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This fishing report, provided by Dustin Berg of [Go Unlimited](#) (supporting disabled anglers) and the Department of Game and Fish, has been generated from the best information available from area officers and anglers. Conditions encountered after the report is compiled may differ, as stream, lake and weather conditions alter fish and angler activities.

[Check out the latest stocking report](#)

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[\(Valid April 1 to March 31; 2021-2022 licenses are on sale now\)](#)

Check the Fishing Conditions and Trip Planner!

The Department's Fishing Conditions and Trip Planner was created using data from the 2016 to 2019 Weekly Fishing Reports to develop graphs depicting fishing conditions for several species and waterbodies throughout the year. Each graph represents the average fishing conditions for each week of the year over the four-year period.



[Check out the new webpage to plan your trip now!](#)



Take the Bass and Trout Challenges!

To promote bass and trout fishing opportunities in New Mexico and encourage anglers to branch out and discover new fishing waters and species, anglers can participate in the [New Mexico Bass Challenge](#) and the [New Mexico Trout Challenge](#).



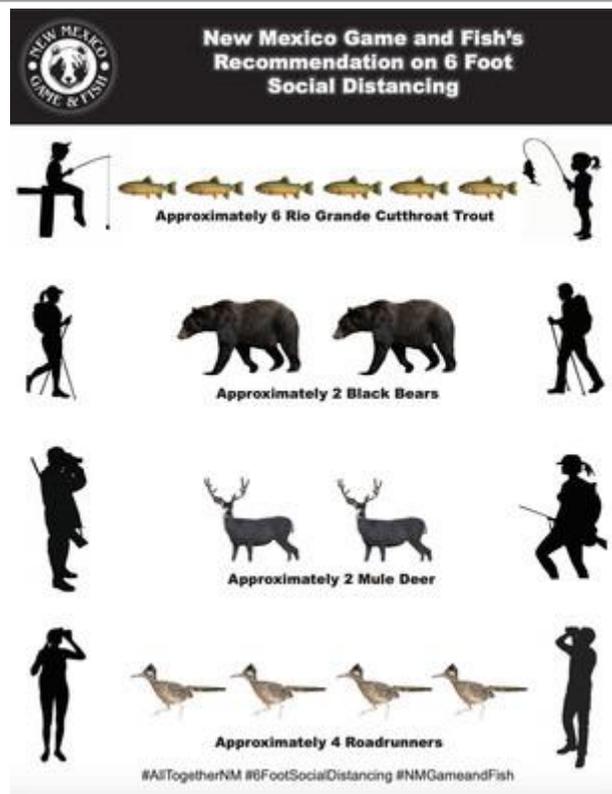
Catch all the challenge species that are found throughout New Mexico to receive your certificate and challenge coin!

A Message from the Department

As COVID-19 continues to force all of us to make changes to our daily schedule, the Department would like to remind you that together we can make a difference. To help minimize the spread of the virus:

- Practice social distancing
- Wash your hands regularly
- Avoid non-essential travel
- Wear a face covering
- Avoid interacting with large groups

Click the flyer to the right. Please share it with your friends and family.





The Department is continuing to adapt our ways of working to conserve wildlife for all New Mexicans. Through the COVID-19 pandemic, Department biologists and conservation officers continue to conduct wildlife surveys, contact anglers and OHV recreationists and stock fish in open waters throughout the state.

Our teams are wearing personal protective equipment for everyone's safety while working in small groups for maximum social distancing. We ask for your help to keep everyone safe and healthy by following the NMDOH public health emergency order by wearing PPE while staying at least six feet away from staff and equipment.

Closure Information

The Department reminds anglers it is their responsibility to be aware of closures and contact land managers for properties of interest when restrictions are lifted.

- [Bureau of Land Management \(BLM\)](#)
- [U.S. Forest Service \(USFS\)](#)
- [New Mexico State Lands](#)
- [New Mexico State Parks](#)
- [New Mexico Open Gate Properties](#)
- [New Mexico Wildlife Management Areas](#)
- [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#)

Consult local government websites for information regarding specific city and town fishing access.



Catches of the week

Bosque Redondo Lake: Zoe Avalos, age 8, of Albuquerque caught a 15-inch largemouth bass using a hotdog May 24.

