



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](#)

[Get your New Mexico fishing license](#)

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

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](#), the [New Mexico Trout Challenge](#) and the [Master Angler Challenge](#).



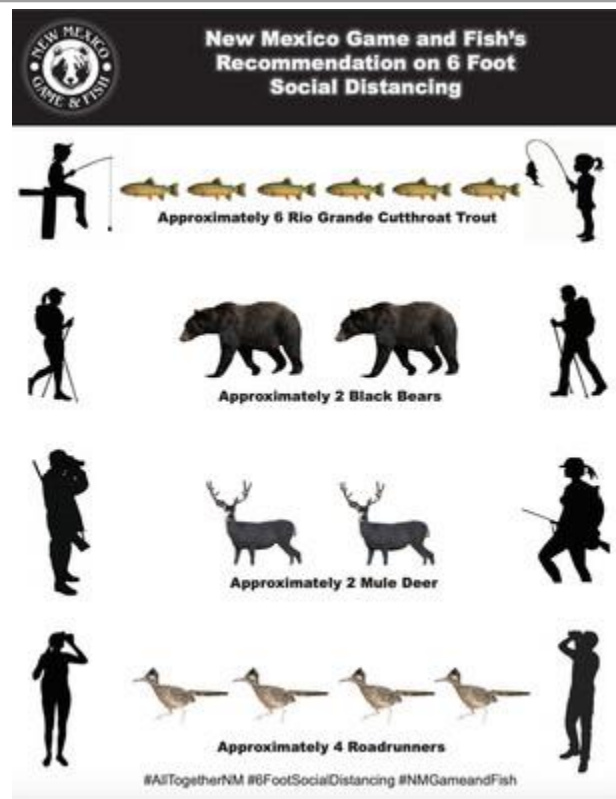
Catch all the challenge species that are found throughout New Mexico to receive your certificate and challenge coin!

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

Alto Lake: Alan Fiala of Ruidoso caught a 31-inch, 15-pound catfish using a nightcrawler worm July 8.

Bear Canyon Lake: Irma Herrada of El Paso, Texas caught a 21-inch catfish using worms July 3.

Bluewater Lake: Johnny Chavez of Thoreau caught a 43-inch, 20-pound tiger muskie using a 7-inch swimbait on the Thoreau side of the lake July 3. Jordan Brown of Grants caught a limit of rainbow trout using salmon eggs June 26.

Caballo Lake: Chon Chavarria of Las Cruces caught a 20-pound catfish using cut bait July 8.

Canjilon Lakes: Christina Baros, age 2, of Hernandez caught her first fish, a rainbow trout, using worms July 4.

Chama River: Gianna Kay Maynes, age 6, of Española caught a 17.5-inch brown trout using nightcrawler worms July 9.



Gianna Kay Maynes, age 6, of Española caught a 17.5-inch brown trout using nightcrawler worms July 9 on the Chama River.

Clayton Lake: Marcos Balizan, age 6, of Eagle Nest caught several 15-inch catfish using nightcrawler worms July 9.

Cochiti Lake: Josiah Romo, age 13, of Albuquerque caught a 19-inch catfish using chicken liver July 10.

Fenton Lake: Isaac Chavarria of Española caught a 17-inch rainbow trout using a Woolly Buggie fly July 4. Daniel Garcia Jr. of Albuquerque caught a 16-inch rainbow trout using green garlic PowerBait July 4.

Gallinas River: Adam Gonzales of Las Vegas caught and released a 22-inch rainbow trout using a mop fly July 9.

Grindstone Reservoir: Staci Saiz and her husband Kooper Saiz of Roswell caught their limits of trout, including a 17-inch rainbow trout caught by Staci, using PowerBait July 10.

Lake Maloya: Yuki Martinez of Raton caught a 19-inch, 2.8-pound rainbow trout using PowerBait July 3.

Monastery Lake: Agnes Ulibarri of Santa Fe caught a 19-inch trout using salmon egg PowerBait July 8.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Taiyari Romero, age 6, of Santa Fe caught a 13-inch rainbow trout using green PowerBait July 3.

Red River: Abrielle Jaurequi, age 6, of Carlsbad caught a 15.25-inch rainbow trout at the Red River Fish Hatchery using chartreuse PowerBait July 7.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Kennedy Cox, age 5, of Portales caught a 19-inch rainbow trout using PowerBait July 10. Jaykob Radman, age 6, of Albuquerque caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using glitter orange PowerBait June 30.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 44.5 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait and spinners.

