



Natural Features

The Balmorhea State Park Cienega Project, which recreated a desert wetland in West Texas, has won a 1998 Texas Quality Initiative Award for “innovation” from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and its cooperative partners. Described as a “classic win-win situation by organizations ranging from the Texas Organization for Endangered Species to the Cotton Council, the Balmorhea Cienega Project conceived by the Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) was awarded the TQI award for its unprecedented cooperative effort among the local farming community, and a host of state and federal agencies. The pacesetter project spearheaded by TPW fisheries biologist Dr. Gary Garrett brought

together such diverse interests as the US Fish and Wildlife Service and Environmental Protection Agency with the Texas Department of Agriculture, TxDOT, Texas Department of Criminal Justice and the Reeves County Water Improvement District #1. Special acknowledgment goes to TPW staff David Riskind, Delton Daugherty, Kelly Bryan, Michael Young, and Tom Johnson.

Cienega underwater viewing area. The cienega now serves not only as an attractive habitat for endangered fish and other aquatic life, birds and other animals, but also as a tourism draw for Balmorhea State Park.

San Solomon Courts, Campsites & Facilities

Facilities include restrooms with showers; campsites with a shade shelter and water; campsites with a shade shelter, water, and electricity; pull-through campsites with water, electricity, and cable TV hookups; campsites without a shade shelter, with water and electricity.

San Solomon Springs Courts has rooms with and without kitchens, a dining hall/meeting room. All of the rooms at San Solomon Courts are now designated as non smoking; chemically-free San Solomon Springs pool; a bathhouse; a playground; a concession building



(open during the summer months); an outdoor sports area; and picnic sites. Visitors entering the park pay only the entrance.

Fees

\$5 per day, per person 13 and older from October-April

\$7 per day, per person 13 and older from May-September

Group School-Sponsored Trip entrance fee per person: \$1 - \$5



Scuba Diving Rules & Regulations

- ≈ Scuba divers (certified and/or students with instructors) may dive from 8:00 am until sunset. Swimmers may use the pool from 8:00 am until sunset daily.
- ≈ Night diving is allowed for all divers holding an open water certification or temporary certification when accompanied by a certified instructor. Everyone must be out of the pool area by 10 p.m. Central Time at which time the entry gate will be locked. Fee for night diving is \$4 per person and must be arranged during office hours.
- ≈ No spear guns, knives or fishing gear are permitted in the pool or pool area.

- ≈ All individual scuba diving will be done on the buddy system. A minimum of two (2) certified divers is required to dive.
- ≈ All individual divers utilizing San Solomon Springs at Balmorhea State Park must present certification cards (“C” Cards) or up-to-date log books prior to signing the Liability Waiver.
- ≈ Air compressors must conform to recommended EPA/OSHA noise levels. No compressors are to be used between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 am. No compressors may be used in the parking area at San Solomon Springs Court or in the camping area at any time.

- ≈ All divers must sign a Liability Waiver prior to entering the water. All sign-ins must be done during regular office hours (hours vary with season - call 432/375-2370 for current office hours).
- ≈ Only certified instructors will be allowed to conduct dive classes. Proof of certification and insurance must be provided.
- ≈ A ratio of one(1) certified instructor to eight (8) students is the maximum allowed in the water.
- ≈ No diver will molest, catch or handle any fish, turtle or other aquatic life. Natural areas of the spring, including rocks, are not to be disturbed or moved.