Cimarron River: Caiden Davis, age 12, of Rio Rancho caught a 17.5-inch rainbow trout using PowerBait at the Gravel Pit Ponds May 22.

Eagle Nest Lake: Miguel Gallegos, age 5, of Taos caught a 20-inch rainbow trout using grape nymph PowerBait May 16. Jeneva Gallegos, age 14, of Ranchos de Taos caught a 22-inch rainbow trout using a black and white jig May 16. Shane Mestas of Albuquerque caught a 16-inch kokanee salmon using a Daredevil spoon May 16.



Theo Arnett, age 5, of Edgewood caught and released a 25-inch brown trout using a size 18 annelid fly May 23 on the San Juan River.

Elephant Butte Lake: Bryan Smith of Silver City caught a 34-inch, 12-pound walleye using a white crankbait May 22.

Fenton Lake: Christine Medina of Albuquerque caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using green PowerBait May 22.

Laguna del Campo: Michael Moraga, age 7, of Albuquerque caught a 19-inch rainbow trout using PowerBait May 17.

Lake Van: Mike Jimenez of Roswell caught a 25-inch, 6-pound catfish using a red hotdog May 16.

San Juan River: Theo Arnett, age 5, of Edgewood caught and released a 25-inch brown trout using a size 18 annelid fly May 23. Ever Barraza Bueno of Bernalillo caught a 16-inch rainbow trout using PowerBait May 16.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Kara Shije, age 11, of Zia Pueblo caught a 30-inch brown trout using rainbow PowerBait May 22. Tracy Sisneros, age 6, of Albuquerque caught a 17-inch rainbow trout using a custom-made Pistol Pete spinner May 17.

Young Pond: Tony Arena of Las Cruces caught a 27-inch catfish using a hotdog May 21.

If you have a catch of the week story or just want to tell us about your latest New Mexico fishing experience, send it to us at funfishingnm@gmail.com. We may include your story in our next report.

For catches of the week, include name, age, hometown, date, location, type of fish, length, and weight if possible, and bait, lure or fly used.

Northeast Fishing Report

Cabresto Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Charette Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using streamers and dry flies.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 71.9 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait, nightcrawlers and spinners.

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using various colors of PowerBait. Fishing for bass was good when using jigs.

Conchas Lake: Conchas Lake State Park has closed access to all boat ramps due to dropping water levels. The boat ramps on the south side of the lake managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are open. Fishing for bass was good when using plastic worms and tubes. Fishing for crappie and walleye was good when using minnows, curly tail grubs and jigs.



Caiden Davis, age 12, of Rio Rancho caught a 17.5-inch rainbow trout using PowerBait at the Gravel Pit Ponds on the Cimarron River May 22.

Costilla Creek: The Department has implemented the final phase of a project to expand Rio Grande cutthroat trout in 120 miles of the Costilla watershed in northern New Mexico. The final phase involved removal of fish within a designated area (Rio Costilla from Costilla Dam downstream to the Valle Vidal Boundary including all tributaries and Comanche Creek from the road culvert crossing on FR 1950 downstream to its confluence with Rio Costilla and all tributaries) with a tentative restocking of the Rio Grande cutthroat in spring 2022. Places to fish nearby include Costilla Creek below the fish barrier, Upper Comanche Creek, Shuree Ponds, Middle Ponil Creek, Upper Powderhouse Creek, Little Costilla Creek, Vidal Creek and McCrystal Creek. The Department anticipates completion of this final phase in the fall of 2021. Please check the Department website for additional information on the project and to identify alternative angling opportunities in the interim.

Cowles Ponds: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Coyote Creek: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Eagle Nest Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using white and black jigs, grape-nymph PowerBait, chartreuse-glitter PowerBait and in-line spinners. Fishing for kokanee salmon was fair when using in-line spinners and Daredevil spoons. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using jerk baits and plastic swimbaits.

Eagle Rock Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs.

Fawn Lakes: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Gallinas River: Fishing for trout was fair when using worms and spinners.

Hopewell Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Joe's Fly spinners and beadhead nymph flies.

Lake Alice: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Lake Maloya: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Los Pinos River: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Maxwell Lake 13: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Monastery Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using green-garlic PowerBait and silver and red spinners.

