

How deep is the pit?

The depth record for a human was achieved in 1979 by an expedition team which was able to reach an unprecedented depth of 19,102m below the entry orifice, surpassing the previously held 1976 record of 12,117m. At depths below 19,000m, the anatomy of the pit begins to noticeably change and become much less anatomically similar to other surface forms of life. Explorations beyond these depths are extremely challenging due to the exotic and largely unknown nature of the pit's lower anatomy.

Unmanned expendable probe vehicles have been able to surpass the 19,000m depth, but poor communications quality over anything but tether cables have made further exploration cost-prohibitive.

It is hypothesized that the pit may well extend into the earth's mantle, with many scientists suggesting that the organism may be native to the interior of the planet, having merely "surfaced" to the upper tectonic plates for unknown reasons.

Hi! This is honestly one of my favorite projects I've encountered in a long while. I genuinely love it to pieces. I have got to ask though- what exactly are Anodyne mining down there?

Among the resources harvested from within the Mystery Flesh Pit, by far the most ubiquitous and well-known to the public was Amniotic Ballast. The miraculous silky fluid was extracted from deep within the pit and was refined on-site before being transferred to off-site facilities for additional processing. From there, many different products were manufactured by Anodyne that each exploited the fantastic properties of the ballast. One of the more notable and best-selling of these were the VitaSalve line of consumer-grade OTC supplements.

Refined amniotic ballast was concentrated and combined with other materials sourced from the pit to cure a range of ailments ranging from general malaise, mental degradation due to aging, to growth of several carcinogenic tumors. When consumed recreationally, refined amniotic ballast fluid created a very strong and pleasant psychotropic effect altogether different from alcohol, cannabis, opioids or hallucinogens. Though non habit-forming, the direct and plentiful benefits of products such as VitaSalve saw year-over-year continual market growth from the time it was initially offered until the supply was effectively shut down following the 2007 closure of the pit.

Beyond ballast-based products, several other materials were mined from the pit by Anodyne. Bone structures were mined and cut down to slabs which found prominent use in the construction industry as a well-insulating, lightweight yet incredibly strong building and finishing material.

Found this today and man this brings back memories. Did the Burger King ever open up in the visitor center? I vaguely remember hearing about a special King's Crown you could nab there.

The renovated Lower Visitor Center opened in 1995 with the addition of an expanded and fully enclosed main concourse for commercial vendors. On opening day, the lower

visitor center contained only three food vendors: a small convenience-style store, a full service Trader Vic's, and an "airport style" Burger King. (Plans for a Rainforest Café never advanced beyond initial talks with the park service.)

How long could someone live in the flesh pit, long-term?

Archeological evidence of prehistoric human activity within the pit has led to conjecture among scientists that long-term habitation within the anatomy of the pit is possible, but unlikely.

Without modern technology and tools, any humans living long-term within the entrails of the superorganism would need to adapt to the perpetual darkness, sub-par oxygen, constant high-humidity heat and continually changing fleshscape in order to survive. Over hundreds of generations, when combined with the poorly understood long-term effects of consuming amniotic ballast fluid, it is entirely possible that humans adapted to this lifestyle would be fundamentally different from modern humans.

"While the park was still open, has anyone ever tried to eat parts of the mystery flesh creature? I know they drink the fluid stuff but what about the meat parts?" This was a surprisingly common question during the park's operation. Yes, as a battery of other material and biological tests conducted upon the discovery of the Mystery Flesh Pit, samples of tissues were cooked and eaten. Those who conducted the impromptu tests, mostly field workers, reported that the muscle generally had a very gamey and offensive taste but was otherwise very tender. Other tissues such as lung, nerve, digestive and fat deposits were similar in taste and texture to offal. For these reasons, consuming the tissues of the Permian Basin Superorganism was and continues to be mostly seen as bad form, and not worth the effort. However, many hikers and former fish & wildlife employees have stated that a few of the lesser & non-venomous invertebrate species within the pit are excellent once steamed and served with butter.

@eljasparado asks:

"Has there ever been any commentary or attempts at intervention from PETA or similar animal rights groups regarding potential harm & suffering done to the Permian Basin Superorganism, either before or after the incident?"

One would expect a high degree of controversy over the exploitation of the Pit from a myriad of animal rights activists, but historically this has not been the case. Small protests and short-lived action groups did exist sporadically during the history of the park's operation but never gained much national traction. Some attribute this to the general obscurity and unfamiliarity the general public had with the park despite the global industrial involvement. Of course, in the months following the incident in 2007, there were a litany of protests and criticisms from groups such as PETA and WWF, but these were among many hundreds of other protests and demonstrations from a variety of interests and were quickly lost in the frenzy.

@insufficiently-advanced asks:

"Does the pit suffer?"

Does anyone not?

@teal-deer asks:

" Are there any Jumanos, Apache, or Comanche (the American Indian peoples native to the surrounding area) folk tales or oral histories concerning the super-organism?"  
There is a fascinating legend from the nearby Caddo people by the name of "Sacred Medicine Water", which I will reproduce here:

"The favor of the Great Spirit rested on the abundant forest, flowers, songbirds, and small animals of these quiet hills. Then a fierce dragon devastated the land, bringing disease and hunger and hatred and greed on the people.

The Indian Nations pleaded with the Great Spirit to subdue the dragon into a deep slumber, and the might of all the heavenly forces contrived to bury it under the world, where it shakes the Earth even today.

Once the Great Spirit had vanquished the dragon, he caused pure water to gush up through the Earth from the beast and asked that his favorite place be held neutral ground, so all can share in the healing waters."

@getsmashed asks:

"In the final incident report, it is recommended that the nutrients in the superorganism's stomach is replaced with rocks to weaken it while preventing a hunger response. Do we know how long it can go without eating? Isn't there a risk, along with the other containment measures, that the organism is killed?"

Even today, the full metabolic process of the Permian Basin Superorganism is considered to be poorly understood. What is known is that its metabolic rate is incredibly slow, with a hybrid diet primarily consisting of subterranean hydrocarbon deposits which it slowly digests and converts to energy. This is a very efficient method of producing the caloric energy necessary to provide the Mystery Flesh Pit with energy but does not account for the intake of specific organic components necessary in cellular reproduction and growth. Thousands of tons of bones and shells of prehistoric sea organisms have been found un-digested at the bottom of the greater gastric sea within the Pit, suggesting that the Superorganism does exercise some kind of feeding cycle, though research into this is still ongoing.

@kalanchoe-official asks:

"Rumors of religious facilities built within the pit?"

A non-denominational, interfaith chapel was added during the 1995 renovations to the Lower Visitor Center. It primarily exists for staff who may be working for extended periods within the Pit, with regular services conducted on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and on religious holy days. Of course, guests are invited to visit the chapel as well, and many visitors enjoy the quiet and tranquil atmosphere created by the space.

I don't have many details on it, but the "Contingency Measure" facility referenced in the 2007 Disaster Overview Report was designated as a "Ecclesiastical/Religious Observance" facility in a 1998 GSA construction budget report. Make of that what you will.

@solitarelee asks:

"Just how big IS an Abyssal Copepod? Did they ever manage to get measurements or much data on them?"

An adult Abyssal Copepod can grow as large as ~15-20ft(~4.5-6m) in length, with such specimens weighing in at over 310lbs(140kg). Of course, these specimens are generally very rare and represent the 80th percentile and above, with most examples of the species being closer to 7ft(2m) in length and weighing approx. 180lbs(82kg). The molting marks on the carapace can be used to date the age of a specific organism. In general, they live to be very old, with exceptional examples living well over 250 years. This is in stark contrast to Gasp Owls, which live for only a few minutes once they emerge from a cocoon.

@realflamegirl asks:

"how did the park and superorganism deal with visitors polluting the place? stuff like littering, oil spills, etc"

Like all national parks, most visitors to the Mystery Flesh Pit had little regard for properly disposing of garbage and would frequently leave trash wherever they were standing. Within enclosed trails and facilities this was easily dealt with through an active janitorial staff. On natural trails it was more difficult to track down, as the cilia and mucosal action of many parts of the Pit's anatomy would "dispose" of trash before park staff could identify. Where all of this trash went, and what it's long-term affect will be, is just one of the many mysteries of the Mystery Flesh Pit.

A much more pressing problem to park administration was emissions from diesel engines found in vehicles, equipment and generators. While the tissues of the Pit are surprisingly adept at absorbing the soot and particulate contaminants through aforementioned cilia and mucus, the CO2 exhaust from engines required a complex and expensive to maintain ventilation system in very deep or constricted parts of the anatomy where airflow was not feasible or even possible. Still, mining operations often found it more cost-effective to either rotate labor crews out on timed intervals

to avoid CO2 poisoning, or would utilize the in-built air systems of the protective safety suits they were already wearing.

Oil was just kind of dumped wherever.

An anonymous user asks:

"Assuming there were sometimes human amalgamations, or humans involved in an amalgamation, was there any way they could be helped, or were they S.O.L.?"  
An experimental and highly secretive medical procedure was pioneered by Anodyne-sponsored research scientists at Baylor Medical Center in the late 1980s which, on at least a handful of occasions was able to "recover" a person from amalgamation. The process essentially boiled down to five steps:

Identifying which organs/tissues within the amalgamation were human, and if more than one human, which organs/tissues had differing DNA sequencing.

Carefully removing as many organs as possible from the main Amalgamation, with the brain being given highest priority. In cases where the brain was damaged or even partially fused, the procedure could not continue.

Stabilizing the extracted intact organs, with brain priority, and allowing them to heal in a proprietary chemical solution derived from Ballast.

The brain, and any other extracted organs, would each be placed into a respective life support module before being connected together.

Through a rudimentary DOS-based machine/brain interface, it was possible through therapy to establish contact with the "person", who often retained full memory and mental cognizance. With training, the person could even develop some semblance of a quality of life through the use of cameras, microphones, text-to-speech vocalizers, and in a few cases mechanical prosthetics such as armatures or ambulatory life support equipment racks.

It's important to note here though that, despite the claims Anodyne made at the time at Pharmaceutical trade expos, the quality of life of these "cyborgs" was horrific and incredibly expensive for family members to maintain. The full procedure, if even possible, often ballooned into costs exceeding several million dollars to perform, with the end result being a room-sized nest of life support plumbing and boxy beige computer equipment prone to overheating. When the company was dissolved in 2008, much of this research became property of the U.S. Government, which has repeatedly rejected my FOIA requests for more information on this issue.

@jay-leno-incarnate asks:

"I just read that the ranger traversal vehicle uses some form of X-ray as a means of navigation, would the x-rays not be harmful to flesh within the pit? Are there any known cases of things like cancer or sickness developing in/on the pit?"

