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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](#)

[Get your New Mexico fishing license](#)

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

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.



The Department has also developed an interactive Fishing Waters Map with a wealth of information on fishing locations in New Mexico. It displays hundreds of fishing access points with information of fish species available, facilities, accessibility, boat ramps and general regulations.

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



Take the Bass and Trout Challenges!

To promote 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](#). Who knows, you could catch a [New Mexico Record Fish](#).



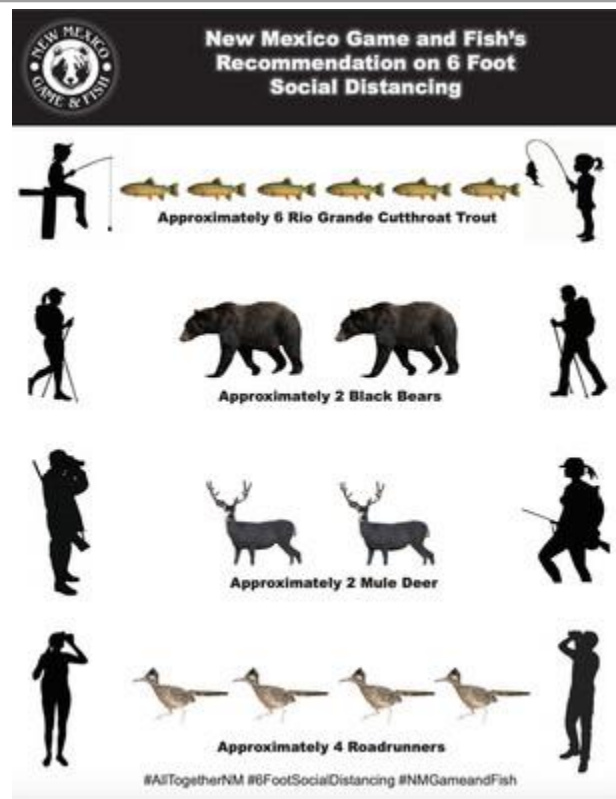
Catch all the challenge species that are found throughout New Mexico or a New Mexico State Record Fish and receive a certificate and challenge coin for your accomplishment!

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

Cochiti Lake: Kaleb Campbell of Albuquerque caught a 35-inch pike using a crankbait lure Feb. 13.

Gila River: Esteban Molina of Bayard caught a 20-inch, 3-pound Gila trout using a black copper john fly Feb. 12.

Grindstone Reservoir: Erik Garcia of Austin, Texas, and Jason Quintana of El Paso, Texas, caught their limits of rainbow trout using salmon eggs Feb. 18.

Lake Van: Jaiden Torrez, age 10, and Emma Torrez, age 8, of Roswell caught a limit of trout together using peach PowerBait Feb. 13.

Red River: Pearl Yeager of Des Montes caught a 19-inch rainbow trout using a spinner Feb. 19.

Storrie Lake: Ezekiel Lucero Jaramillo, age 6, of Las Vegas caught 16.5-inch, 14-inch and two 13-inch trout using garlic glitter PowerBait Feb. 20.

Tingley Beach: Aaliyah Gallegos of Santa Fe caught a 16-inch, 2-pound rainbow trout using PowerBait Feb. 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.



Jaiden Torrez, age 10, and Emma Torrez, age 8, of Roswell caught a limit of trout together using peach PowerBait Feb. 13 at Lake Van.

Northeast Fishing Report

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

Charette Lakes: Closed for the season. The lakes will reopen in March.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was not measured due to ice.

Clayton Lake: Closed for the season. The lake will reopen in March.

Conchas Lake: Winter season hours - open for day-use access only Thursday-Sunday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For updated lake conditions [visit the park's webpage](#) or call the park office at (575) 868-2270.