Morphy Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using chartreuse PowerBait and peach PowerBait.

Pecos River: The streamflow near the town of Pecos Monday morning was 118 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using worms, Baetis dry flies and pheasant tail nymph flies.

Red River: Streamflow below the hatchery Monday morning was 146 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow using flies and fair when using worms and spinners. The water level was high and the clarity was poor.

Rio Grande: Stream flow at the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 947 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow using flies and fair when using worms and spinners. The water level was high and the clarity was poor.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow Monday morning near Valdez was 82.9 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow Monday morning near Terrero was 53.7 cfs.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Penasco Monday morning was 93.4 cfs.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using green PowerBait and pink PowerBait.

Shuree Ponds: Closed until July 1, 2021.

Springer Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Storrie Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Stubblefield Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Ute Lake: Fishing for white bass was fair to good trolling Model A Bombers and Flicker Shad lures. Fishing for walleye was good when using bottom bouncers with spinners tipped with nightcrawlers. Fishing for bass was good when fishing shallow using plastic worms, crawdads and Ned rigs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using punch bait and nightcrawlers. Fishing for crappie was good when using live minnows. The water surface temperature was in the mid 60 degrees Fahrenheit and the main lake color was clear.

Northwest Fishing Report

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using curly tail grubs, jerk baits, jigs tipped with worms and bottom bouncers with nightcrawler worm harnesses.

Animas River: Waterflow below Aztec Monday morning was 1,210 cfs.

Albuquerque Area Drains: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait, nightcrawlers, corn and spinners. Fishing for tiger muskie was fair when using Rapala XR10 lures and swimbaits. Fishing for catfish was good when using chicken liver and hotdogs.

Brazos River: Fishing for trout was fair when using Panther Martin spinners.



Kara Shije, age 11, of Zia Pueblo caught a 30-inch brown trout using rainbow PowerBait on May 22 at Seven Springs Brood Pond.

Canjilon Lakes: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Chama River: Monday-morning flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 754 cfs and 814 cfs, respectively. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was slow to fair when using nightcrawlers. Anglers reported high water flows below Abiquiu Lake and poor fishing conditions. Please remember, from the river-crossing bridge on U.S. Highway 84 at Abiquiu upstream seven miles to the base of Abiquiu Dam is special trout waters with a bag limit of two trout only.

Cochiti Lake: Visitors to the lake need to make a reservation by purchasing a ticket at least 24 hours in advance through www.recreation.gov. Tickets and reservations will NOT be sold at the lake. Fishing for bass was good when using Neg rigs. Fishing for pike was good when using swimbaits and jerk baits.

El Vado Lake: El Vado Lake Dam Day Use Area, the main lake area, boat launch and campground are open.

Fenton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using earthworms, green PowerBait and nymph flies. Please remember, only two cutthroat trout are allowed to be harvested per day within the regular five-fish limit.

Heron Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using PowerBait, in-line spinners tipped with Fireball and worms. Sierra Vista boat launch and the primitive boat launch are both open due to rising water levels.

Jemez Waters: The streamflow on the Jemez near the town of Jemez Monday morning was 26.2 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using golden Hare's Ear nymph flies, worms and salmon eggs.

Laguna del Campo: Fishing for trout was good when using worms and PowerBait.

Lagunitas Lakes: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Lake Farmington: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using green PowerBait and worms.

McGaffey Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Navajo Lake: Fishing for bass was good when using jerk baits, Ned Rigs and green watermelon tubes. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using joined Rapala lures and green tubes. Fishing for trout and kokanee was slow.

Rio Grande: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using hotdogs and chicken liver between Bernalillo and Albuquerque.

San Gregorio Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using midge pattern flies.

San Juan River: Streamflow Monday morning was 324 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using white and chartreuse egg pattern flies, red annelid flies, white bunny leeches, tan chamois leeches and size 22-24 root beer mayfly emerger pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was good when using Copper John flies, Panther Martin spinners, worms and PowerBait.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait, worms and nymph flies.

