

NORSK GROTTFORBUND
NORWEGIAN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Postboks 1301
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Medlem av: **UIS, Union Internationale de Spéléologie**
attaché à l'UNESCO, cat. B
Medlem av: **FORF, Frivillige Organisasjoners**
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Jnr: ManVsWild-2010-1/AW

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REQUEST ABOUT CAVES IN NORWAY

My name is Anders Westlund. I am vice-president of The Norwegian Speleological Society (NGF, www.speleo.no). I am also international contact and I am responsible for our work of nature conservation.

§3 AIMS in our statutes says:

NGF aims are:

- *Safe caving.*

...

- *Cave conservation.*

§4 CAVING ETHICS in our statutes says:

NGF and the members of NGF are committed to:

- *Protect all caves from non-environmental visits, and to limit visits to vulnerable caves.*

- *Obey the laws of protected caves. These laws are to be guidelines in all caves, whether they are protected or not.*

I am referring to your email of 15. September to Svein Grundstrøm, President of The Norwegian Speleological Society. In your email you ask about suitable caves in Norway to make a program in the TV-show **Man Vs Wild**. You write that you want to make a dramatic scene where your actor seemingly will be in very great danger whereafter he manages to escape from the danger. As an example of a dramatic scene you suggest a flooded cave.

I am sorry to tell you that the board of NGF thinks that such a program will violate §§ 3 and 4 in our statutes and therefore we don't want to help you.

It's the opinion of the board of NGF that **Man Vs Wild** far too often demonstrates a behavior and an attitude that neither can be called safe nor environmental. An example of non-environmental attitude is the program where the actor Bear Gryll throws a flame into a cave to "smoke out" the bats and then kills them with a homemade club (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rK0VzrQvS8o>).

On behalf of The Norwegian Speleological Society

Anders Westlund
Vice-President