Despite the volume of X-Ray and Microwave radiation being emitted within and through the pit, any such negative effects of their use have not been observed. It is believed that, relative to the estimated size of the Permian Basin Superorganism, the amount of radiation introduced by human activity is relatively inconsequential to the overall health of the Pit.

Is it true that the restaurants in the Lower Visitor Center served meat carved from the living flesh of the Pit itself and cooked in its juices, or was that a marketing gimmick?

While there are hundreds of urban legends circulating around about the park serving flesh from either the Superorganism or any of the myriad of wildlife within it, these rumors are completely untrue. No restaurant within the Mystery Flesh Pit National Park ever served these items, for two main reasons:

1) Pit Flesh, as well as flesh from virtually every species found within the park, was and is notorious for its very tough and oily texture which is quite unpleasant. Even when cooked with a generous amount of seasoning, the mineral-like flavor of the fleshpit meat was a very tough sell to even the most adventurous foodies.

And 2) After 1980, intentional, unauthorized damage to either the superorganism or wildlife within the superorganism constituted felony trespass and destruction of government property. No vendor granted an operating license within the park would dream of invoking such a severe sanction for such a relatively worthless prize.

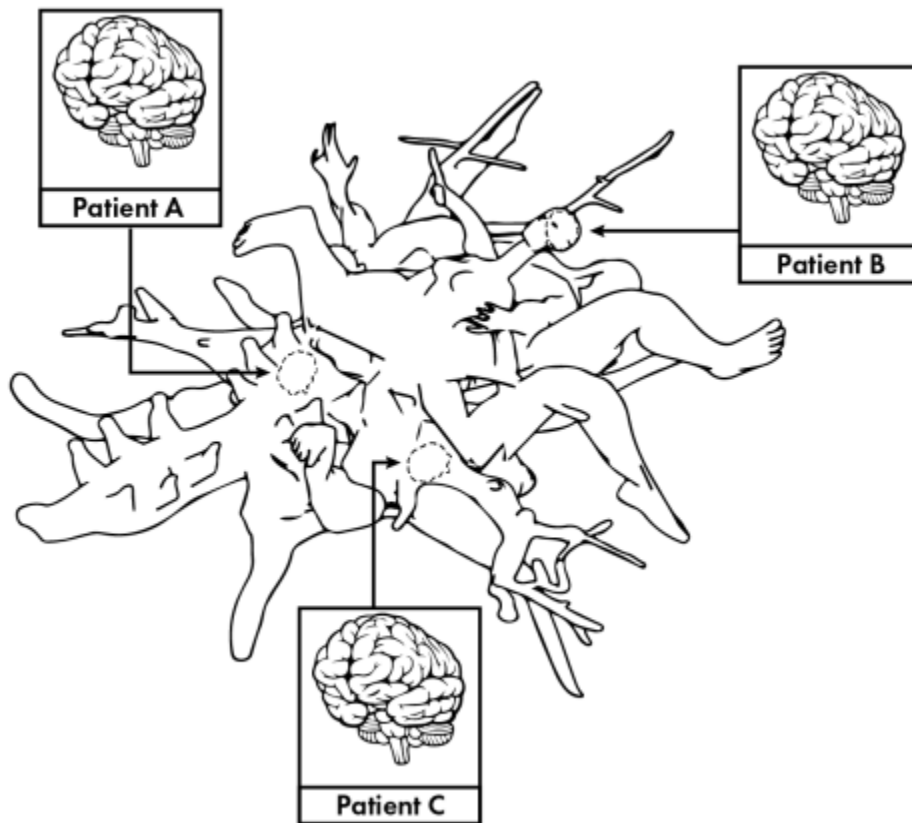
@cumaeansibyl asks:

What kind of information do we have about pre-Columbian ritual practices centered around the MFP? Was any of that research able to continue post-containment? The extent of our knowledge of pre-Columbian cultures relation to the Pit is heavily based on the few (publicly available) records of the ruins adjacent to the Entry Orifice. From what we know, there was definitely an advanced awareness of the Superorganism among local and/or ancient cultures. How this awareness manifested is unknown. Some scholars speculate that the pit may have been a focus of worship, possibly involving sacrificial offerings. No evidence of ancient cultures descending into the pit has ever been found, but this doesn't definitively rule out pre-Columbian expeditions. The controversial discovery of early colonial Spanish armor within the sand gullet seems to dispel the common notion that complex technology is required to descend at least that far into the pit.

@brainy-twilight asks:

You said that some people were recovered from compound surface fauna. How many were 'successfully' removed? Are any still alive today?

While HIPAA and similar regulations prevent me from finding out exactly how many people even suffered amalgamation, It's estimated that fewer than half a dozen ever survived the treatment process to recovery. "Recovery", though, is a loaded word here. The "treatment" co-developed by Baylor Medical Center & the Anodyne Corporation was highly dependent on the nature of the amalgamation, and seems to have been most successful with combined masses containing only human tissue.



The procedure for treatment involved removing the brain and as much of the spinal cord as possible from the amalgamation. When possible, extraction of other organs such as eyes, cochlear tissues, tongues, and larynx would later enable the "recovered" patient a sensory experience much closer to that which they had previously enjoyed, since medical technology is even still unable to replicate the organic sensory quality of human sensory tissues. However, the difficulty and cost of this additional procedure all but ensured that this rarely took place.

Once extracted, the brain of the individual patient would be placed in a nutrient salve and connected to a proprietary interface and life-support system developed by the Anodyne company. A rudimentary computer-based system could be used to communicate

with the recovered patient after several months of therapy, and in some cases individuals were reportedly able to use vocorders to synthesize speech.

It is unknown how many (if any) of these individuals are still living today.

Anonymous asks:

Is Anodyne still operational? (the company)

Anodyne was formally dissolved in 2009 following its bankruptcy filings, with its remaining debts and liquidation being managed by the reorganized Permian Basin Recovery Corporation. Through nebulous political machinations, the Permian Basin Recovery Corporation was awarded an exclusive and indefinite contract to oversee the management of the Superorganism Containment Project. Today, the PBRC continues many of the same extraction operations that the Anodyne Corporation did before 2007...

@lost-forest-heart asks:

What exactly is a gasp owl?

Gasp Owls / Suckling Sprites / Bugguns are all names given to the same peculiar type of animal found in deeper portions of the Mystery Flesh Pit's anatomy. They are very elusive and are one of the least-studied fauna within the Park, with very few living examples surviving in captivity long enough to study.

They are believed to be descended from an avian ancestor, though this is speculation at best. The name "Gasp Owl" is a reference to the characteristic labored breathing which plagues these small and curious creatures.

After the disaster were the emergency phones still working? If so could they be called or called from still?

Yes, after the 2007 catastrophe, efforts were made to re-establish a communications network within the Mystery Flesh Pit which included the many trail emergency phones, though the greater percentage of them have remained unused since 2007 and have likely been overtaken by growth.

@pretty-art-i-really-like asks:



what are the stories behind some of the memorial sites found in the park, such as the Gatti Circus Tragedy memorial, and the Fred J. Agnich memorial dam?

The Circus Gatti Tragedy Memorial commemorates the 1976 tragedy in which the traveling entertainment group Circus Gatti was scheduled to perform a daring high-wire stunt show directly above the then under-reinforced entry orifice as part of a publicity stunt. During the performance, several chimpanzees, which had been scheduled to perform, became panicked to the point of disrupting an ongoing routine by a troupe of clown stunts-people.

While the soft flesh of the pit throat cushioned the performers fall, an unexpected stretching of the moisture crops allowed them to slide down into a then-unreinforced area of the pit.

Rescue personnel were able to locate the performers inside a digestive sac a few hours later, but by that time, all 50 stunts-people had already begun being digested by the pit. Rescue personnel cut them out, correctly guessing that many were still alive. An experimental antacid spray was discharged on top of the gooey, shrieking mound, but it was too late.

Instead of reducing the acidic effects on the partially-digested bodies of the performers, the experimental compound flash-calcified into the "Circus Clown Chymus" formation that appears on the trail today. The Memorial was constructed in 1986 to commemorate the 10-year anniversary of their deaths.

The Fred J. Agnich memorial dam was so named to commemorate the legacy of Texas Statesman Fred J. Agnich, a vocal proponent of the Texas State Parks.

Is the main entry orifice the only one the Mystery Flesh Pit possesses? If not, were the other ones also used by Anodyne for resource exploitation?

While the main Entry Orifice depicted in all of the Marketing and Outreach media for the Mystery Flesh Pit, an additional 14 orifices were eventually discovered, bringing the total number to 15. These 14 additional orifices, along with the main Entry Orifice, are loosely arranged in a circle around the true center of the Permian Basin Superorganism, which contains no orifice of any kind. Unlike the extensively dilated and excavated main orifice, these 14 additional orifices are much smaller and harder to locate. Each of these smaller orifices has been appropriately "capped" to prevent ingress by the Bureau of Land Management, though at least two orifices were utilized by the Anodyne corporation for limited logistics and resource extraction purposes. In the early 2000s, ambitious plans were drawn up to eventually develop one or more of these additional orifices into a "Second Gate" for tourism, but the 2007 tragedy curtailed any such plans. Today, these formerly Anodyne-maintained orifice facilities are operated by the Permian Basin Superorganism Containment corporation in service of their containment and research operations.

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Did the Roadless Rally go into the pit itself?

The Roadless Rally off-road racing series took place entirely within the pit, specifically within the large cavity created by damming of the Lesser Gastric Sea with the construction of the Fred J. Agnich Gastric Dam. This large cavity was initially created to house a temporary worker village during the early development of the park facilities. Once these temporary housing & fabrication facilities were no longer needed, the area was leased to a rally racing league for an experimental new form of off-road rally racing. Despite the enormous costs sunk into the creation and advertisement of the new racing program, viewership was limited enough that the experiment was considered a failure and was not pursued beyond the 1989 season.

@crashlandingcity asked:

The existence of large mining rigs and commercial constructions like the Intrapit Thermal Wellness Resort far from the main National Park entry orifice hint at a commercial operation on a scale that almost overshadows the park complex. What kind of support and logistics infrastructure existed (exists?) for these large-scale heavy industries and construction projects?

Despite the two other entry orifices mentioned in an answer above, almost all of Anodyne's equipment and infrastructure depended heavily on use of the main Entry Orifice. Large equipment such as the mining rigs were constructed in situ by lowering large pieces of the vehicles down the main articulated elevator gantry. As the scale of these vehicles suggest, it is correct to assume that the commercial extraction operations were of a far larger scale than that of the National Park. Today, the full extent of these extraction activities is unknown with many records presumed lost during the liquidation of the company's assets following it's 2008 bankruptcy.

Anonymous asked:

Why was aconitine the chosen paralyzing agent for the superorganism instead of a more standard anesthetic?