Clayton Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using nightcrawlers and chicken liver.

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 largemouth and smallmouth bass was fair to good when using green tubes. Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using Berkley Flicker Shad lures and jigs tipped with nightcrawlers. Fishing for crappie was fair when using live minnows. Fishing for catfish was good when using cut bait. Fishing for carp was good when using worms.



Yuki Martinez of Raton caught a 19-inch, 2.8-pound rainbow trout using PowerBait July 3 at Lake Maloya.

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 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: Fishing for trout was good when using grasshoppers and salmon eggs.

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

Eagle Nest Lake: Fishing for trout was slow to fair using Panther Martin spinners tipped with nightcrawler. Fishing for perch was good when using worms and corn. Fishing for pike was good when using red and yellow Rapala lures, swim baits and Mepps spinners.

Eagle Rock Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using pink PowerBait and worms.

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

Gallinas River: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using mop flies and worms.

Hopewell Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using cheese PowerBait and scud flies.

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

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout was good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies and PowerBait.

Los Pinos River: Fishing for trout was good when using dry flies with dropper nymph flies.

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

Monastery Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Hare's Ear flies, rainbow glitter PowerBait and live worms.

Morphy Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon-peach PowerBait and olive Pistol Pete spinner flies.

Pecos River: Streamflow near the town of Pecos Monday morning was 141 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using Woolly Bugger flies, worms and gold Panther Martin spinners.

Red River: Streamflow below the hatchery Monday morning was 62.8 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using stimulator dry flies with a beadhead Hare's Ear nymph dropper fly. Fishing for trout at the hatchery was good when using chartreuse PowerBait.

Rio Grande: Streamflow at the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 276 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using dry flies, nymph flies and Rooster Tail spinners. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to good when using pink spinnerbaits near the Taos Junction Bridge.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow Monday morning near Valdez was 27.1 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using attractor dry flies and beadhead nymph flies.

Rio Mora: Streamflow Monday morning near Terrero was 93.1 cfs.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 41.2 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using green garlic PowerBait.

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

Springer Lake: Fishing for pike was fair to good when using spinners and spoons.

Storrie Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was good when using chicken liver.

Stubblefield Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using chicken liver.

Ute Lake: Fishing for white bass was fair when using casting spoons and trolling Model A Bombers. Fishing for walleye was slow to fair when using live minnows jiggling or trolling in 15 to 20 feet of water. Fishing for bass was slow to fair when using Berkley flat worms on drop shot rigs and finesse jigs with craw trailers. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawlers and punch bait. Fishing for crappie was slow. Fishing for bluegill was good when using worms. The water surface temperature was in the upper 70 degrees Fahrenheit and the main lake color was stained, with the Ute and Canadian arms being muddy.

Northwest Fishing Report

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for walleye was slow when using curly tail grubs tipped with worms. Fishing for catfish was fair when using worms. Fishing for perch was fair when using worms. Fishing for smallmouth bass, crappie and bluegill was fair when using worms.

Animas River: Waterflow below Aztec Monday morning was 230 cfs.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for tiger muskie was good when using top-water plug lures, large crankbaits, Yo-Zuri lures, Rapala lures and 7-inch swim baits. Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using salmon eggs and hotdogs.

Brazos River: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using crickets and worms.

Canjilon Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies, worms and green PowerBait.

Chama River: Monday-morning flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 88.8 cfs and 47.2 cfs, respectively. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was good when using spinners and nightcrawlers. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was fair when using beadhead nymph flies.



Jaykob Radman, age 6, of Albuquerque caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using glitter orange Power-Bait June 30 at Seven Springs Brood Pond.

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: Fishing for bass was fair when using spinner baits. Fishing for catfish was good when using cut bait and chicken liver.

El Vado Lake: Fishing for bass, perch and trout was good when using spinners and PowerBait. El Vado Lake Dam Day Use Area is open. The main lake area, boat launch and campground opened April 1. Camping by reservation only.

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

Heron Lake: Fishing from a boat for rainbow trout and kokanee salmon was good when using Panther Martin spinners, Rooster Tail spinners, Kokanee Killers and Rapala lures trolled 10 to 25 feet deep. Fishing from shore for rainbow trout and kokanee salmon was good when using chunky cheese garlic PowerBait, green PowerBait and salmon eggs. Sierra Vista and La Laja boat ramps are both open due to rising water levels.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow on the Jemez near the town of Jemez Monday morning was 6.68 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies and mop flies.

