



SWD WATER SAFETY INITIATIVES

2nd Quarter Report (Jan-Mar)

FORT WORTH DISTRICT (SWF)

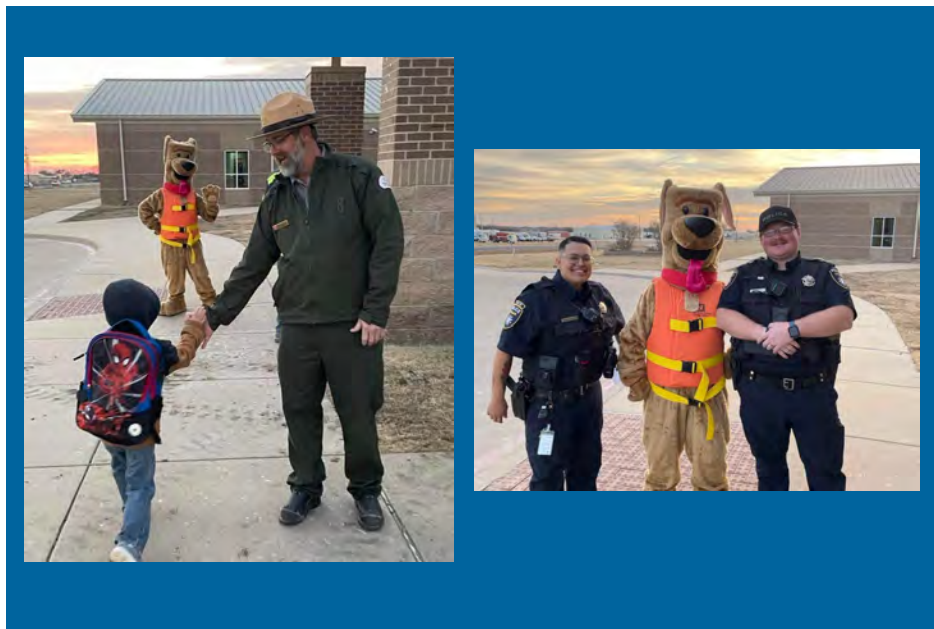
Whitney Lake - West ISD Health & Safety Fair

On 15 February, Whitney Rangers Kathryn Devers and Matthew Jones set up a booth at West High School for the Health & Safety Fair. Rangers met with children of all ages and their family members to speak about water safety, life jacket inspection, how to properly size a life jacket, and the importance of wearing a life jacket when anywhere around water. Students were required to answer water safety questions to receive prizes from the booth. Overall, it was a very successful event delivering the water safety message to over 300 people ranging in ages from 3 to 83. We look forward to working with West ISD again in the future.



Proctor Lake - Bobber School Drop Off

On January 11th, Park Rangers Ben Murphy, Jarod Harris, and Bobber the Water Safety Dog Park Ranger Stephanie Jones went to school drop off at Comanche Elementary school to greet students on their first day back to school from Christmas break. They were excited to see Bobber and the Park Rangers and excited to be back in class.



Many projects utilized water safety messaging on social media this quarter including graphics provided by the National Water Safety Team.

Grapevine Lake - WACHE Career Day

On the 27th of March Park Ranger Ami Watkins spoke to 4 different groups of homeschool kids from K-12th grade in a career day conference. Ranger Watkins's introduced the kids to the missions of the Lake Projects and learned various careers within USACE. Ranger Watkins went over the duties of a Park Ranger and described to them how exciting and worthwhile the career choice can be. The kids enjoyed identifying different animals and were given water safety message appropriate to the age group in the room.