Anodyne Chemicals was already a contracted supplier of specialty-use poisons for the Department of the Interior, and had prior capability to produce Aconitine at-scale. In short, it was the least economically-disadvantageous of the chemical candidates which were considered.

@mikuworshiper asked:

I'm sorry if I just missed it on the anatomy charts, but does the superorganism have a brain? do you think it is conscious

The Permian Basin Superorganism contains what Geobiologists term a "Distributed Heuristic Hierarchical Nervous System". The chart below offers a cursory illustration of how this sort of Neural arrangement functions: Surrounding the center of the Superorganism is a vast ring of neural tissue resembling an organic fiber-optic bundle. This central ring connects five enormous, miles-wide concentrated brain regions which are theorized to comprise a central nervous system used by the Superorganism to simultaneously "think" as well as manage the many hundreds of miles of the Mystery Flesh Pit's anatomy. This management system is further divided into hundreds of "Superganglia" managed by each pentalobe, broadly categorized into "Alpha", "Beta", and "Gamma" variants. "Alpha" ganglia manage thousands of local nerve clusters responsible for executive functions such as motor control, digestive management, lymph production, vascular management, as well as dozens of other functions. "Gamma" ganglia are almost the reverse counterpart to the "Alpha" ganglia. "Gamma" ganglia manage the many thousands of nerve and sensory receptors throughout the Mystery Flesh Pit, translating this enormous amount of information into useable data for the central Pentalobal Nervous System. Unique are the many "Beta" ganglia clusters which seem to fill in a sort of "local memory" function which has no direct analog in mainstream biology. These "Beta" ganglia clusters exhibit phenomenal storage capability for stimuli-response memory, and were often harvested for their biotechnological applications before the 2007 tragedy.

Do we have any idea what the full body of the Permian Basin Superorganism looks like, or have scientists only observed the part of it that lies directly beneath Mystery Flesh Pit National Park?

Broadly speaking, yes, Geobiologists and Venterobiologists have reached a general understanding that the Permian Basin Superorganism exhibits a basic pentadecagonal symmetry, though this should not be taken to mean that the Mystery Flesh Pit is simply a "Fifteen-legged starfish". While it is symmetrical in plan, it's vertical composition is far less well understood and still remains a matter of staunch controversy.

Anonymous asked:

The 2007 disaster report stated that several wounded visitors walked back into the maw of the pit. Was there any follow up as to why they might have done this? Each individual's reason for returning to the pit will always be known only to them, but it has been widely understood in the decade plus since that many of these individuals attempted return to the orifice out of a sense of obligation to help loved ones who still remained within the park. Since it's publication, the official 2007 report has been criticized for it's over-reliance on technical explanation in contrast to more subjective, common-sense "folk wisdom" regarding certain elements such as the "inexplicable" return of these individuals to the entry orifice following the disaster.

@mintposting asked:

Did the term 'venteriology' originate from studies around the pit, or did it exist beforehand?

It evolved entirely in the shadow of the Mystery Flesh Pit's discovery, loosely meaning "The Study of that which is Under/Below".

Anonymous asked:

is james jackson still alive? whats he doing nowadays?

James Jackson tragically died during the winter of 2006 at age 58 due to a collision with a drunk driver. Though he never married, and is survived by no living relatives, the Philanthropic and Activist-driven non-profit he began, the Jackson Foundation, still continues it's mission to this day.

@badsy-edgecat asked:

has anything resembling optic nerves or related organs been discovered in the pit?

Yes. The Project Touchstone expedition, which aimed to plot a horizontal navigable course from the main Entry Orifice to an extremity of the Superorganism, discovered an organ at the furthest extremity of their route that was determined to be analogous to an optical sensory organ or eye. This "eye", determined to be one of many thousands along a band of the Superorganism's upper mantle, was measured to be approx. 1.2km in diameter, with multiple optic nerve connections, a retinal region many times larger than a regulation football field, and a highly evolved lens configuration comprising over two dozen discrete lens and filter elements. This large "eye" organ, as well as the other thousands of identical organs, appeared to be generally retracted into an

inner carapace lining which separated these organs from the direct rock face of the surrounding geological strata.

dykepixie asked:

What is the longest amount of time someone has ever spent in the Pit and been successfully recovered alive, not counting the, uh, formerly amalgamated people? We know that miners spent (spend?) months at a time in the Pit, but outside of that? Has anyone ever been lost and presumed deceased, but then shown up again later? The longest known instance that I was able to find of an individual surviving in the pit involved one of the original 38 individuals who returned to the entry orifice immediately following the 2007 disaster. The individual (whose name has not been made public) was a 41-year old male originally assigned within trauma group "A". While this information has not been verified by either the NPS, the DoI, or the PBRCC, I have strong reason to believe that this "missing" individual was recovered in 2019 by PBRCC teams within the pit. The individual, originally presumed dead, was discovered by a surveying team. The man was naked and had sustained a tremendous amount of physical and genetic abuse, wildly screaming at the sight of the surveyor's worklights. The individual, in a frenzied and panicked state, latched onto the metal frame of a work vehicle with such force that his arms and legs became severely bruised with risk of internal bleeding. After being brought to the surface, still maintaining a death-grip on the vehicle, the man was placed under intensive medical care to repair the injuries and deformities he sustained during his 12 years within the pit. I know that he was given a robust regimen of physical and emotional therapy, but I do not know if he was/is rehabilitated to the degree where he would be willing to answer any of my emails regarding his time in the raw pit fleshscape. Only time will tell.

Anonymous asked:

Was the Interpit resort owned by a chain? Was it more rustic (like, national park "outdoorsy"), or more luxury? It was designed to offer the pinnacle of (1985) contemporary luxury.

What are some of the largest recorded (or rumored) amalgamations? Venteriologists theorize that, hundreds of years ago, a stampede of over a thousand long-horn cattle were surreptitiously "swallowed" by one of the Superorganism's orifices during either a migration or cattle-drive. These thousands of cattle underwent simultaneous mass amalgamation, but were able to survive to the sheer scale of the resulting organism, being able to consume itself. Over time, this highly-immobile mass of horned, writhing bovinity was enveloped in a cocoon of tissue grown by the Superorganism believed to be related to some digestive purpose. Because of the now-concentrated collection of horns, however, a persistent hole in this tissue sac survives to this day. This tear in the tissue lining, combined with the still

rhythmic suffering of this animal collective, was known to park visitors as the "Peeking Druid" geobiological formation.

Have any baseball (or sport teams) ever celebrated their victory or even played in a special location at the Flesh Pit?

To my knowledge, no professionally-organized sporting events (besides the aforementioned off-road rally) took place within the Mystery Flesh Pit National Park. However, victory celebrations of all types were common. The resorts and facilities found within the park were of a world-class caliber and while a difficult sell at first blush, were famously exalted by guests who had actually stayed within the Interpit resort.

@fruitsofaphrodite asked:

Has anything been noted of in regards to the children conceived in the pleasure domes??

It is a common misconception that, due to the nature of the Amniotic Thermal Springs and their effects, there must have been a surplus of children conceived within the Mystery Flesh Pit. On the contrary, the spermicidal effects of Ballast were a notorious (if under-marketed) reason for the Thermal Springs lucrative operation.

Misc info- ACCOMPANIED BY IMAGES

#### LIGHTHOUSES

Often called "lighthouses" by seasoned hikers and park field staff, the emergency trail phones located along most developed trails within the Mystery Flesh Pit National Park were the result of one of the most ambitious subterranean telecommunications projects of the late 20th century. Conventional radio communication systems were completely ineffective at piercing the miles of dense flesh and bone which constituted the geobiology of the park. Over a two year period beginning in 1975, more than 150 miles of cables were laid, threaded and draped through the organs and tissues of the Permian Basin Superorganism in order to establish a reliable land-line communication network. While the Anodyne Corporation developed the bulk of this infrastructure – at enormous expense – AT&T was subcontracted to design and install the unique public call boxes most park visitors would be familiar with. Guests could use these "emergency" phones to call the Lower Visitor Center at no cost, or they could be used to call an outside number for a small fee. Though engineered to survive the humid and caustic environment of the Mystery Flesh Pit's internal anatomy, routine maintenance was required to prevent phones located in the deeper sections of the park from becoming subsumed by natural muscle actions of the pit. Today, it is unknown how many, if any, of these emergency phone stations are still operational, as the United States Dept. of the Interior has barred civilian access to the former park's many trails.

#### WETWARE

One of the many lucrative results of the development of the Mystery Flesh Pit were tremendous advances in the fields of computer science and cybernetics. The American conglomerate Anodyne, Inc. pioneered the design and development of "wetware" computing in the early 1980s by harvesting living nervous tissue from the Permian Basin Superorganism. The processing capabilities provided by these living tissues were decades ahead of technology at the time and allowed Anodyne a brief commanding share of an already saturated computer market.

While the user interface of these computers were similar to other machines of the time, the resource requirements necessary to power the electrical systems as well as the living tissue life support systems made them expensive to operate, and almost impossible to repair without highly specialized equipment.

Following the 2007 incident which permanently closed the pit and plunged the company into bankruptcy, Anodyne was forced to dissolve its cybernetics division and related assets. Today, even late-model "wetware" machines are rare to find outside of computer museums, as maintaining the internal organic tissues of these computers has been made effectively impossible with the loss of the proprietary knowledge & equipment after Anodyne was shuttered.

#### ANNEXATION

April 1980 annexation which brought the Mystery Flesh Pit into the U.S. National Park System. President Carter, near the end of his presidency, met with D.o.I & Anodyne

personnel at the entry site itself to officially sign the proclamation. Below, an aerial photo of the pit and surrounding site captures the scale of work that took place from 1978-1981 to develop & improve the park's interior infrastructure.

#### IN ROOM SERVICE BROCHURE

Scans of an in-room service brochure from the Resort-Hotel constructed within the Mystery Flesh Pit National Park, most likely from around 1998-2000.

The Interpark Wellness Resort was one of the most ambitious achievements of the NPS/Anodyne partnership and saw healthy attendance and continual growth throughout its ill-fated service life. This service brochure gives a glimpse into the scale of development that was occurring within the National Park, and should indicate the degree to which Anodyne and its partners were making fortunes from the exploitation of the Permian Basin Superorganism.

These sorts of items are hard to find in this condition, as the Interpark Resort suffered tremendous damage after the 2007 disaster. Structurally, the facility was built into the wall of the Greater Gastric Sea in the location of an existing ulcer and was anchored by hundreds of hydraulic rams and suspension cables. After years of neglect and abandonment, many speculate that the resort is at great risk of collapsing into the churning acid sea surrounding it.

#### VENTERIAL ENVIRONMENT EXCURSION VEHICLE

The Venterial Environment Excursion Vehicle was developed by Anodyne, Inc. in the late 1970s to act as a multirole utility vehicle platform for applications within the Mystery Flesh Pit. The vehicle architecture employs a set of twin counter-oriented screws for propulsion, as the wet and uneven interior of the Mystery Flesh Pit anatomy makes wheels, tracks and other conventional locomotive strategies ineffective.

