



# Spring Biodiversity of the Blanco River Watershed

*The aquifers of Central Texas are most biodiverse in the US.*



**Photos courtesy of Randy Gibson and John Abbott**

*Found in all three springs the Blanco River Salamander (*Eurycea Pterophila*) is being sent to geneticists are determining whether it's a new species.*

## *Windows to the Aquifer*



**Jacob's Well**  
*After a hard rain  
Cypress Creek*

## Fern Bank, Blanco River

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**Fern Bank has many species of interest, including an endangered dryopid beetle (*Stygoparnus* sp.) and a distinct but related riffle beetle (*Heterelmis* sp.) to the Comal Springs riffle beetle, an endangered species.**



**John Knox Ranch  
Carper's Creek**

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*New subterranean aquatic species are being discovered. They are adapted to survive in deep and dark aquifers and many are not yet described or named.*



**Recently discovered in Jacob's Well and John Knox Ranch, this blind Stygobromid crustacean could possibly be a new species. Biologists need to collect more specimens of this unusually small amphipod and conduct genetic analyses to find its nearest relatives**

