



# TEXAS BLIND SALAMANDER

National Wildlife Federation

The Texas Blind Salamander lives in a landscape called “karst.” Karst forms as water dissolves bedrock, usually limestone. This terrain includes “karst features,” such as sinkholes, caves and caverns. These features bring rain water down into the karst landscape underground. Over 20% of Texas is covered with karst!

Many creatures live in karst habitat, such as:

- Crickets
- Beetles
- Salamanders
- Spiders

These species are considered in project planning because many are protected by state and federal government. In fact, TxDOT is required to be on the lookout for such species. TxDOT often designs road projects to avoid impacts to karst habitats.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



When it rains, water flows through karst features with little filtration. Herbicides, pesticides, dirt and oil contaminate the water as well as harm the creatures that live in it!

Inner Space Cavern, 1967.

Discover more at [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov), keyword: “Beyond the Road”.