Though cargo, flatbed, liquid transport, and wildlife transport variants of the VEEV could be found throughout the park, the "Safari" variant was the most familiar to park guests. For the price of an "AmbulaTour" ticket, visitors to Mystery Flesh Pit National Park would be driven on a 3-hour tour of some of the most spectacular and inaccessible locations within the park, all while sitting in complete comfort. The tour vehicles comfortably seated eight guests, with room for one stewardess/tour guide, and two drivers located in a low cab beneath the front of the vehicle. Inside the main cabin were eight rotatable plush seats, a small lavatory, and a small galley kitchenette for serving refreshments. Powerful lights on the exterior of the vehicle allowed guests to view the otherwise dark pit interior through large reinforced cabin windows. The vehicle was powered by two diesel engines connected to a proprietary transmission which provided the necessary horsepower and torque to easily traverse the interior of the Mystery Flesh Pit. For navigation, a large ultrasonic instrument in the nose of the VEEV provided drivers with a three-dimensional map of anatomy within a ~40m, 30deg cone directly in front of the vehicle.



Tragically, several dozen guests were trapped and later died within these vehicles during and following the 2007 disaster. At least one vehicle was crushed completely flat, while the door hatch of another was forcefully pried open by opportunistic and hungry park wildlife during the chaos. Perhaps the most well-known incident (As portrayed in the 2012 film *Fire in the Deep*) involved an armed Mining Rig and its crew which were able to escort and protect two full tour vehicles until they could safely escape to the surface, though the crew and tunneling vehicle were gruesomely destroyed by large parasitic organism.

The grim legacy of the VEEV has not diminished the utility of the craft, however, and the vehicles have continued to be used by the Permian Basin Recovery Corporation well into the present day to shuttle researchers and other limited personnel through various sections of the former National Park.

#### WILDLIFE SAFETY BROCHURE

Though the Mystery Flesh Pit National park remained a model of visitor safety until the disaster which led to its closure, the natural hazards of the pit necessitated guests being aware of the nature of the attraction they were descending into. This brochure, combined with a mandatory 3-minute orientation film shown in the lower visitor center, was intended to act as a minimum standard of readiness for inexperienced park guests. Park service staff, rangers, and anodyne mining personnel received much more in-depth training as part of their operations within the pit.

#### WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

As any Park Ranger could tell you, no volume of safeguards or training will prevent a park guest from interfering with wildlife. The notoriously dangerous environment of the Mystery Flesh Pit National Park necessitated a highly specialized corps of rangers to respond to incidents involving wildlife and guest safety, but this was often not enough to prevent tragedy. With the 2007 closure of the Mystery Flesh Pit removing much of the context surrounding the activities within the former park, it is easy to look at these sorts of ephemeral traces of hazard management with a sense of detached wisdom that mischaracterizes the fundamental draw of the park in the first place: the danger was a heavily-marketed, inherent thrill and a major attractor of visitors. It was the management of those hazards which presented the real and insidious problem of the pit.

#### RANGER UTILITY VEHICLE

One of the earliest challenges in the development of the Mystery Flesh Pit was the simple logistics of transporting personnel and equipment within the pit. While early crews had limited success crawling through the pit with canvas bags, it was apparent that a more reliable solution was needed.

The Grumman Internal Anatomy Vehicle, or IAV, was designed from the ground-up with the complex terrain of the flesh pit in mind. These two-man, low profile crawling vehicles were the workhorses of early construction projects within the Mystery Flesh Pit. A high torque diesel engine, combined with a strong articulating chassis, allowed the IAV to reliably traverse even the slickest and steepest of routes. A streamlined, lozenge profile prevented loose tissues from catching or latching onto the vehicle as it traversed the many hundreds of miles of viscera within the pit.

By the time that the Mystery Flesh Pit was absorbed into the National Park Service, many of the remaining IAV fleet were used by the Park Service as ranger field vehicles. As ranger vehicles, many IAVs were used in a variety of mission profiles ranging from law enforcement, wildlife mitigation as well as search and rescue operations.

Very few of these vehicles survived or were recovered following the 2007 disaster which closed the Mystery Flesh Pit. The remaining examples which do still exist command astronomically high auction prices and are a much sought-after addition to exotic car collections.

#### PROFILE SURVEY

This profile survey is one of many examples produced early in the development of the Mystery Flesh Pit. The "New Jackson Survey", conducted by surveyor James "Slippin' Jim" Jackson, combined many prior smaller surveys with new biospeleological data obtained by Jackson's team. Notably, Jackson's surveying expedition marked the discovery of such features as the "Fondue Village", the "Chyme Bladder" and the "Pleasure Domes". Missing from this early survey are deeper portions of pit anatomy such as the "Gift Gardens" and "Copepod Barrows", as these sections would remain inaccessible until the introduction of the Grumman IAV in 1978. This survey was printed in several national publications and was a primary piece of marketing information until an updated computer-aided survey was conducted in 1980.

#### THERMAL SPRINGS PAMPHLET

This scan of a 2006 pamphlet offers information about the Amniotic Thermal Springs, known by many as "Pleasure Domes", within the now-closed Mystery Flesh Pit National Park. The thermal baths were one of the highlights of the park, drawing in tens of thousands of visitors each year, particularly during the cold winter months. It was only after the park permanently closed in 2007 that the long-term effects of exposure to the "Amniotic Spring Fluid", or ballast, became apparent. Many of those who routinely soaked in the baths underwent depressive withdrawal periods, as the price of extracted ballast fluid since the tragedy has skyrocketed. Today, only those willing to spend thousands of dollars on purchasing the illicit substance can experience this enchanting elixir.

#### INTERVENTERIAL CAMPING USER GUIDE

Of the many activities available to visitors to the Mystery Flesh Pit National Park, perhaps the most difficult and challenging were the many natural trails and hiking routes. These natural trails, unlike the reinforced & enclosed "tour" trails familiar to most park visitors, were well-respected and infamous among hiking enthusiasts for the intense endurance required to successfully hike a full route. Climbing, Caving, Diving and Orienteering were all skills demanded by a trail hike, though the introduction of the Interventerial Camping Equipment Kit made the logistics a manageable prospect for park guests. For a \$130 deposit, pairs of visitors could rent a kit from the park's lower visitor center for up to two weeks at a time. While revolutionary for the time (and essential for any serious attempt at camping within the entrails of the Mystery Flesh Pit), many have complained about the noise and weight of the Support Packs, as well as the claustrophobia of the tent design. Today, surviving units in operating condition are often used by Antarctic research personnel on extended expeditions where vehicular shelters are not viable.

## Experiences of a Flesh Pit Mine Worker

Dear Brandon,

I'm writing you back about your Career Report Project for school. I hope you find my response satisfactory; it's my experience, and it's all true.

I was 17 when I signed on with the company to work a full tour. The money they promised for 9 months of work was more than I could have made in a lifetime in any other career; I was a shitkicking dropout from Hobbs.

Most people already know that the real money is made in pumping up Ballast, but they have it automated to the point where you only need someone to babysit the equipment. What a lot of people don't know is that there are a bundle of other minerals, gels, gases and oozes that are worth more than their weight in gold for their "Myriad Industrial Applications". The big three are "Blue" (Blue Tissue), "Pearls" (Corpusite), and "Black Bone" (Oscuralite). Our rig was outfitted to hunt for pearls; great crystalline spheres that were two to fifteen feet wide, hard as diamond, smooth and clear as glass, with an otherworldly iridescent shimmer. They are embedded in different ways deep down in the Pit, and to get to them you have to cut, trudge, push and crawl through miles and miles of muscle and guts and cartilage and bone that are fighting you the whole way. That's where we make our paychecks.

A full mining crew is 18 men (and yes, it's pretty much always men), which includes 2-3 mining engineers, a medic, 2 mechanics, a venterial tech, 2 company men to oversee everything, and 10 hired hands like me. You sign up for nine months at a time, split up into three-month stints with two-week breaks in between.

Down in the flesh, your home and lifeline during those dark months is a Mining Rig: a huge machine almost as big as a neighborhood street, bristling with tools and racks and sensors and floodlights. The insides are tight and cramped: our crew medic had been a submariner for eight years and had told us that the sub he served on was more spacious. Still, compared to being outside the rig, out in the raw Pit, the cramped bunks felt like luxury.

Ideally, the Rig cuts as it goes, leaving a burnt cauterized path through the meat while also crushing and processing any minerals in runs through. In the real world, the Pit isn't uniform, and you end up running into all kinds of "Obstacles Requiring Interventional Solutions", or the brass up top decide that they don't want you just cutting through certain parts of the anatomy. So you suit up and get out ahead of the rig to poke and prod and pry at a walking pace, 8 hours a day for weeks at a time. Rigs have big hydraulic arms that reach forward and push, lift, and splay open organs or muscle bundles before us roustabouts would go in and suck up or hose out any blood, cut tendons, cauterize tissue, rinse, and repeat.

Because the methods for finding thing like Pearls are based on shaky science at best, a lot of time was spent probing around until you found paydirt. When you'd find a decently sized cluster, we'd set up camp and would go about breaking them down. The Rigs have a huge mining laser they can use to free up any gigantic pearls or black bone clusters, but most of the time you're out there with big tools to break them free.

My position had been vacated the year before because the hand got crushed under a tissue catchment "bucket" (think giant, steel-walled tray weighing half a ton used to catch slop and other meat before it falls on your working area), and he bled out because it took hours for an ambulance to get out to the location. In the nine months I worked that rig, I had a few very close calls to getting crushed. What keeps you from being crushed by the weight of all of the "body" above you is a mess of cabling and fold-out frames connected to a fifty-thousand pound counterweight. After an eight hour shift of "scope pulling" (meaning removing all the length of an endoscope pipe from probe line), I got a bit careless and was hitching my tongs to the pipe while the it was still in motion. The idea being that it shaved a few seconds per disconnection, and it added up over a long shift. What I forgot is that near the head of the endoscope, the pipe diameter changed by 2 inches. The rig operator was pulling full speed when the larger pipe came back, and my tongs grabbed the pipe and suddenly launched backwards. I held on to the tongs and it jerked me a couple feet back and I let go. The heavy tong cable went taut and the operator stomped on the brakes at the same time, and the whole thing was jerked to a sudden halt. The huge tackle block was clanging around the whole cavity like a giant ringer in a bell and buckled one of the support frames. Everybody jumped clear and we ducked and braced with whatever we could until the rig stopped shaking. It was probably fortunate that we were near the end of the pull so there was only around three tons of backlash when it happened.

