

*Huge thank-yous to the following people for providing the photos, maps and advice about observing Giant Geyser: David Schwarz, Mike Keller, Mary Beth Schwarz and Tara Cross.*

**When reporting or calling Giant Hot Periods, the following is worth noting or mentioning:**

**Water level visible and rising in Mastiff:**

*Announce this.* This is the earliest warning that something may be about to happen.

**Feather start:** The canonical start of the hot period. *Announce this, and note the GHP start time.*

**Feather Satellite:** It doesn't always participate in hot periods, so it's worth noting/announcing when it starts.

**Mastiff Geyser surging from a full pool:** Usually indicated a strong hot period, especially if sustained. Could rapidly turn into an eruption. Could also be very impressive (higher than the cone) and then quit. *Periodically announce Mastiff Geyser's activity. "Surging to 2 feet," etc.*

**Cave Vent:** During most hot periods, cave overflowed and bubbled anemically. Many normal function eruptions in the '96-'98 and '05-'08 active phases were preceded by Cave Vent erupting vigorously. Cave Vent erupted vigorously in only a small percentage of hot periods.

Don't walk away from an erupting Cave Vent.

**Mastiff dropping:** Usually indicated a waning hot period. Could refill/resume surging. Normal function eruptions could start after Mastiff had drained.

**Bijou Geyser restart/to steam:** Bijou restarting usually indicated a waning hot period, BUT Mastiff remaining full and surging after Bijou restarted often led to an especially strong hot period and/or an eruption of Giant. Bijou going to roaring steam during a hot period was usually a very good sign.

**Feather end:** Usually considered the end of the hot period. If the hot period was fairly strong, Feather (and the rest of the vents) could restart, and, rarely, Giant could erupt during a Feather restart.

**Turtle:** Turtle has rarely done more than overflow and boil during recent active phases, so anything vertical out of it would qualify as noteworthy.

**Not worth detailed reporting(?):**

**Posthole and Posthole Satellite:** During all but the weakest hot periods,

they fill, burble, and maybe splash a bit during the hot period, and start erupting as the hot period dies out. The strength of the eruption seems to correlate with the strength of the preceding hot period.

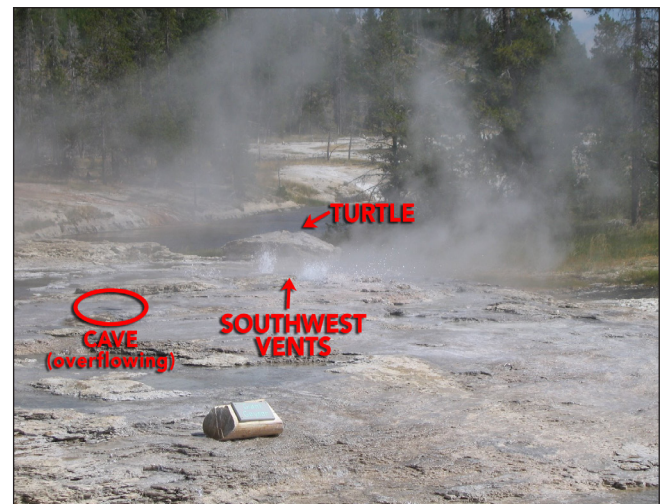
**Rust and Slit:** If Mastiff is surging, they're probably active. If it's a weak Feather-only hot period, they're probably not.

**Southwest Vents:** In the recent active phases, they've pretty much been on when Feather was on, off when Feather was off. They'll occasionally splash a little during partial fills of Mastiff that don't result in a hot period.

**Emerald Vent:** Emerald full and bubbling seemed to mean that something had happened recently--either a hot period or an attempt at one. If you're just walking up and find Emerald full but no indication of a recent hot period, odds are good that you missed a "bathtub" (partial fill of Mastiff). If you've just watched a bathtub or the end of a hot period and Emerald is \*not\* full and bubbling, \*that\* would be noteworthy.

