







# 113-Million-Year-Old Dinosaur Tracks Revealed By Texas Drought

Excited dinosaur watchers are rushing to Dinosaur Valley in Texas, which was like a prehistoric highway in the early Cretaceous Period.



One of the previously discovered theropod dinosaur footprints discovered at Dinosaur Valley State Park in Glen Rose, Texas. Image credit: Dinosaur Valley State Park

This summer, devastating droughts have revealed many ancient wonders, such as the Spanish Stonehenge, or the ruins of a 3400-year-old city in Iraq, and Texas is no exception. The severe lack of rain there has allowed us a rare glimpse at some 113-million-year-old dinosaur tracks preserved in stone, before they'll soon disappear from our eyes again.

The deep footprints, complete with long claw marks, lie in the bed of the Paluxy River, which runs through Dinosaur Valley State Park about 140 kilometers southwest of Dallas. They were most likely left there by an *Acrocanthosaurus*, an enormous carnivore that lived in what is now North America some 113 to 110 million years ago. This genus of dinosaur could grow up to 11 meters (36 feet) in length, and its enormous size is reflected in its footprints, which can extend 30 centimeters (one foot) from heel to claw.



