



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](#)

[\(Valid April 1 to March 31; 2022-2023 licenses are on sale now\)](#)



[2022-23 Fishing RIBs Available Online!](#)

The 2022-2023 Fishing Rules and Information Booklets (RIBs) are now available online-only for download and use. [English](#) and [Spanish](#) PDF versions are available. In addition to the full RIBs, a one-page summary of "What's New and Important" can also be downloaded in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

[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!

Land Management Agency Links

The Department reminds anglers to “know before you go” and to contact land management agencies regarding additional regulations or restrictions on specific properties of interest prior to heading afield.

- [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

Berrendo Creek: Valerie Wyatt of Roswell simultaneously caught two bass using a Whopper Plopper lure May 15.

Bluewater Lake: Andy Medina of Silver City caught a 40-inch tiger muskie using a trout pattern swimbait May 12. Gary L Goodyear of Keller, Texas, caught a 35-inch, 17-pound tiger muskie using a small green gizzard shad Rapala crankbait May 2.

Charette Lakes: Stephanie Vallejos of Watrous caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using garlic PowerBait May 6.

Clayton Lake: Andre Garcia, age 13, of Clovis caught a 17-inch rainbow trout using PowerBait May 15.

Eagle Nest Lake: Reylene Garcia of Albuquerque caught a 24-inch rainbow trout using the combination of pink PowerBait and salmon eggs May 7.

Fenton Lake: Hunter Keelin, age 12, of Albuquerque caught his limit of trout using salmon peach PowerBait and salmon eggs May 13.

Green Meadow Lake: Terri Keele of Hobbs caught a 22.5-inch, 5.25-pound catfish using green worms with bass attractant spray May 9.

Laguna del Campo: Buddy Whitlock of Albuquerque caught a 23-inch rainbow trout using PowerBait May 10.

Liam Knight Pond: Malisa Souriyanyong of Albuquerque caught an 18-inch catfish using a hotdog May 9.

Rio Grande: William Schroeder of Las Cruces caught a 12-pound flathead catfish using red worms near the town of Hatch May 2.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Mackenzie Robertson, age 10, of Lamy caught two 20-inch, 4-pound rainbow trout using green PowerBait May 14.

Tingley Beach: Clarence Padilla of Albuquerque caught and released a 2.37-pound largemouth bass using a black spinnerbait with a green grub as the trailer May 13. Luis Lopez of Albuquerque caught an 18-inch catfish using chicken liver May 11. Gavyn Miller, age 7, of



Malisa Souriyanyong of Albuquerque caught an 18-inch catfish using a hotdog May 9 at Liam Knight Pond.

Albuquerque caught a 17-inch catfish using worms May 9. Luka Miller, age 3, of Albuquerque caught an 18-inch catfish using shrimp May 9.

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 garlic PowerBait and salmon peach PowerBait.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 20.7 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using chartreuse and salmon peach PowerBait. Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using chartreuse curly tail grubs and crankbaits.

Conchas Lake: Fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass was fair to good when using soft plastic worms and curly tail grubs. Fishing for walleye was fair when using green curly tail grubs and orange Rat-L-Trap crankbaits. Fishing for white bass was good when using white curly tail grubs and Rat-L-Trap crankbaits. Fishing for crappie was good when using small curly tail jigs and live minnows on jig heads.



Andre Garcia, age 13, of Clovis caught a 17-inch rainbow trout using PowerBait May 15 at Clayton Lake.

Costilla Creek: The Department is implementing 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 involves the 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 2023. 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: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Santa Fe National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300.

Coyote Creek: Coyote Creek State Park is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (575) 387-2328.

Eagle Nest Lake: The lake is closed to boating for water resource firefighting activities. However, fishing from the shore is open. Fishing for rainbow trout was fair to good when using pink PowerBait and salmon eggs. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (575) 377-1594.

Eagle Rock Lake: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Carson National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200.

Gallinas River: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Santa Fe National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300.

Hopewell Lake: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Carson National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200.

Lake Alice: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using corn.

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using lime green and rainbow-colored PowerBait.

Los Pinos River: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Santa Fe National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300.

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

Monastery Lake: The lake is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information, [visit the Open Gate webpage](#).