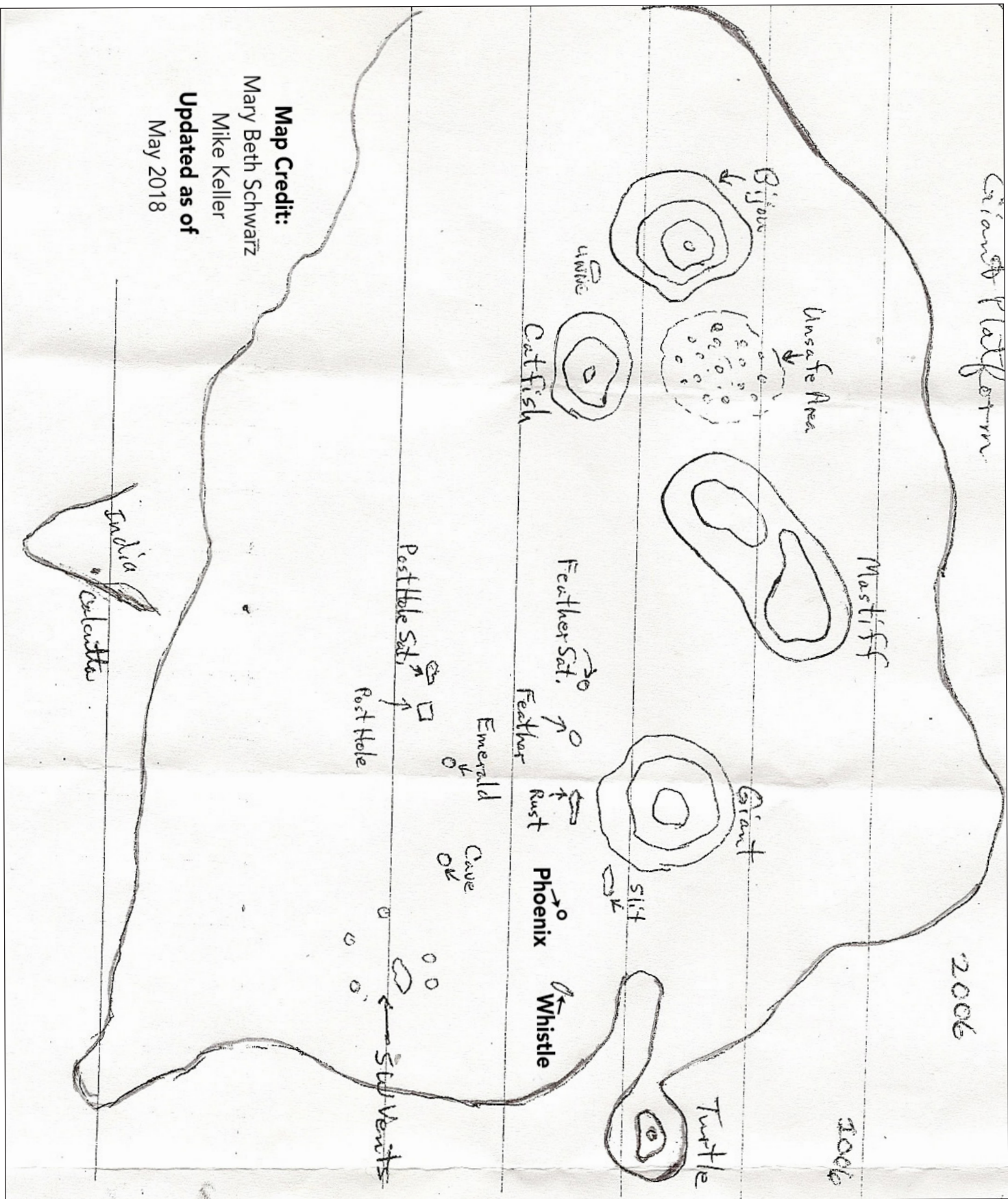


*The North Platform Vents during a Giant Hot Period. Photo by David Schwarz.*



*The South Platform Vents during a Giant Hot Period. Photo by David Schwarz.*

# GIANT PLATFORM SKETCH MAP



**Map Credit:**  
Mary Beth Schwarz  
Mike Keller  
Updated as of  
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