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Comments: I'm a recreational caver. I do believe in protecting caves for their own sake and as habitat for wildlife such as bats. I think most caves get so little human use that closing them entirely is overkill.

For example, I've been through South Ice Cave several times a few years ago. I remember seeing a few bats, but it's a big enough cave that bats could easily avoid people. If you want to close this cave I'd prefer you only close the north end (most recreational cavers only care about the south end, since that's where the ice is) since that's where the bats were. Likewise, I'd prefer you only close the north end during the hibernation season.

The same is true of Arnold Ice Cave. I've been through it several times and it does have half a dozen bats in the winter. Most of the bats are low enough on the wall or ceiling where people could touch them, but this hasn't happened. Most recreational cavers just go through the cave staring at the rock and simply don't notice the bats because the bats are so small and the people's lights are low power. This means the bats are not being affected by the existing human presence so there's no reason to try and reduce the human presence.

I agree that non-caving use the land should be steered away from cave entrances, like how the trail past the Edison Ice Caves was rerouted farther north. You should keep trying to do that where practical, but not just do a blanket shutdown of all recreation near cave entrances. In the winter of 2018/2019 there were half a dozen bats hibernating in Redmond Caves. Obviously those bats didn't mind the human presence, the presence of a road very close by, or the presence of a freight railroad and an airport a short distance away. If you do shut down the caves that are currently popular with recreational users, many will just look harder for caves that aren't currently popular.