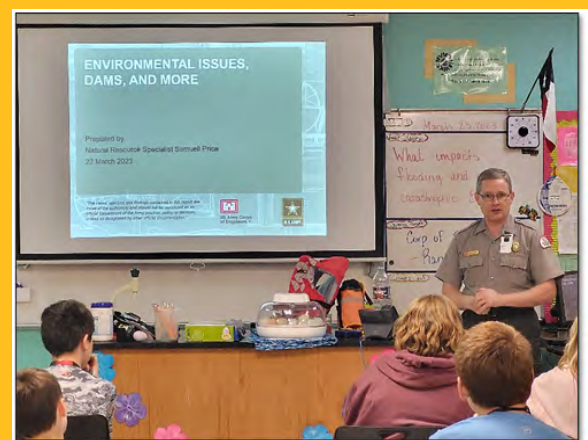


Canyon Lake - Community Emergency Program

On Saturday, the 25th of March 2023, Ranger Samuell Price presented on Water Safety at a Community Emergency preparedness Fair in Cibolo Texas. Many of the people living in the community use Canyon Lake on a regular basis. A water safety booth was set up for guests to come by and ask questions as well as play a game to learn water safety. The event lasted from 10 am to 1pm and members of several others including local EMS, firefighters, police officers, local HAM radio clubs and more also participated. Approximately 200 guests came through the event. Ranger Price was able to have direct conversations and teach water safety to 80 event participants that had further questions and

Canyon Lake - STEM & Water Safety Interp Program

Ranger Samuell Price presented on Thursday, the 23rd of March 2023 at Mountain Valley Middle School near Canyon lake Texas. The presentation was to the entire 7th grade level science class which has recently been discussing environmental impacts from flood events and what they can do to the environment. The teacher asked Ranger Price to come out and present on the topic by relating it back to the local Canyon Dam. A STEM lesson on dams and how they protect the people, and how they can have an affect on the environment and economy of a region was provided. Ranger Price followed up with a presentation on water safety which included a demonstration using students and showing them how to use a throw bag. Q&A was part of the interpretive. A total of 281 received the water safety and STEM lesson. This included 2 teachers and 279 students.



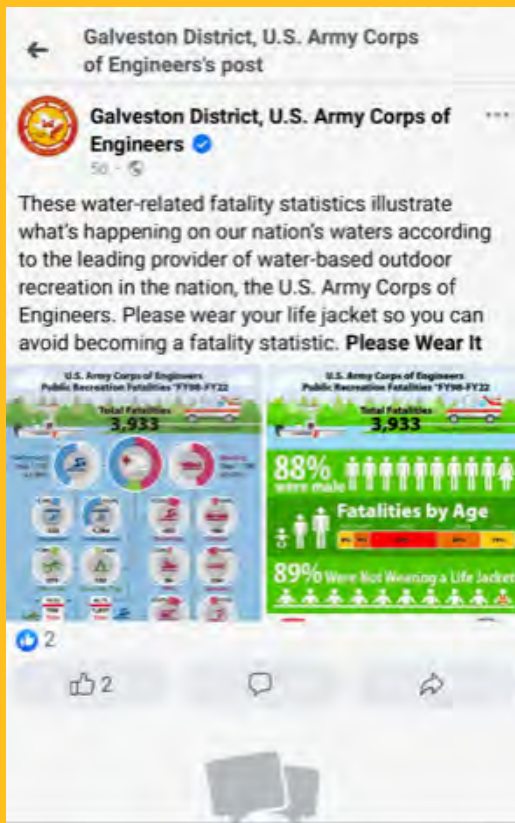
Lavon Lake - Life Jacket Loaner Stations

Lavon Lake has partnered with Safe Kids of North Texas, which is led by Cook Children's, to provide education and loaner life jackets for children and adults to be safer around the water. Over the past several weeks, the Lavon Lake staff and volunteers installed 5 Life Jacket loaner stations in day use areas at East fork, Avalon, Mallard, Ticky Creek and Little Ridge Parks. These life jacket loaner stations are printed in both English and Spanish. Safe Kids North Texas has agreed to supply additional life jackets if the current supplies become damaged, over-utilized, or are lost. Both Cook Children's and Lavon Lake are optimistic that these life jacket loaner stations will encourage safe water habits and prevent a terrible accident.



GALVESTON DISTRICT (SWG)

Posted water safety messages to Galveston's social media pages for the month of March.



LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT (SWL)

Little Rock Marine Expo and Big Buck Classic

Rangers from Little Rock and Vicksburg Districts participated in the Little Rock Marine Expo and Big Buck Classic. These events targeted outdoor enthusiasts and allowed staff to educate the public on the importance of life jacket wear while recreating on or near water. Rangers made contact with over 13,000 visitors by engaging each in water safety while distributing promotional items.