Most of the men I worked with had some sort of permanent injury, lost fingers, blown shoulders or knees, etc. The more experience, the more injuries. Even in our suits connected to refrigerated air, it was more than a hundred degrees and full saturation humidity. It's pitch black everywhere down there, so you rely on your helmet lights, work lights, and the rig lights to be able to see, and they all give everything a sickly shine. Working down there isn't at all like working in a cave or a mine: everything is wet, slippery, disgusting, and miserable. Nothing is flat or walkable, and you have to fight a feeling of raw animalistic terror every moment you're out in it. Men weren't meant to be down there in the innards of a monster, but I figure that's why the company pays people what they do.

I finished up my contract without injury and for that I consider myself extremely lucky. I took the money and got an education; most people don't consider it exciting work, but you'll never find a more satisfied accountant. I never went back there,

especially after the big accident they had in '07, but there are a lot of stupid kids that still do that kind of work. You sound like a smart kid: stay the hell away from it. That's my Career Advice for you.

Let me know if you need anything else for your school report.

Thanks,

Andre Martinez



## FINAL INCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of the Interior, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey

U.S. Commission on Geobiological Resources & Public Safety

U.S. Geological Survey

U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park Service

The U.S. Commission on Geobiological Resources & Public Safety (CGR) is an independent Federal agency whose mission is to ensure the safety of workers, the public, and the environment by investigating and preventing accidents relating to the Permian Basin Superorganism. The CGR is a scientific investigative organization; it is not an enforcement or regulatory body. Established by the Special Resources Development Act of 1980, the CGR is responsible for determining the root and contributing causes of accidents, issuing safety recommendations, studying geobiological safety issues, and evaluating the effectiveness of other government agencies and private enterprises involved with the Permian Basin Superorganism.

No part of the conclusions, findings, or recommendations of the CGR relating to any accident may be admitted as evidence or used in any action or suit for damages. See 42U.S.C. 7412®(6)(G). The CGR makes public its actions and decisions through investigation reports, summary reports, safety bulletins, safety recommendations, case studies, incident digests, special technical publications, and statistical reviews.

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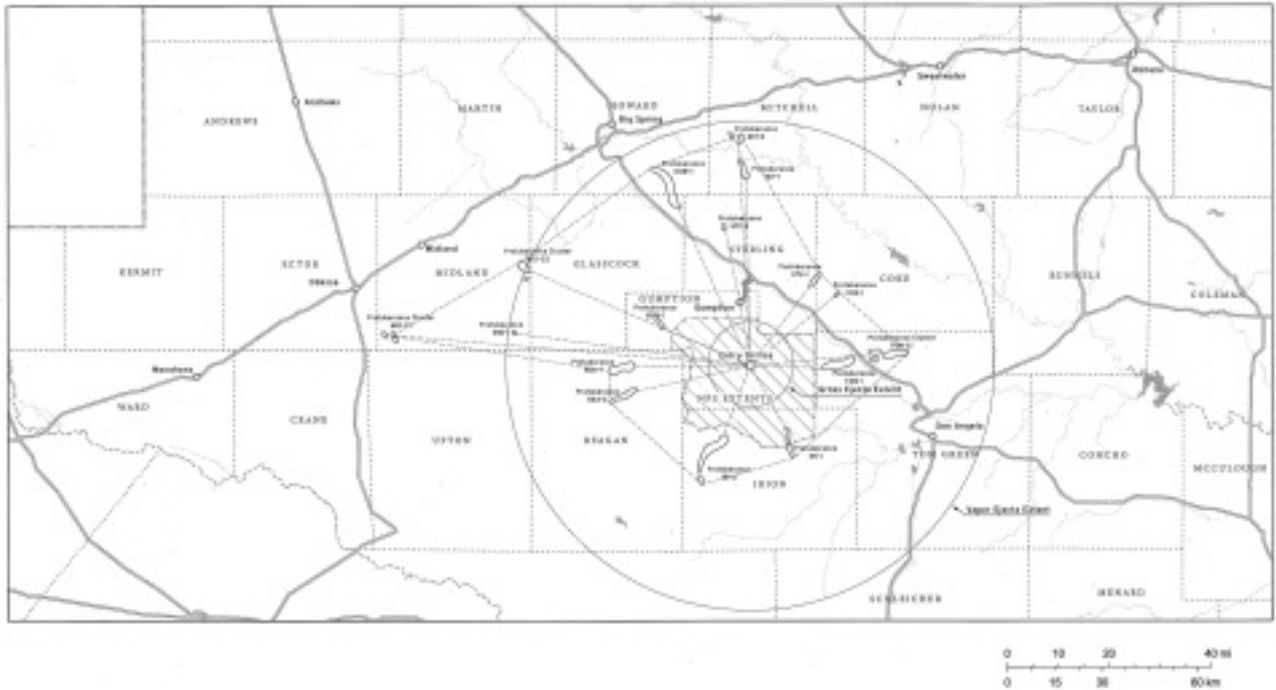
U.S. Commission on Geobiological Resources & Public Safety

Office of Congressional, Public, and Board Affairs

2175 K Street NW

Washington, DC 20037-1848

**Figure 1.0.0**  
**Incident Area Map**



#### [1.0.0] Executive Summary

At 9:41 PM CST on July 4th, 2007, the Permian Basin Superorganism Natural Preserve (known colloquially as the "Mystery Flesh Pit National Park") experienced a catastrophic disaster which resulted in over 750 fatalities, and over 1,800 major injuries. In the weeks following the incident, approximately 18,000 individuals from the surrounding communities sought medical and psychological treatment for ailments including breathing problems, chest pains, shortness of breath, nausea, birth defects, hallucinations, depression, anxiety, internal bleeding, sore throat, and headaches as a direct result of contact with gastric ejecta which had been introduced to the atmosphere.

Investigators have concluded that this disaster was chiefly characterized by a premature geobiological consumption event caused by the catastrophic failure of critical park infrastructure to constrain and limit the gastric, motor and neurological actions of the Permian Basin Superorganism.

Investigators have concluded that the failure of these critical safety measures are the direct result of negligent practices by the primary site operations contractor Anodyne Deep Earth Mining, a subsidiary of Anodyne, Inc.

The U.S. Commission on Geobiological Resources & Public Safety (CGR) released its first report on the Permian Basin Superorganism Disaster in August 2007 ("the Interim Report"), which highlighted technical findings and safety system deficiencies. The



report issued recommendations to Anodyne, Inc.; the city of Gumption, Texas; the State of Texas; the U.S. Department of the Interior; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; the Federal Emergency Management Agency; the U.S. Food & Drug Administration; and the U.S. Department of Energy. As of April 2008, these groups have made progress in implementing the recommendations to improve the regulatory requirements for geobiological resource extraction, geobiological resource containment, and general public safety as it relates to the Permian Basin Superorganism.

#### [2.1.0] Anodyne Background

Anodyne was originally founded as the Anchor Mineral Co. in 1923. In 1958, the Anchor Mineral Co. merged with Dynamic Equipment, LLC. to form a new company known as Anodyne Deep Earth Mining, later changed to Anodyne.

Headquartered in Arlington, Texas, and prior to its 2008 restructuring, Anodyne Corporation was the twenty-third largest American company by revenue. Globally, Anodyne employed over 28,000 people. It operated seven major research, development and production facilities around the world, six of which were in the United States.

Anodyne filed for bankruptcy in late 2008, but ended its bankruptcy in February 2009 pursuant to a court-approved plan of reorganization. A new board of directors changed the name of Anodyne to the Permian Basin Recovery & Superorganism Containment Corporation, and emphasized reorganizing and liquidating certain operations and assets of the pre-bankruptcy Anodyne.

#### [2.2.0] Permian Basin Superorganism Background

The Permian Basin Superorganism (Immanis Colosseus, also known by the popular nomenclature of "Mystery Flesh Pit") is a subterranean organism unique to modern biology, being the sole occupant of the Phylum Immanemqa. The organism was discovered by a pilot well drilling crew in 1973; later efforts were made to expose more of the organism through drilling and surface mining explosives.

The superorganism is chiefly characterized by its immense size, which is still a matter of geobiological debate. Surveys suggest that the organism may span many hundreds of miles beneath the Permian Basin horizontally, with scientists speculating that the organism may extend vertically into the upper mantle of the earth's interior.

The complete anatomical layout and internal organization of the organism is unknown. Tissue samples suggest that the organism contains gastrointestinal, vascular, respiratory, musculoskeletal, nervous, limbic and integumentary systems with remarkable similarity to mammal life, while also containing a variety of systems which have no direct analog and are not fully understood. The feeding cycle of the organism is poorly understood and believed to occur on a complex and long-term schedule of dormancy and feeding activity. It has been hypothesized that the superorganism derives caloric energy from subterranean hydrocarbon deposits, though the organism has been observed to digest and absorb organic matter.

The depth at which the organism extends into the surrounding rock strata indicates that the organism is several hundred thousand years old. It is unknown what the natural lifespan of the species is, or if the Permian Basin Superorganism represents a mature or developing example of the species.

#### [3.0.0] Incident Timeline

Start of relevant timeline.

10:29 AM July 4th – Unseasonably high rains force park administrators to cancel a July 4th Concert and Fireworks display scheduled to take place on the surface park grounds. Many visitors who had already purchased tickets to the event become upset, and a decision is made to extend the park hours until midnight for those who had purchased event tickets.

8:00 PM July 4th – Normal closing time for the national park. A typical shift change of reduced night staff in the control room takes place.

9:16 PM July 4th – Harvesting crews working in the western extremities of the organism set a new extraction record to meet a quota for bonuses in time for the holiday weekend.

9:30 PM July 4th – Control room operators initiate a routine system self-test and discover a relay fault error resulting from increased electrical demand from mining equipment and tourist infrastructure. A control room operator logs the fault and notifies an on-duty engineer.

9:41 PM July 4th – Water drainage from surface rain into the Entry Orifice begins to collect in the sand gullet. Drainage pumps are automatically activated by a sensor system but fail to initialize due to the relay fault. An emergency back-up pump running on a separate emergency circuit is automatically activated.

9:42 PM July 4th – A critical alarm in the control room alerts operators that the emergency water pump has seized and is inoperative. Under-lubrication of the pump's impeller bushings resulted in corrosion due to the moist interior of the flesh pit environment.

9:48 PM July 4th – Technicians arrive at the primary pump station to discover the sand gullet almost completely submerged. Water begins to pour over the dorsal respiratory ridge and into bronchial bulbules. Control room operators divert power to hydraulic stent rams to brace for expected choke response.

9:51 PM July 4th – Technicians repair the relay fault as control staff reset the park's electrical grid. The grid is offline for 45 seconds. The automatic PA system does not notify guests as the system is scheduled to automatically shut down at the normal 8:00PM closing time. The temporary lapse of lighting causes many guests to become panicked and return to the main gantry lift at the lower visitor center.

