst-related data/information resource is eligible to be considered for inclusion in the collection. The Karst Collection is constantly growing, thanks to the collaborative efforts of the entire karst community. Please consider contributing your own material via the [Contribute link](#) on the right side of this page.

RESOURCES MENU

- Research Overview
- Online Publications
- Research Reports
- Scanning Electron Photomicrographs
- Topics
- Links

KARST

INFORMATION
PORTAL



SEARCH

SIGN IN / REGISTER

Type

Karst Information Portal

Keywords

Search

HOME

RESOURCES

COMMUNITY

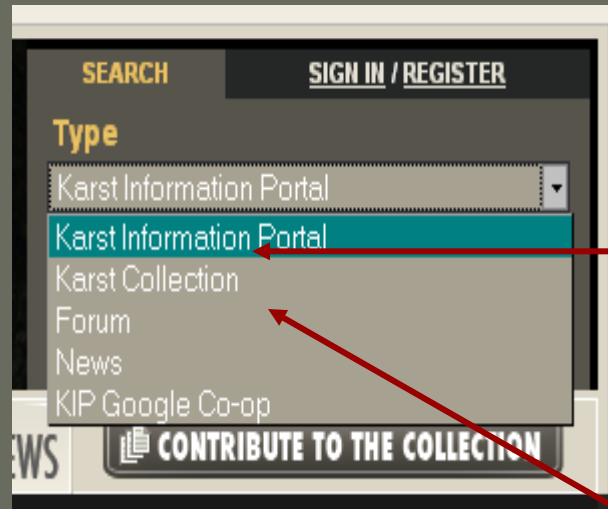
ABOUT

NEWS

CONTRIBUTE TO THE COLLECTION

Five options tailor search targets:

- Karst Information Portal (comprehensive)
- Karst Collection
- Forums
 - Posts/comments
- News
 - Announcements
 - Events
 - New publications
 - Research updates
- KIP Google Co-op



Over 4,000 references for karst-related data and information sources forms the core of the collection.

Queries a Google-powered customized search engine leveraging participant expertise with Google's search technologies.

SEARCH THE KARST COLLECTION

REFINE YOUR SEARCH

Keywords *

Geographic Location

- please select --
- World
- Africa
- Africa / Eastern Africa
- Africa / Eastern Africa / Burundi

Document Type

- please select --
- Archival Materials (MIX)
- Articles (ART)
- Articles / Preprints (PRE)
- Bibliographies / Indexes (BIB)

Language

- please select --
- Chinese
- English
- French
- German

Terms

- please select --
- Anthropospeleology
- |-- Anthropospeleology - General
- |-- Archaeology and Prehistorical a
- |--- Archeology - Africa

Submit Reset

SEARCH KARST INFORMATION PORTAL

13 RECORDS RETURNED FOR "EDWARDS AQUIFER"

(4209 total records searched in 34ms)

1. **Borehole geophysical techniques to determine groundwater flow in the freshwater/saline-water transition zone of the Edwards aquifer, south-central Texas** - 51%

2005 - Borehole geophysical techniques to determine groundwater flow in the freshwater/saline-water transit...

... saline-water transition zone of the **Edwards aquifer**, south-central Texas From U.S. Geological Survey ... City, SD USGS; **Edwards Aquifer**; Groundwater flow; BoreholesThe **Edwards aquifer** is the primary water ... hydrostratigraphic subdivisions in the **Edwards aquifer** are more transmissive. When combined with ...

Record from June 25, 2007

2. **Travel Times Along Selected Flow Paths of the Edwards Aquifer, Central Texas** - 50%

2001 - Travel Times Along Selected Flow Paths of the Edwards Aquifer, Central Texas From USGS Water-Resourc...

... Times Along Selected Flow Paths of the **Edwards Aquifer**, Central Texas From USGS Water-Resources ... Ardis, Ann F.St. Petersburg, FL USGS; **Edwards Aquifer**, ground-water flow, modelingFlow path travel ... karstic **Edwards aquifer** were estimated using simulated ground-water levels obtained from a finite ...

Record from June 24, 2007

3. **Characterization of Hydrostratigraphic Units of the Capture, Recharge, and Confining Zones of the Edwards Aquifer Using Electrical and Natural Gamma Signatures** - 50%

2005 - Characterization of Hydrostratigraphic Units of the Capture, Recharge, and Confining Zones of the Ed...

... Recharge, and Confining Zones of the **Edwards Aquifer** Using Electrical and Natural Gamma Signatures ...

Searches can be refined using Geographic location, Document type, Language, or Terms

KIP search is powered by Adobe ColdFusion Verity application.

Relevance ranking and results order are based on Verity's search algorithm.

Access to Resources

Links to select resources external and/or internal to KIP.

When content is not available online and is limited in distribution ... information about host repository functions as location aid.

Requirements for access and copyright.

- Submitted by contributors
- Clarified by editors

KARST COLLECTION RESULTS

Associated File:
http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2005/5160/PDF/Part1_2.pdf

DESCRIPTIVE METADATA...

Resource Title
Borehole geophysical techniques for mapping
freshwater/saline-water transition zones in
south-central Texas

Authors
Lambert, R.B.; Hunt, A.G.;

Year Published
2005

Keywords
USGS; Edwards Aquifer; Geophysics

Description
From U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2005-5160

Abstract
The Edwards aquifer is the primary source of water for the people in the San Antonio area. The aquifer is a freshwater/saline-water transition zone with dissolved solids concentrations ranging from 1,000 to 10,000 milligrams per liter. The survey in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation was designed to determine that the transition zone is present within the transition zone. The survey included geophysical, geologic, geochemical, and hydrogeologic surveys, and flowmeter surveys to indicate which fractures and faults in the Edwards aquifer are more transmissive. The survey provides a two-dimensional cross-section of the freshwater/saline-water transition zone and improves the understanding of the transition zone.

Journal Title
U.S. Geological Survey Karst Studies

Pages
39

Place of Publication
Rapid City, SD

KARST COLLECTION RESULTS

Associated File:
[297_03a.jpg](#) (469.3 kb)

DESCRIPTIVE METADATA...

Resource Title
29-7_03-a.jpg [Scanning Electron Photomicrographs and Spectra]

Authors
Braybrook, George; Melim, Leslie; Jones, Brian

Year Published
2006

Keywords
Crust; Hidden Cave, Nevada; Pool precipitates;

Description
Abstract: "Closer on O1, detail of thin coating (less than 1micrometers) over dogtooth crystals". Freshly broken chip, break parallel to small dense finger. Etched 15s in 5% HCl.

CLASSIFICATION DATA...

Geographic Location(s)
Americas / North America / United States of America / Nevada

Document Type
Visual Materials / Images (VIS)

Language(s)
English

Term(s)
Biospeleology

Derived from [Speleological Subject Classifications](#)
Informatics Commission (UISIC) of the International Union of Speleology.

ADMIN METADATA...

Current Repository
<http://hdl.handle.net/1928/99>

Digitization Note
Copyright Reserved by Authors



The KIP Project Partners Thank You

NATIONAL CAVE & KARST RESEARCH INSTITUTE

<http://www.nckri.org/>

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA LIBRARIES

<http://www.lib.usf.edu/>

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES, UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

<http://elibrary.unm.edu/>

UNION INTERNATIONALE de SPÉLÉOLOGIE (UIS)

<http://www.uis-speleo.org/>