Table Rock Lake - 2023 Lake Life Expo in Springfield, MO

This three day event included a multitude of vendors associated with lake recreation and multiple public water and boating safety organizations such as the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Missouri State Water Patrol, and Sea Tow. Corps park rangers focused on promoting the use of life jackets and how to pick the appropriate type and fit. In addition to making numerous water safety contacts, Table Rock Lake Water Safety Coordinator, Ranger Angela Stone, created a partnership contact with Sea Tow Captain Jim Pulley at Table Rock Lake to donate to the Corps large numbers of life jackets to stock 15 Corps Life Jacket Loaner located around Table Rock Lake this spring.

Table Rock Lake Park Rangers Ryan Braaten, Matt Robbins, Angela Stone, and Seth Talbert staffed the Corps booth and made 475 direct water safety contacts.



TULSA DISTRICT (SWT)

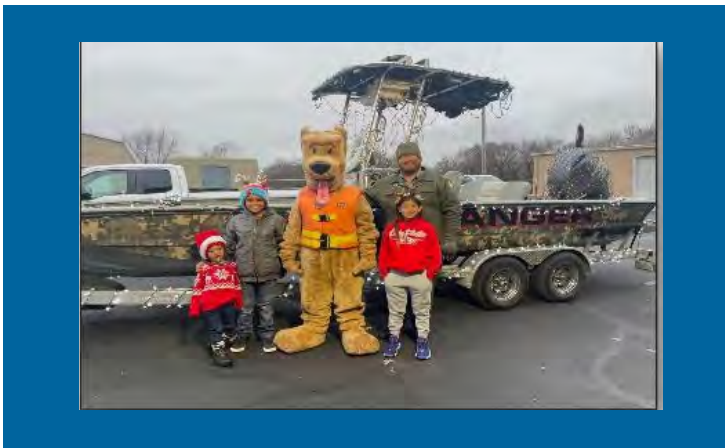
Natioanl Boating Federation SWD Water Safety Employee Award

Deputy Operations Project Manager, BJ Parkey, is officially recognized with the National Boating Federation Water Safety Employee Award for SWD. Mr. Parkey has demonstrated exceptional commitment, passion, values, and leadership spreading the water safety message. As a member of the Tulsa District Project Delivery team for over 14 years and making sure execution of the teams budget is met year in and year out, to his outstanding attitude and contagious passion for water safety shines. Mr. Parkey's accomplishments reflect great credit upon himself, the Tulsa District and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



Oologah Christmas Parade Award

Oologah Lake was awarded the best parade float in the Oologah Christmas Parade. Oologah staff decorated the patrol boat and participated in the parade with over thirty other floats. Bobber the Water Safety Dog was along for the ride during the parade providing water safety promotional hand-outs to spectators.



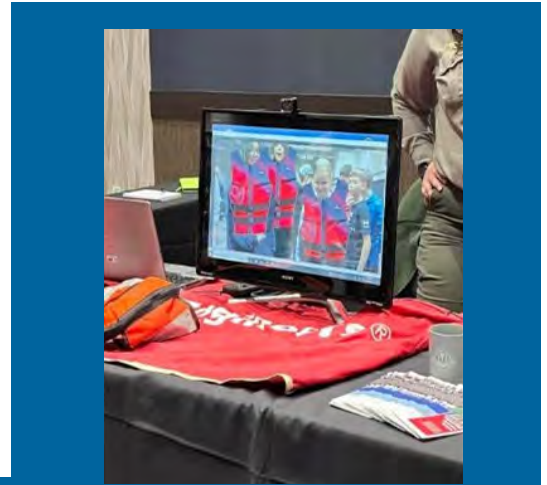
Keystone Lake - School Outreach

Keystone Rangers Lauren Enloe and Ashley Novar visited Rogers State University and Claremore Sequoyah High School Career Fair to communicate with students about summer ranger opportunities and careers with the Corps. They spoke to 30 students at RSU, and 100-120 students at the career fair resulting in multiple summer ranger candidates for Northern Area Projects.