9:52 PM July 4th - A choking action from the organism begins 31 seconds into the electrical reset. The main dorsal trunk violently flexes. Lack of power to hydraulic arming rams causes irreparable damage to several sections of internal infrastructure.

9:53 PM July 4th - As the electrical system finishes the reboot cycle, the dynamic hydraulic actuators supporting the lower visitor center overcorrect for stability, not accounting for the shift in the wall lining of the nexial cavity in which the visitor center facility is anchored. Two of the six structural supports are torn from their foundations which causes the facility to list 20deg off vertical. The base joint of the vertical entry gantry is bent beyond its design limit angle.

9:54 PM July 4th - The Master Alarm is tripped automatically. Surface facilities are notified as response teams are given the order to mobilize.

9:56 PM July 4th - Park rangers are dispatched to rescue groups of visitors trapped in partially collapsed tunnels and trails.

10:03 PM July 4th - Continued movement of the organism, combined with rainwater, causes one of the upper entry gantry supports to slip. An outbound elevator conducts an emergency stop stranding over two dozen visitors.

10:05 PM July 4th - Tremors registered as far away as the DFW metroplex.

10:06 PM July 4th - Soil liquefaction destabilizes surface facilities in and around the organism. Dilation anchors begin retracting to keep the entry orifice open.

10:12 PM July 4th - A master fail-safe is activated by the automated park management system. Twenty thousand liters of aconitine compound are injected into the superorganism via a distributed network of relay stations located throughout it's known internal anatomy.

10:12 PM July 4th - Tremors and convulsions intensify as the entry gantry connection to the lower visitor center detaches completely. The lower visitor center begins to collapse downward into the nexial cavity.

10:12 PM July 4th - Peristaltic muscle action of the nexial cavity begins to exert substantial pressure on the outer structure of the lower visitor center facility.

10:15 PM July 4th - The prime labiod junction just west of the Septum Falls geobiological feature flexes into an open position, releasing a torrent of lactogastric chyma into the dorsal trunk. It is likely that this was a reaction to the aconitine injection.

10:16 PM July 4th - Peristaltic spasms force the caustic chyma slurry through the nexial cavity and up through the lower and upper moisture crops towards the surface orifice.

10:16 PM July 4th - Many guests attempting to flee the stalled elevator near the entry orifice attempt climbing out the upper moisture crop but are ultimately unsuccessful due to torrential rains causing the surfaces to become very slippery. Many end up falling back into the maw.

10:17 PM July 4th - The chyma slurry erupts from the surface orifice in a geyser several hundred meters in height. Large pieces of undigested organic matter crush several vehicles and damage windows.

10:19 PM July 4th - Following the several minute long ejecta event, a deep and incredibly loud roar erupts from the entry orifice as ground tremors intensify further. Large extremities begin surfacing through bedrock and soil approx. 30km-120km from the entry orifice.

10:25 PM July 4th - The acrid smell of the gastric ejecta can be detected as far as Odessa, TX.

10:26 PM July 4th - Two park service vehicles and a tour vehicle containing park service employees and several guests attempt to ascend through the entry orifice tube.

10:27 PM July 4th - Peristaltic action crushes one of the tour vehicles and sucks the other two vehicles back into the nexial cavity and down into a digestive organ. These vehicles are presumed destroyed.

10:58 PM July 4th - The pentagon is given authorization from the whitehouse to use nuclear force if necessary to prevent the organism from entering an active and/or ambulatory state.

11:02 PM July 4th - The on-site operations director within the lower visitor center control room initiates a final fail-safe measure in the form of the [CONTINGENCY MEASURE].

11:02 PM July 4th - Master Event Log records successful spin-up of the [CONTINGENCY MEASURE].

11:05 PM July 4th - Lower visitor center structural integrity is critically compromised resulting in total collapse.

11:05 PM July 4th - Data connection with lower visitor center is severed.

11:13 PM July 4th - Spasms and motor action of the superorganism begins to noticeably subside. Response teams begin to descend into the surface orifice to attempt rescue operations.

11:19 PM July 4th - Response team encounters visitor group which had attempted escape from stalled elevator. Most are dead, the remainder are mortally wounded and partially digested due to caustic gastric ejecta.

11:42 PM July 4th - Radio contact established with ranger vehicle trapped within "Oyster's Shame". Due to ventricle closure, no feasible rescue strategy can be developed before complete mastication occurs.

11:56 PM July 4th - Response team confirms that [CONTINGENCY MEASURE] and associated facility are still intact and operating.

11:58 PM July 4th - Texas Gov. Rick Perry formally declares a state of emergency for Gumption county.

12:22 AM July 5th - Response teams route data/power umbilical to new basecamp in [CONTINGENCY MEASURE] facility.

12:35 AM July 5th - Three inter-pit lifeforms are identified as having been ejected onto the surface. Fifteen visitors are injured and seven are hunted by inter-pit lifeforms during panicked evacuation of surface resort.

12:41 AM July 5th - Park staff manage to kill the three large lifeforms.

1:02 AM July 5th - National Guard helicopters begin delivering supplies and personnel to aid in site containment.

1:58 AM July 5th - Field hospital is constructed to care for wounded visitors and staff.

2:37 AM July 5th - Initial damage surveys report catastrophic destruction of internal park infrastructure. Pit geobiology has dramatically changed in hazard level.

3:00 AM July 5th - Emergency teleconference of Anodyne executive leadership. National parks director and Secretary of the Interior are present.

3:12 AM July 5th - Executive decision is made to initiate FEMA response and assemble a task force for containing superorganism.

4:00 AM July 5th - Media helicopters and vehicles begin to report on the scope of disaster.

4:39 AM July 5th - Base camp technicians begin to spin-down [CONTINGENCY MEASURE]. Large fractures due to inertial stress have appeared on mineral components. Engineers advise against re-initializing [CONTINGENCY MEASURE] until mineral components can be replaced or repaired.

6:08 AM July 5th - Ground personnel begin assembling a pump system to inject industrial sedatives into the superorganism. Transport trucks containing industrial sedative arrive.

9:45 AM July 5th - Emergency teleconference of Anodyne shareholders.

11:20 AM July 5th - Several injured visitors inexplicably leave field hospital and begin walking towards open pit orifice. Approx. 38 individuals are able to crawl back into the orifice over the course of 8 hours. None are recovered.

3:51 PM July 5th - Radio transmission from trapped ranger vehicle ceases. Many speculate that other small groups of visitors and staff are still trapped.

End of relevant timeline.

#### [4.0.0] Final Investigation Report

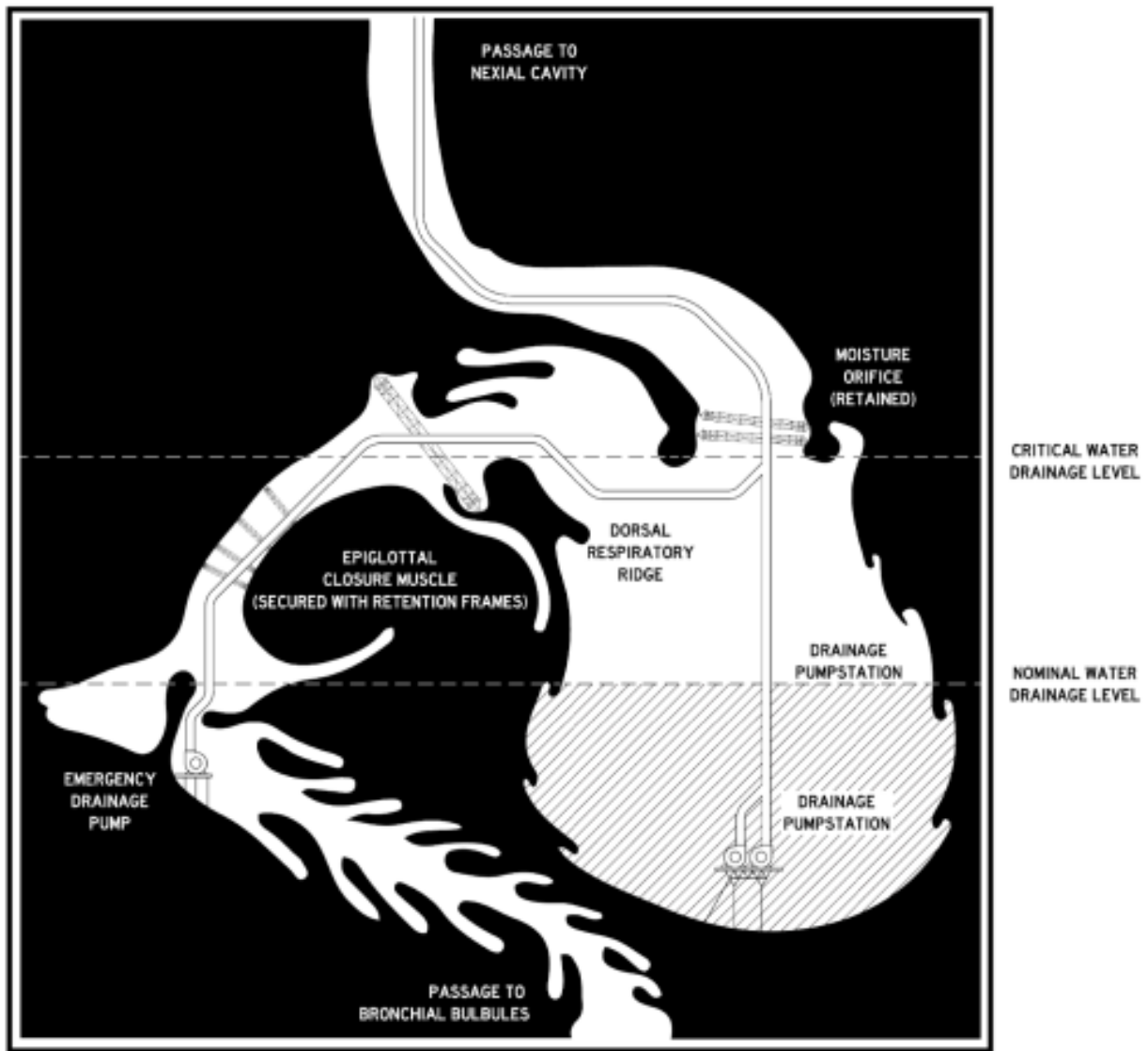
The following Final Investigation Report addresses additional investigation findings not covered in the previous report, including analysis of (1) the Anodyne organization, emergency response, and safety culture; (2) industry disaster response standards; (3) structural integrity standards; and (4) effective performance of "mystic" contingency measures.