Morphy Lake: Morphy Lake State Park is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (575) 387-2328.

Pecos River: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Santa Fe National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns, as is the Pecos Canyon State Park. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the

Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300. For more information on the Pecos Canyon State Park closure, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (505) 670-8196.

Red River: Streamflow below the hatchery Monday morning was 97.9 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow when using San Juan worms and large, heavy nymph flies. The water levels were high, and the river was muddy. All U.S. Forest Service land in the Santa Fe National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the closure, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300.

Rio Grande: Streamflow at the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 685 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow. Fishing for pike was fair when using chartreuse Panther Martin spinners near Pilar. The water levels were high, and the river was muddy. All U.S. Forest Service land in the Carson and Santa Fe National Forests district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, visit the [Carson National Forest](#) or [Santa Fe National Forest](#). You can also call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200 or the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow Monday morning near Valdez was 60.9 cfs. All U.S. Forest Service land in the Carson National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200.

Rio Mora: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Santa Fe National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns, as is the Pecos Canyon State Park. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300. For more information on the Pecos Canyon State Park closure, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (505) 670-8196.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 29.0 cfs. All U.S. Forest Service land in the Carson National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using small Rapala crankbaits and garlic PowerBait.

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

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

Storrie Lake: The boat ramp and lake access to all motorized vessels is closed. Forest fires in the area are likely to impact the lake. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (505) 425-7278.

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

Ute Lake: Fishing for walleye was good when using bottom bouncers with nightcrawler worm harnesses and Gulp minnows rigged on jig heads. Fishing for white bass was fair when trolling various crankbaits that dive 8 to 10 feet deep. Fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass was good when using spinnerbaits, chatterbaits and wacky rigged worms on shallow main lake gravel points. Fishing for crappie was very good when using live minnows, small jigs and Road Runner lures. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using chicken liver and punch bait. The

main lake water surface temperature was in the mid to upper 60-degrees Fahrenheit, and the water clarity was stained.

Northwest Fishing Report

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

Animas River: Waterflow below Aztec Monday morning was 2,870 cfs.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for tiger muskie was fair to good when using small gizzard shad Rapala crankbaits and large swimbaits.

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

Canjilon Lakes: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Carson National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200.

Chama River: Monday-morning flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 856 cfs and 616 cfs, respectively. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was fair to good when using Rapala lures. 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. All U.S. Forest Service land in the Carson and Santa Fe National Forests district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, visit the [Carson National Forest](#) or [Santa Fe National Forest](#). You can also call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200 or the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300.

Cochiti Lake: Due to the Cerro Pelado Fire, Cochiti Lake is closed for fishing and recreation. For more information, visit the [US Army Corps of Engineers website](#).

El Vado Lake: El Vado Lake can be accessed at Hargroves Day Use Area off State Road 322 and the Main Park area off State Road 112. The Rio Chama River can be accessed at the North El Vado Day Use area on SR 95, 10 miles west of U.S. Highway 84. Lake levels are steady but expected to drop as crews work on the El Vado Dam. The Dam Day Use Area is closed due to



Mackenzie Robertson, age 10, of Lamy caught two 20-inch, 4-pound rainbow trout using green Power-Bait May 14 at Seven Springs Brood Pond.

the ongoing construction. State Road 112 over the dam will experience periodic closures. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (575) 588-7247.

Fenton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon peach PowerBait and salmon eggs. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (575) 829-3630.

Heron Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (575) 588-7470.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow on the Jemez River near the town of Jemez Monday morning was 48.4 cfs. All U.S. Forest Service land in the Santa Fe National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300.

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

Lagunitas Lakes: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Carson National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200.

Lake Farmington: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using cheese PowerBait.

McGaffey Lake: Stocking efforts have been suspended due to extremely low water levels and unstable ground conditions. Lake conditions will be monitored and stockings will resume once conditions improve. All U.S. Forest Service land in the Cibola National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Cibola National Forest webpage](#) or call the Cibola National Forest office at (505) 346-3900.

Navajo Lake: Fishing for pike was fair when using streamer flies up the San Juan arm of the lake. Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using trout pattern lures. Fishing for smallmouth bass was slow when using crankbaits and skirt jigs.