Tingley Beach: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Trout Lakes: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Southwest Fishing Report

Alumni Pond: Fishing for all species was slow.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using yellow PowerBait. Fishing for crappie was good when using X-Caddis green olive flies. Fishing for catfish was slow using cut carp bait.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass was good when using Texas-rigged creature baits.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass was good when using six-inch plastic worms. Fishing for white bass was good when using minnows and white crankbaits. Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using chartreuse Bomber crankbaits. Fishing for crappie was good when using minnows and lime-colored curly tail jigs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawlers.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for white bass was good when using green Flicker Shad lures, Sassy Shad and white crankbaits. Fishing for largemouth bass was fair to good when using red crawdad jigs and swimbaits. Fishing for walleye was good when using bluegill pattern swimbaits, white crankbaits, curly tail grubs tipped with a worm and bottom bouncer worm harness rigs. Fishing for crappie was good when using artificial shad baits over weed beds. Fishing for catfish was good when using shad.

Escondida Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using worms.

Gila River: Streamflow Monday morning was 26.6 cfs. Fishing for catfish was good when using cut bait.



Bryan Smith of Silver City caught a 34-inch, 12-pound walleye using a white crankbait May 22 at Elephant Butte Lake.

Glenwood Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was fair when using dry flies and worms.

Percha Dam: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using chicken breast.

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait and nymph pattern flies.

Rancho Grande Ponds: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Monday morning was 1,050 cfs. Fishing for catfish north of Elephant Butte Lake was good when using cut bait, nightcrawlers and shad.

Snow Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Trees Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Young Pond: Fishing for trout was slow. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using hotdogs.

Southeast Fishing Report

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using green PowerBait and nightcrawlers. Fishing for bass was fair when using nightcrawlers.

Bataan Lake: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using worms. Fishing for catfish was slow to fair when using worms and dough bait. Fishing for bass was fair when using plastic jigs. Fishing for bluegill was good when using worms.

Black River: Stream flow at Malaga Monday morning was 23.3 cfs.

Blue Hole Park Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Bonito Lake: Closed until further notice by the city of Alamogordo due to fire damage. It appears that the lake will be out of commission until 2022.

Bosque Redondo Lake: Fishing for bass was good when using hotdogs and green pumpkin soft plastic bug baits.

Bottomless Lakes: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Brantley Lake: Fishing for crappie was fair to good when using small yellow jigs.

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using hotdogs.

Chaparral Park Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Corona Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Eunice Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass was good when using Texas-rigged plastic worms.

Greene Acres Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait.



Zoe Avalos, age 8, of Albuquerque caught a 25-inch largemouth bass using a hotdog May 24 at Bosque Redondo Lake.

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using cheese PowerBait and purple PowerBait.

Jal Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Lake Van: Fishing for catfish was good when using red hotdogs.

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait.

Pecos River: Stream flow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 1,470 cfs.

Perch Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Ruidoso River: Stream flow Monday morning at Hollywood was 3.28 cfs.

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for crappie was fair when using minnows. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawlers, hotdogs and chicken liver.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for crappie was fair when using chartreuse curly tail jigs and white marabou jigs

Tips and Tricks - Fishing line tips by Len Lo Presto

Freshwater fishing rarely requires a line greater than a 15-pound test. Six- to eight-pound test line is good for most fishing applications. Last week, I caught a four-pound catfish on a two-pound tippet. I had to ask a gentleman for his net, but I got the catfish in and he will be dinner this week. Buy line when you are ready to use it. The longer the line stays on the shelf, the more difficult it becomes to work with and will create more line tangles. An easy way to put the line on your spool is to put the spool in a coffee cup. The spool rarely comes out of the cup and it keeps the line from unraveling. Remember to run the line through the top of your rod to the spool. Never completely fill the spool with line. Just 75% (three-fourths) of the reel spool should be filled with line. This prevents the line from unraveling when you cast it out.



Tracy Sisneros, age 6, of Albuquerque caught a 17-inch rainbow trout using a custom-made Pistol Pete spinner at Seven Springs Brood Pond.

Try to keep your rod tip as high as possible - this not only helps prevent tangles but also helps keep the hooks from catching on to underwater items. Teach your kids to keep their rod tip high - that is something my father did with me when I was seven years of age. Also, when purchasing basic rods for children, remember to get a rod that is no more than six inches taller than your child.

Share your tips and tricks with your fellow anglers by emailing us at funfishingnm@gmail.com and let's help the next generation of anglers find success.

Thanks for reading and supporting our angling community!

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