#### [4.1.0] Technical findings

This report highlights the following technical findings. (An in-depth discussion appears in the Interim Report)

[4.1.1] The electrical distribution scheme for the interior operations of the Permian Basin Superorganism Nature Preserve was modeled on a typical supply/load grid layout often found in mines, with power provided by a gas-fired plant located within the surface support compound. Unlike typical mining power distribution networks, the power load was split with the facilities involved in the tourism and natural preservation operations within the organism. This split-demand yielded a load fluctuating from 33kV to 60kV depending on a range of factors from resource extraction output, visitor throughput, hydrostatic and barometric fluctuations within the organism, and the ambient blood pressure of the organism. This unorthodox load distribution scheme required careful demand oversight and was subject to failure if operated outside of design load specifications. Such a failure occurred on July 4th, 2007 when operators increased electrical demand beyond design load specifications by both extending resource extraction operations while simultaneously increasing visitor throughput loads on trail infrastructures.

Figure 4.1.1  
Cross Section Through Sand Gullet and Respiratory Ridge



[4.1.2] Hydrochloric corrosion is common in geobiological resource extraction, where naturally occurring hydrochloric compounds react with steel equipment. Process variables that affect corrosion rates include the total hydrochloric content of the enzyme secretions, flow conditions, application of TUMS industrial organic corrosion inhibitor salve, and the system temperature and humidity. Virtually all geobiological operations equipment is subject to this type of corrosion, and requires routine inspections and preventative maintenance to ensure that metallic and non-metallic corrosion prone surfaces are operating at design strength. The investigation has

concluded that the corrosion found within the primary impeller bushings within the Emergency Drainage Pumps was caused by Hydrochloric corrosion due to poor maintenance.

[4.1.3] Foundations and other anchor support structures within the Permian Basin Superorganism are critical components of park infrastructure which require careful planning and construction oversight. Under nominal conditions, anchor sites are selected by engineers to meet design load specifications with consultation from venteriobiologists for minimum anatomical disturbance. Rigid geobiological strata such as bone and dense cartilage are most often selected for load-bearing anchor points for their relative stability and similarity to conventional load-bearing strata such as rock. However, many locations within the Permian Basin Superorganism are primarily characterised by dense compositions of soft tissues requiring novel anchoring solutions. Several anchors within the primary entry tube utilize a cleat-based stent system which engages the entry tube muscle walls. These forces are equalized by the use of circular retention trusses which, when combined with vibration dampening actuators, form a rigid support assembly upon which fixed components such as the entry gantry may be affixed. Peristaltic action of a muscle tube has the potential to rotate a circular cleat stent frame by up to 90deg, eliminating the retaining capabilities of the frame. It is for this reason that design specification standards call for the installation of either rigid or tensile support members between consecutive retaining frames. In cases such as within the entry tube, tensile cables were selected to provide this support. These cables are subject to corrosion and must be routinely inspected in order to ensure that they meet minimum design load specifications. The investigation has concluded that the cables installed on the entry tube retaining frame system were improperly maintained and failed due to corrosive weakening of the cable members.



Figure 4.1.3-A  
Cross Section Through Nexial Cavity  
Prior to Incident

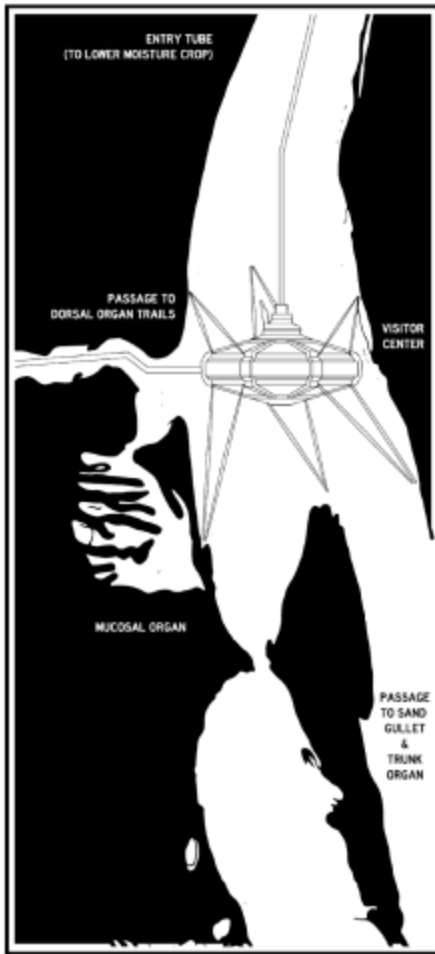
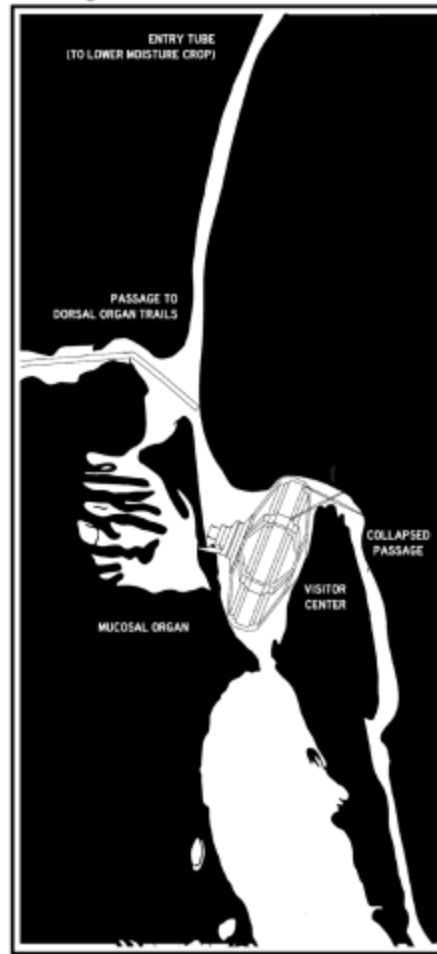
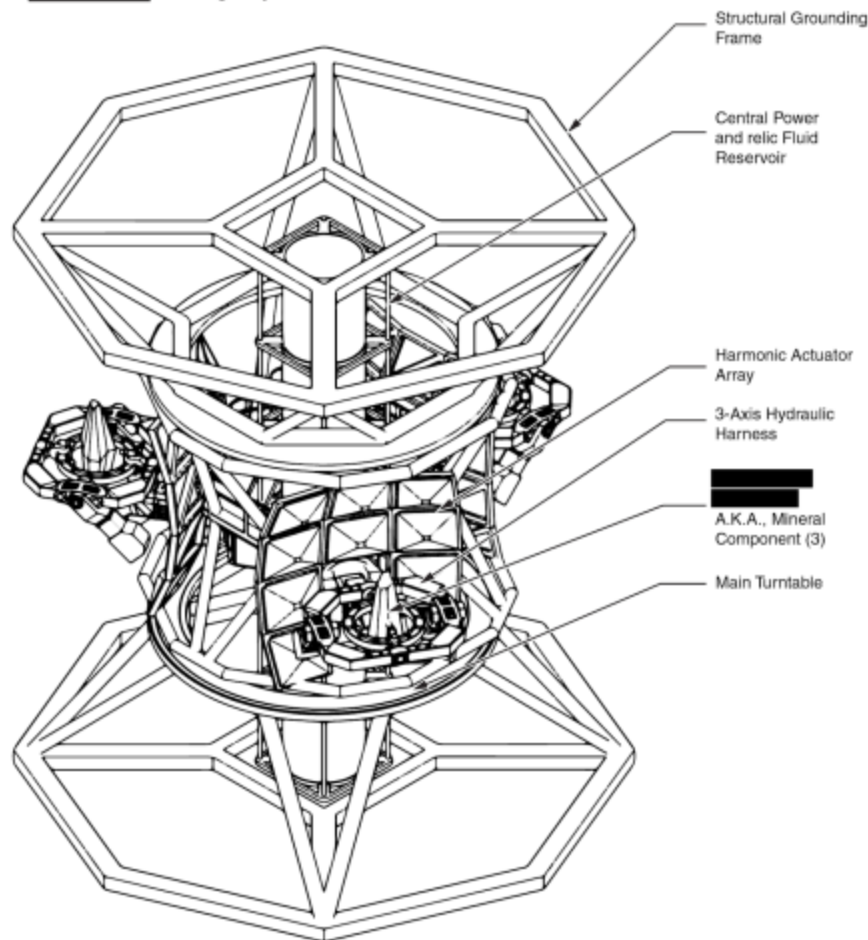


Figure 4.1.3-B  
Cross Section Through Nexial Cavity  
Following Incident



[4.1.4] The use of a previously-untested contingency measure by operators, while not the primary inciting incident of the disaster, is a prime contributor to the outstanding collateral damage. A network of sensor stations embedded throughout the Permian Basin Superorganism had acted as a distributed sensory system, intended by park planners to provide a method for observing large-scale changes to the organisms condition. As an experimental contingency measure, each station was outfitted with a mechanism capable of injecting up to 15L of a concentrated aconitine solution. Aconitine is commonly used as an acute toxin for large mammals such as whales and was chosen for its theoretical effectiveness on key muscle groups within the organism. Park planners were under the assumption that a rapid injection of large volumes of aconitine would act as a sedative agent without inducing tissue death beyond the immediate injection sites. The investigation has concluded that this injection failsafe was directly responsible for escalating the motor response of the organism to levels beyond the design load strength of critical park infrastructure. The investigation has also concluded that the aconitine injection failsafe was directly responsible for causing the toxic "shock" response within the organism which resulted in a Gastric Ejecta Event.

Figure 4.1.5  
Overview of [REDACTED] Contingency Measure



[4.1.5] The [CONTINGENCY MEASURE] is hypothesized to function by utilizing a series of standing harmonic and ultrasonic wavelengths which have been observed to affect the overall behavior of the Permian Basin Superorganism. These waves are created by applying a 15MHz mechanical percussion to the face of an excavated large quartz crystal (also known as "Mystic Artifacts #15, #21 and #22"). Once struck, the unique properties of the relic propagate the wave outward and into the surrounding anatomy of the Permian Basin Organism. When placed upon a rapidly rotating turntable, the effect can be multiplied and oriented allowing a high degree of theoretical influence over the organism. This contingency measure was activated only once and demonstrated the potential application this technology may have in future containment measures. However, at the time of this investigation, no additional relics have been located intact. Without this key assembly component, the CGR does not recommend additional experimental uses of the [CONTINGENCY MEASURE].

#### [4.2.0] Organizational Findings

[4.2.1] Anodyne did not effectively implement internal recommendations to help prevent structural failures to hydrochloric corrosion. In the 8 years prior to the incident, a small number of Anodyne personnel with knowledge and understanding of venteriobiology

recommended on several occasions either a one-time inspection of every component within the primary inter-park infrastructure system - known as a 100 percent component inspection - or an upgrade of the material of construction of these key infrastructure components. The recommendations were not implemented effectively, and many key structural and mechanical components remained in service until failure on July 4th, 2007.

