



The 1999 Draining of Lake Jackson - Photos and Bathymetric Map



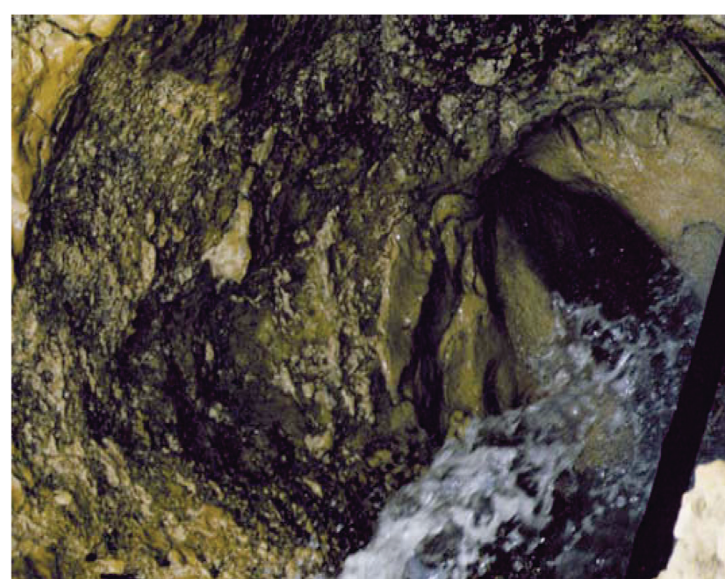
Aerial view of Lake Jackson containing water (Walt Schmidt).



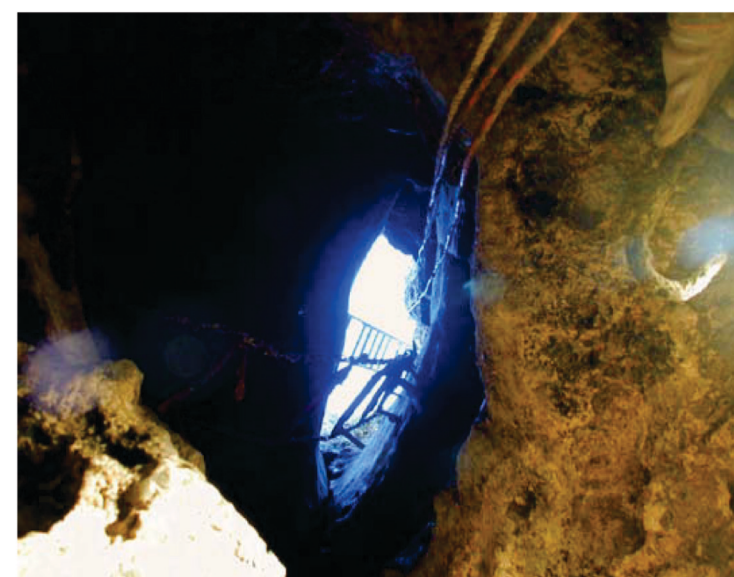
As the lake began to drain in September, 1999, flocks of birds gathered to feed on fish trapped in shallow pools by the receding water (Tom Scott).



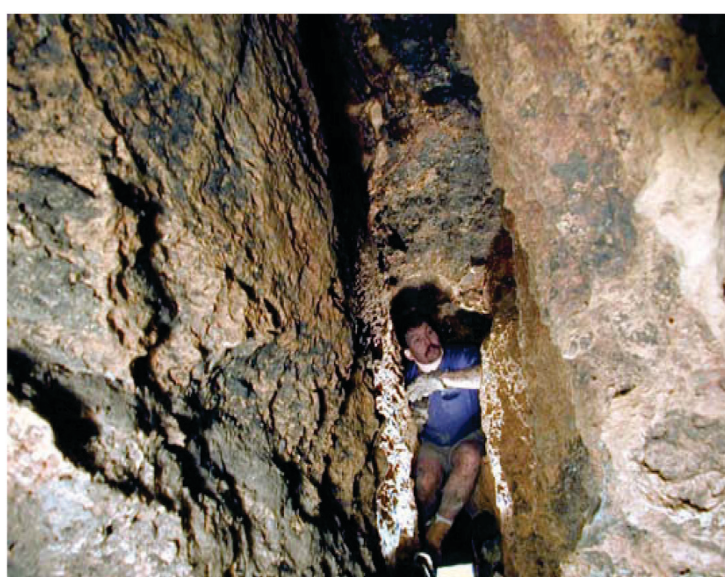
Aerial view of Porter Hole Sink (dark hole) through which the lake drained (Tom Scott).



Close-up of water cascading into Porter Hole Sink (Tom Scott).



After the lake drained geologists entered Porter Hole Sink by ladder. This view is taken from a cavern at the base of the sink, looking up at the slit-like opening to the surface (Tom Scott).



Geologist standing in the narrow passage leading from the cavity beneath Porter Sink towards a nearby plugged sink (Tom Scott).



A cavity at the end of the cave passage where clay, boulders, and monofilament fishing line (hanging in center of picture) from the lake have slumped into the cave from an adjacent sink.



Drainage events are not a recent phenomenon. A photo from 1907 showing the dry lakebed after a June drought (Herman Gunter).

