Cave environments are extremely fragile ecosystems and need to be treated with care.

All SCCi caves are protected under various state and federal laws.

It is unlawful to:

- Disturb, remove, or collect any geologic formation (stalactites, stalagmites, columns, etc.) or other natural or archaeological material inside a cave.
- · Carve or deface any surface of a cave.
- Disturb the natural condition of any cave or leave any trash or other material in a cave.
- Remove, kill, harm, or disturb any wildlife within a cave without express permission of the cave owner.
- Enter a cave that is gated or posted.
- Destroy, break, tamper with or remove a lock, gate or door designed to prevent entry to a cave or portion of a cave.

Depending on the jurisdiction, violators can be charged with