[4.2.2] Anodyne failed to perform internally recommended 100 percent component inspections. Anodyne metallurgists released a formal report dated September 30, 2004 (nearly 3 years before the incident), titled Updated Inspection Strategies for Preventing Hydrochloric Corrosion Failures in Critical Systems. The investigation has concluded that these recommendations were not properly implemented.

[4.2.3] The CGR identified several contributing causes of the July 5th, 2007, incident relating to the safety culture at Anodyne:

Decision making that encourages continued operation of tourism and resource extraction operations despite hazardous working conditions.

Reluctance among employees to use their Stop Work Authority. Recent safety culture surveys performed within resource extraction sites indicate that employees had become less willing to use their Stop Work Authority between 2003 and 2006; and Substandard equipment maintenance practices. Those same surveys indicate that Anodyne employees saw increased problems in how the internal operations infrastructure maintained its equipment between 2003 and 2006.

[4.2.4] Anodyne did not effectively identify in the Incident Command structure the damage mechanisms that could have caused the failures on the night of the incident. The OSHA Hazardous Operations and Emergency Response (HAZOPER) standard states that the Incident Commander "shall identify, to the extent possible, all hazardous conditions present." in an emergency response situation. However, the appropriate technical expertise necessary for identification was not effectively consulted in the Incident Command Structure on July 5th, 2007. This lack of knowledge of all potential causes of the incident led the Incident Commander to direct emergency responders to take actions that may have ultimately exacerbated the hazard condition and put many Park Service personnel, Anodyne personnel, as well as civilian visitors, in harm's way. It also led the Incident Commander to limit the "hazard zone" to a small area that did not consider the possibility of a Gastric Ejecta Event. When the Gastric Ejecta Event occurred, personnel and emergency equipment positioned in the "safe zone" were engulfed in the volume of caustic ejecta.

#### [5.1.0] Incident Conclusions

[5.1.1] The CGR found that the failure of this incident is indicative of a fragmented hazard management approach that placed the responsibility to implement safety recommendations on stakeholders which stood to benefit from decreased oversight while also incurring financial loss for any safety oversight restrictions placed. Consequences of this cultural attitude surrounding the tourism and resource extraction operations within the Permian Basin Superorganism led to the severe underestimation of

the capabilities of the organism as well as the capabilities of the systems designed to limit the hazards posed by the organism.

[5.1.2] The use of concentrated aconitine, without prior study or approval, as a fail-safe directly triggered a reactionary response from the organism which led to the deaths of over 750 individuals.

[5.1.3] The use of the [CONTINGENCY MEASURE], while effective at "pacifying" the organism, was similarly employed without prior substantial testing or approval. This lack of communication from Anodyne regarding the specifics, theory of operation, and even existence of the artifacts , which are essential components within the [CONTINGENCY MEASURE], directly led to the unsafe, high-RPM operation which fractured the mineral components of the [CONTINGENCY MEASURE].

#### [5.2.0] General Recommendations

[5.2.1] The CGR, with full support from the U.S. Department of the Interior, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the National Park Service, has made the discretionary recommendation to not pursue additional commercial development within or adjacent to the boundaries of the Permian Basin Superorganism.

[5.2.2] In the interest of continuing the present containment operations while also ensuring readiness in the event of a future geobiological action event, the CGR has developed a comprehensive program of monitoring and containment. This program is divided into a series of objectives, intended to better mitigate the hazard presented by the existence of the Permian Basin Superorganism.

[5.2.3] Improve the communication of geobiological-hazard science for use in decision and policy making.

Support the use of geobiological-hazard science in risk reduction with engineering, environmental science, spiritual and social sciences.

Improve understanding among venteriobiologists, engineers, and others of numerical simulation of organism ground activity as opposed to the use of empirical ground-motion-prediction equations.

Improve understanding of the benefits of early warning systems.

Educate about organism movement patterns and operational activity forecasts.

[5.2.4] Advance basic knowledge of geobiological action event hazards and inform actions to reduce the risk of the organism becoming non-dormant

Develop a new method to estimate stimulus-response outcomes in interactions with the Permian Basin Superorganism without reliance on expert opinion, proprietary computer models, or wholly "mystic" ritual methods without demonstrated patterns of reliability.

Educate and facilitate local containment capabilities to deal with fauna and other life forms which are native to the organism's interior anatomy.

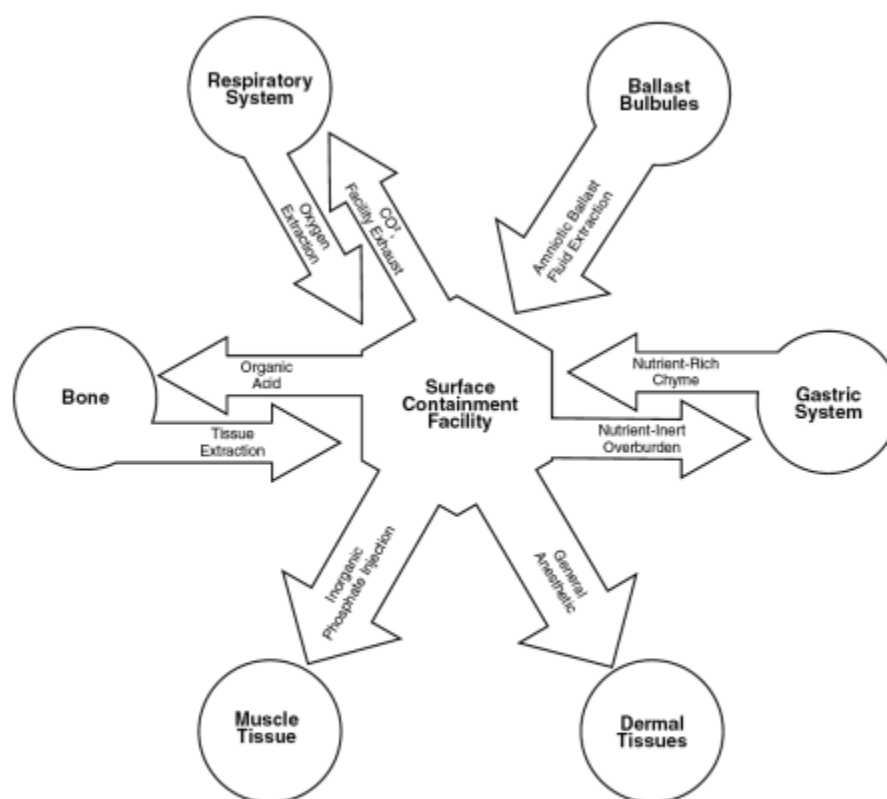
Develop methods for production and administration of appropriate sedative measures to chemically induce a comatose state of inactivity in the organism.

Where it is absolutely necessary for personnel to descend into the organism, develop methods to reduce the possibility of individuals becoming trapped.

Establish a perimeter area surrounding the Incident Site to protect the health and safety of the public from additional fauna incursions or ejecta events.

#### [5.3.0] Containment Recommendations

[5.3.1] A thorough plan for containment of the organism has been devised by a joint containment task force comprised of geobiologists, venteriobiologists, seismologists, medical experts, engineers from various disciplines, land management specialists, ecclesiastical personnel, as well as representatives from private industry. This proposed containment procedure integrates a variety of strategies intended to prolong the dormancy of the Permian Basin Superorganism while simultaneously reducing the likelihood of a future geobiological action event.



**Figure 5.3.1**  
**Permian Superorganism Containment System Diagram**

The taskforce has recommended the establishment of a >3km restricted access zone surrounding the Entry Orifice defined by a reinforced and patrolled barrier. Signs and other warning devices should be installed to clearly inform the public of the hazard(s) presented by the containment operations and the Superorganism itself. Where possible, the taskforce has recommended that any material necessary for the containment operations be produced on-site so as to minimize logistic dependency on remote facilities.

The recommended multi-strategy containment plan is outlined as follows:

All efforts should be made to maintain a steady introduction of high-potency anesthetic to the uppermost dermal anatomy of the organism. This is the foremost measure for reducing the capability of the Superorganism to sense and perceive human activity.

At a similar volume to high-potency anesthetics, the introduction of inorganic phosphates directly into the muscles of the Superorganism is an essential strategy designed to delay and fatigue the motor response of the organism.

Where possible, the introduction of acidic compounds into bone structures will further weaken the overall response capability of the Superorganism in the event that other containment precautions fail. Special care should be taken to ensure that primary structural members of the organism's skeletal system are not weakened, however, as such a measure could potentially damage critical infrastructure.

NOTE: As of rev. 18.3 of this document, the Permian Basin Recovery & Superorganism Containment Corporation has been granted a temporary permit for the continued extraction of bone material and amniotic fluid ballast for research and limited commercial purposes.

The taskforce has recommended measures which would induce a state of mild hypoxia in the Superorganism through the replacement of oxygen-rich air with carbon dioxide-rich air within the respiratory systems of the organism. In addition, by venting plant exhaust from the surface containment facility directly into the organism, this plan remains in compliance with standing EPA regulations on emissions within natural preserves.

The extraction of nutrient-rich material from within the Superorganism's gastric systems is an additional preventative step recommended by the task force to weaken the response capability of the organism. In order to prevent a hunger response, the task force has recommended displacing the volume of nutrient-rich material with that of an inert material such as gravel or rock.

NOTE: As of rev. 2.5 of this document, materials and objects harvested from the Retrocognitive Material Gestation Organs (A.K.A. "Gift Gardens") will continue at a greatly reduced capacity for the exclusive purpose of research. All such objects shall be stored in a designated and secure off-site facility.

#### [6.0.0] Conclusion

The CGR concludes its recommendations and report with broad advocacy for any such program(s) which aim to better prepare physical as well as social and spiritual infrastructure for the inevitability of the Permian Basin Superorganism emerging from dormancy and becoming completely active and ambulatory. The measures and methods described within these recommendations are temporary in their effectiveness while representing the fullest extent of human capability to impact the Permian Basin Superorganism. Future studies and capabilities may yield a greater degree of readiness in matters concerning the survivability of a societal encounter with an active and ambulatory Immanis Colosseus, but it is unrealistic to believe that mankind will be able to seriously damage or eliminate such an organism.

Inhabitants of the western hemisphere, within the U.S. and Abroad, must come to understand the losses each and every one of us will face, and how those impacts will harm the quality of life we enjoy in this unique part of the world.

[End of Document]

This document represents an executive overview of the now-infamous July 2007 disaster which permanently closed the Mystery Flesh Pit National Park. Though the initial hazard and containment response was praised by many for it's quick and decisive action, many have criticized the government for continuing to allow the Permian Basin Recovery & Superorganism Containment Corporation (Formerly Anodyne, Inc.) a commercial stake in the containment efforts.