Thank you everyone for your involvement and support in 2017! Experience by experience, we are successfully building the TWA legacy of conservation through our youth and adult education programs.
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NEW WEST TEXAS L.A.N.D.S. EDUCATOR

Hello all, my name is Phil Salonek, and I am joining Texas Wildlife Association as the newest Learning Across New Dimensions in Science (L.A.N.D.S.) Educator in the previously uncharted wilds of West Texas.

I grew up in West Texas exploring the playas and arroyos on the outskirts of the Chihuahuan desert. After five years in the U.S. Navy, I went to business school in southern California and then on to study outdoor education at Central Wyoming College. During this time, I hiked, skied, bicycled, paddled and generally recreated all over the Rocky Mountain region of the United States.

Seeking the path of a naturalist, I enrolled in a year-long immersion program focused on wilderness awareness and primitive skills. This led me through the forests and waterways of northern Maine identifying flora and fauna all while living outside with minimal gear. I eventually earned my Registered Maine Guide license and led extended eco-centric canoe and snowshoe expeditions.

I have worked in the oilfields of West Texas as a welder’s assistant, with a sawmill in the redwoods of California, as a forestry technician in western Colorado fighting wildfires, and have preserved historic structures in Arizona and Wisconsin. Texas has always been my home, and it is a great feeling to be back. I am excited to share my passion for youth education and the conservation of our natural world.

Phil will be implementing L.A.N.D.S. Outreach and L.A.N.D.S. Intensive programs in 19 counties of West Texas. Funding for this venture comes from a new partnership with Noble Energy.