Laguna del Campo: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using orange PowerBait.

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

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

McGaffey Lake: Due to extremely low water levels and unstable ground conditions, stocking efforts have been suspended. Lake conditions will be monitored, and stockings will resume once conditions improve.

Navajo Lake: Fishing for bass was good when using Ned Rigs, buzz baits and green watermelon tubes. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using crankbaits and jerkbaits up the San Juan arm of the lake. Fishing for kokanee salmon was good when using pink and orange spinners tipped with corn.

Rio Grande: Fishing for catfish was good when using worms and chicken liver near Albuquerque.

San Gregorio Lake: Fishing for trout was slow using PowerBait.

San Juan River: Streamflow Monday morning was 503 cfs. The Bureau of Reclamation has scheduled an increase in the release from Navajo Dam from 600 cfs to 700 cfs on Tuesday, July 13. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using ant pattern flies, annelid flies, RS2s, leech pattern flies and midge flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was good when using worms and spinners.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using orange glitter PowerBait and garlic rainbow glitter PowerBait.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using hotdogs and shrimp.

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

Southwest Fishing Report

Alumni Pond: Fishing for catfish was good when using cut carp, dough bait and live worms.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawlers.

Bill Evans Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for white bass was good when using live minnows and small crankbaits. Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using curly tail grubs, bottom bouncers with nightcrawler harness rigs and crankbaits. Fishing for catfish was good when using cut bait and nightcrawlers.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for white bass was good when using white, cream, maroon and light brown plastic worms. Fishing for largemouth bass was fair to good when using 5-inch light brown plastic worms, orange and gold shallow diving crankbaits and blue and silver jointed minnow Rapala lures. Fishing for walleye was good when using chrome crankbaits, chartreuse curly tail grubs tipped with worm, orange and green spoons and bottom bouncers with nightcrawler harness rigs. Fishing for crappie was fair when using live minnows and live worms. Fishing for catfish was good when using shad and stink bait.

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

Gila River: Streamflow Monday morning was 45.5 cfs. Fishing for catfish was good when using cut bait.

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for catfish was fair when using worms.

Percha Dam: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using yellow PowerBait.

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Monday morning was 663 cfs. Fishing for catfish near Las Cruces was fair to good when using cut bait. Fishing for catfish near Caballo Lake was fair to good when using raw chicken and worms.

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

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

Young Pond: Fishing for all species was slow.

Southeast Fishing Report

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using worms and yellow cheese PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawlers.

Bataan Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using hotdogs.

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was unavailable.

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 fair when using green soft plastic worms.

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

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

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Corona Pond: Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawlers and PowerBait.

Eunice Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait.

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using worms and hotdogs at night.

Greene Acres Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.



Alan Fiala of Ruidoso caught a 31-inch, 15-pound catfish using a nightcrawler worm July 8 at Alto Lake.

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using corn PowerBait and ant imitation flies.

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

Lake Van: Fishing for catfish was good when using chicken liver, nightcrawlers and stink bait.

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

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was .36 cfs.

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

Ruidoso River: Streamflow Monday morning at Hollywood was 2.53 cfs.

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for crappie was good when using small green jigs and live minnows. Fishing for walleye was good when using chartreuse curly tail grubs and live minnows.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using hotdogs.

Tips and Tricks – Just a little bread and a trout hook

A few years ago, I was camped at Elephant Butte Lake with some friends. We had mostly watersport toys, but I also had brought a small tackle box and a couple basic spin casting fishing rods.

One morning, we were eating Hawaiian Rolls with our breakfast on the edge of the lake. I figured I would see if the fish liked Hawaiian Rolls as much as we did. I grabbed a fishing rod, tied a ½-ounce weight to the end of the line and tied a small trout Eagle Claw hook with a pre-rigged leader about 2 feet above the weight. I put a small piece of Hawaiian Roll onto the hook and squeezed and rolled the bread with my fingers until I had a little dough ball covering the hook.

I cast my line into the water, and it was only a truly short time before I had a hard fighting fish pulling on the end of my line. I landed the fish after an impressive fight. It was a carp, an underrated New Mexico local “draft horse” of a fighting fish! We proceeded to catch several more as we shared the fishing rod and laughed about what a good time we were having fishing with some bread that was initially meant for our own consumption. We also caught an occasional catfish during that morning.

It is such a simple and enjoyable way to fish that anyone, including the absolute beginner, can have figured out in short order. Carp are in many New Mexico lakes, so give it a try with friends or kids and have a blast fishing our grand state!

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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