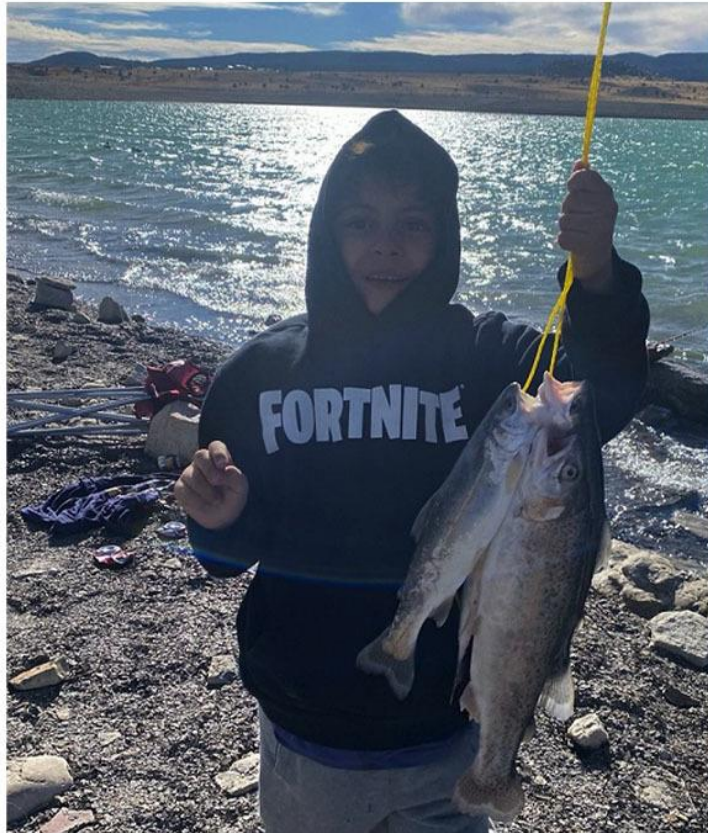
Costilla Creek: The Department has implemented the final phase of a project to expand Rio Grande cutthroat trout in 120 miles of the Costilla watershed in northern New Mexico. The final phase involved removal of fish within a designated area (Rio Costilla from Costilla Dam downstream to the Valle Vidal 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 this spring. 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. 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: Ice fishing for trout was slow to fair when using PowerBait, tungsten ice jigs, Swedish Pimple lures tipped with worm and pink Trout Magnet lures. Ice fishing for perch was fair when using tungsten ice jigs, Swedish Pimple lures tipped with worm, PowerBait and Trout Magnet lures. For updated lake conditions [visit the park's webpage](#) or call the park office at (575) 377-1594.

Eagle Rock Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using pink PowerBait and small jigs tipped with worm.



Ezekiel Lucero Jaramillo, age 6, of Las Vegas caught 16.5-inch, 14-inch and two 13-inch trout using garlic glitter PowerBait Feb. 20 at Storrie Lake.

Gallinas River: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Hopewell Lake: Anglers reported the lake was frozen and the entrance gates are locked until spring. Ice fishing for trout was very good when using orange PowerBait and nightcrawler worms.

Lake Alice: Temporarily closed due to recent weather conditions and ice forming on the lake. State Park officials have deemed the lake unsafe at this time. For updated lake conditions [visit the park's webpage](#) or call the park office at (575) 445-5607.

Lake Maloya: Open for ice fishing at your own risk. Ice can be inconsistent, so please use caution when venturing out onto the ice. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using pink PowerBait, meal worms and wax worms on jigs, corn, silver-and-blue spoons and salmon eggs. For updated lake conditions [visit the park's webpage](#) or call the park office at (575) 445-5607.

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

Maxwell Lake 13: Closed for the season. The lake will reopen in March.

Monastery Lake: The lake remains under a current winter closure.

Morphy Lake: Closed for the season. The lake will reopen in March.

Pecos River: Streamflow near the town of Pecos Monday morning was not measured due to ice. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using pheasant tail nymph flies.

Red River: Streamflow below the hatchery Monday morning was 37.5 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was fair to good when using spinners and zebra midge flies.

Rio Grande: Streamflow at the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 411 cfs. Fishing for trout near Pilar was slow but fishing for trout further upstream was good when using small nymph and midge flies.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow Monday morning near Valdez was not measured due to ice.

Rio Mora: Streamflow Monday morning near Tererro was not measured due to ice.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was not measured due to ice.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Shuree Ponds: Closed for the season. The ponds will reopen in July.

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

Storrie Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using garlic glitter PowerBait.

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

Ute Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when using blade baits jugged on gravel points in 20 to 25 feet of water. The main lake water surface temperature was in the low 40-degrees Fahrenheit and the water clarity was clear. Click to edit this placeholder text.

Northwest Fishing Report

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

Animas River: Waterflow below Aztec Monday morning was 190 cfs.

Albuquerque Area Drains: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using orange PowerBait and homemade dough bait.

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

Brazos River: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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



Kaleb Campbell of Albuquerque caught a 35-inch pike using a crankbait lure Feb. 13 at Cochiti Lake.