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

Riverside Park Pond (Aztec Pond #1): Fishing for trout was fair to good when using PowerBait.

San Gregorio Lake: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Santa Fe National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300.

San Juan River: Streamflow Monday morning was 289 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using leech pattern flies, Baetis and midge pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was good when using nightcrawler worms.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using green PowerBait.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using black spinnerbaits. Fishing for catfish was good when using chicken liver, nightcrawler worms and shrimp.

Trout Lakes: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Carson National Forest Service district is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200.

Southwest Fishing Report

Alumni Pond: Fishing for catfish was slow to fair when using dough bait.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was slow to fair when using dough bait and worms.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for bass was slow to fair when using 5-inch maroon plastic worms.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for crappie was fair to good when using live minnows and small jigs. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using crankbaits. Fishing for walleye was fair when using live minnows on jig heads.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using cut gizzard shad bait. Fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass was good when using chartreuse crankbaits, jigs and soft plastic lures. Fishing for white bass was good when using Clouser minnow flies, white Bombers, jointed Rapalas and Rat-L-Trap lures. Fishing for crappie was good when using small jigs and live minnows. Fishing for walleye was good when using garlic nightcrawler worms and curly tail grubs.

Escondida Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms and cut bait.

Gila River: Streamflow Monday morning was 29.9 cfs.

Glenwood Pond: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using orange Trout Magnet lures.



William Schroeder of Las Cruces caught a 12-pound flathead catfish using red worms May 2 on the Rio Grande near the town of Hatch.

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was good when using spinners with gold blades and PowerBait fished deep. Fishing for catfish was good when using blood dough bait and worms.

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

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using silver Panther Martin spinners.

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Monday morning was 693 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using red worms and cut bait near the town of Hatch.

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

Trees Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using worms, PowerBait and shrimp. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using maroon plastic worms rigged with a small spinner in front.

Young Pond: Fishing for all species was slow.

Southeast Fishing Report

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms.

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

Berrendo Creek: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using Whopper Plopper lures. Please visit the [Open Gate webpage](#) for more information on [this property](#).

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 7.37 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 later this year.

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



Terri Keele of Hobbs caught a 22.5-inch, 5.25-pound catfish using green worms with bass attractant spray May 9 at Green Meadow Lake.

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

Brantley Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when using red crankbaits. Fishing for white bass was good when using red crankbaits.

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

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 catfish was good when using green worms with bass attractant spray.

Greene Acres Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait.

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was fair when using salmon peach PowerBait.

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

Kids' Pond at Santa Rosa Fish Hatchery: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait.

Lake Van: Fishing for catfish was fair when using shrimp.

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

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 110 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using worms.

Perch Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using green jigs.

Ruidoso River: Streamflow Monday morning at Hollywood was 3.67 cfs.

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when using live minnows and Neg rigs. Fishing for bass was fair when using crawdad pattern lures. Fishing for crappie was slow to fair when using live minnows.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using green Senko worms. Fishing for walleye was fair when using nightcrawler worms and green plastic worms. Fishing for catfish was good when using hotdogs and worms.

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

Tips and Tricks –The Difference Between Stripers and White Bass

For the past couple of years, the Department has stocked fingerling striper in Elephant Butte Lake. Stripers can grow to be over 20-pounds and provide excellent sport fishing opportunities. Right now, these fish are about 9 to 18-inches long. Stripers are often mistaken for white bass that grow to an adult length of about 16-inches. Avoiding misidentification and releasing stripers allows them to continue growing. When determining if your catch is a striper or white bass, here is what to look for.

Juvenile stripers have a slenderer shape in comparison to common white bass. Stripers have solid dark horizontal lines all the way to their tails, while white bass have some faint dark lines that are not continuous from head to tail.



Stripers have solid dark horizontal lines all the way to their tails. Juvenile stripers have a more slender shape than white bass.

If you are catching white bass and happen to catch a skinnier fish with darker lines, maybe consider releasing it. There is a good chance that it is a baby striper with the potential to grow more.

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!



White bass have faint dark horizontal lines that are not continuous from head to tail.