Fort Gibson Lake - STEM Fest 2023 Program

Natural Resource Specialists Tiffany Natividad and Josh Glazebrook set up and participated in STEM FEST 23 hosted by Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma. Public Affairs Stacey Reese and Recreation Planner Jason Knight also assisted in the activities. Jason provided an AR lifejacket station, a loaner board translator tool and the VR headsets with a few different videos. Public Affairs has assisted with multiple Tulsa District missions.



Waurika Lake - Boat and Tackle Show in El Reno, OK

Waurika Lake Rangers, Destany Rochell and Alan Harper worked the Oklahoma Boat and Tackle Show in El Reno, OK this past weekend. They made hundreds of contacts with the public by informing them of the importance of water safety and educating them about the Corps mission at our lake projects as well as selling several recreation passes at the event.



Fort Gibson Lake - Oklahoma Tackle, Hunting and Boating Show in Pryor, OK

Fort Gibson Natural Resource Specialists Tiffany Natividad and Josh Glazebrook set up a table with water safety handouts at the Oklahoma Tackle, Hunting and Boat Show. They stated this event was a great turnout due to the amount of people who attended.



Fort Gibson Lake - Cherokee STEM Fest

Ft. Gibson Lake Park Rangers used Innovations Team Prototypes to share innovation and technology to the Students at the Cherokee STEM Fest in Tahlequah and gave a water safety presentation.



Texoma Lake - Shrine Circus

On Feb. 2023 Lake Texoma Rangers Audrey White, Josh English, and Conner Rychilk shared the USACE water safety message with the public at the Shrine Circus at the Tulsa Expo Pavilion. These events provide an excellent opportunity to educate the public on the importance of life jackets. This was a new event this year to help spread the water safety message in Tulsa District and was in partnership with Safe Kids Tulsa.



Waurika Lake - Stephens County Safety Day

Park Rangers Alan Harper and Destany Rochell worked the Stephens County Safety Day. Several agencies across the area hosted all the 5th graders in Stephens county to inform them about different safety topics. Waurika Rangers focused on water safety and provided them with water safety promo items. There were approximately 500 contacts made.



SWT Water Safety PDT and Ranger Workshop

The Tulsa District Water Safety Project Development Team met on March 22nd at Fort Gibson Lake. The team discussed promotional items, upcoming water safety events and past events, path forward, briefing Abby Jones and BJ Parkey presented to the Commander, drowning numbers and stats and much more. The meeting was held after the personal protection training at the Ranger Workshop. On March 20th at the Ranger Workshop Abby Jones and BJ Parkey presented a 30 minute water safety presentation, similar to what was presented to the Commander, and adding information on how to order items and gathering/sharing new ways to get the message out to the public from the park rangers.

Abby Jones - Chair

BJ Parkey - Co Chair

Tab Nixon - Administrative

Dillon Chalopuek & Randi Clifton - Northern Area Reps

Cathi Carr & Gregg Moydell - East Central Reps

Aaron Springer & John Schenk - Kansas Area Reps

Destany Rochell & Lucas Mahan - Red River Area Reps



Tulsa Boat Show

Tulsa District Rangers and Safety Office worked the Tulsa Boat Show from Jan 30-Feb 5 at the Tulsa Fairgrounds. Visitors that stopped by the water safety booth learned about the different types of life jackets and the importance of wearing a life jacket.



Marin Luther King Parade

Tulsa District staff, including park ranger Matt Nolen and Bobber the Water Safety Dog, had a park ranger truck and boat in the Martin Luther King Parade on Jan 16th in Downtown Tulsa.



ANNOUNCEMENT

National Water Safety Product Orders

The USACE National Water Safety Product Catalog and Order form was sent out 8 December 2022. Orders were accepted until 31 January 2023 and products should all be received by May 5th. All of the products are provided to you at no cost to supplement your water safety program. Please contact your SWD Rep, Abby Jones, Abby.L.Jones@usace.army.mil or 919-669-7340 if you have any questions regarding your projects order and or don't receive by May 5th.