Chama River: Monday-morning flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 97.3 cfs and 61.9 cfs, respectively. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was fair when using nightcrawler worms and spinners. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was fair when using beadhead nymph flies. Please remember, from the river-crossing bridge on U.S. Highway 84 at Abiquiu upstream 7 miles to the base of Abiquiu Dam is special trout waters with a bag limit of two trout only.

Cochiti Lake: Fishing for pike was good when using crankbait lures.

El Vado Lake: Closed to ice fishing due to thin ice covering the lake.

Fenton Lake: There was no fishing due to thin ice covering the lake. Please remember, only two cutthroat trout are allowed to be harvested per day within the regular five-fish limit.

Heron Lake: Open to ice fishing, anglers are advised to use caution due to inconsistent ice conditions. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using ice fishing jigs, spoons and salmon eggs.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow on the Jemez near the town of Jemez Monday morning was 20.8 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using worms and salmon eggs downstream from Battleship Rock.

Laguna del Campo: Closed for the season. The lake will reopen in May.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Rio Grande: We had no reports from anglers this week.

San Gregorio Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

San Juan River: Streamflow Monday morning was 343 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using bunny leech flies, red annelid flies and zebra midge pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair to good when using spinners and spoons.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Parking is limited and 4-wheel drive vehicles are recommended due to snow.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for trout was good when using garlic PowerBait and chartreuse PowerBait.

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

Southwest Fishing Report

Alumni Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using marshmallows.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for trout was slow.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using pink PowerBait. Fishing for bass was fair when using small jigs.

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

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut gizzard shad bait and live bait. Fishing for white bass was slow to fair when using live bait. Fishing for



Esteban Molina of Bayard caught a 20-inch, 3-pound Gila trout using a black copper john fly Feb. 12 on the Gila River.

largemouth bass was fair when using Senko worms.

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

Gila River: Streamflow Monday morning was 57.3 cfs. Fishing for Gila trout was good when using black copper john flies.

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was slow.

Percha Dam: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using yellow and orange PowerBait.

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

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Monday morning was 0.10 cfs.

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

Trees Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using pink and chartreuse garlic PowerBait.

Young Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using corn PowerBait, nymph PowerBait, cheese PowerBait and lime green PowerBait.

Southeast Fishing Report

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

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

Berrendo Creek: Please visit the [Open Gate webpage](#) for more information on [this property](#).

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 3.97 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using salmon peach PowerBait near Higby Hole.

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



Erik Garcia of Austin, Texas, and Jason Quintana of El Paso, Texas, caught their limits of rainbow trout using salmon eggs Feb. 18 at Grindstone Reservoir.

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 later this year.

Bosque Redondo Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Bottomless Lakes: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using yellow PowerBait.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon peach PowerBait.

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

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs and salmon peach PowerBait.

Jal Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using floating PowerBait.

Lake Van: Fishing for trout was good when using peach PowerBait.

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

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 89.9 cfs.

Perch Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Kastmaster lures and peach PowerBait.

Ruidoso River: Streamflow Monday morning at Hollywood was 4.31 cfs.

Santa Rosa Lake: The lake is open to boating, but due to low lake levels, Santa Rosa Lake State Park will operate as a no-wake lake until conditions improve. Fishing for all species was slow.

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

Tips and Tricks – Homemade Dough Bait Works!

A couple of weeks ago I made a homemade dough bait for trout fishing using tuna, garlic powder and hamburger bun. To test my bait, I made a new friend named Andres Martinez. I met Andres at a local pond that is stocked with trout by the Game and Fish Department during the winter. Andres was willing to test my dough bait and after just a few minutes he had a bite! In a half-hour or so, he had multiple bites and caught a nice 13-inch rainbow trout.

After the initial homemade dough bait Tips and Tricks was posted to social media, a fellow angler shared his version of homemade dough bait using tuna, garlic salt and Bisquick.



Andres Martinez with a rainbow trout he caught using homemade dough bait.

Using ½ can of tuna, 1 teaspoon garlic salt and ¾ cup Bisquick I kneaded all the ingredients together by hand until I had a nice well-mixed dough ball. (I used about half of the water in the tuna can.)

My first impression is that the dough ball might be a better consistency for holding onto a hook. Secondly, switching garlic salt in place of garlic powder makes sense because other commercially produced baits often use salt.

I'll report back on its success! Any anglers interested in sharing, testing or creating new baits please feel free to contact me.

Let us know how your fishing trip goes! 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!



Homemade bait can be made using a combination of canned tuna, garlic salt and Bisquick.



This dough ball was made using 1/2 can of tuna, including half the water in the can; 1 teaspoon of garlic salt and 3/4 cup of Bisquick.



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