



This fishing report, provided by Dustin Berg of [www.gounlimited.org](http://www.gounlimited.org) (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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[\(Valid April 1 to March 31; 2022-2023 licenses are on sale now\)](#)



### 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 past 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!](#)

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## 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!

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## 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.

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## Catches of the week

**Bluewater Lake:** Nicolas Martinez of Albuquerque caught an 18-pound tiger muskie using a black, red and gold Rat-L-Trap lure Sept. 18.

**Caballo Lake:** Jace Cde Baca, age 8, of Rio Rancho caught a 9-pound, 11-ounce catfish using gizzard shad cut bait Sept. 10. Toby McBride of Duncan, Arizona, caught a 15-pound catfish using gizzard shad Sept. 10.

**Elephant Butte Lake:** Frank Rittel and Brian Rittel of El Paso, Texas, caught six crappie, two catfish and a walleye using grubs and worms Sept. 10.



**Erik Donoghue of Tijeras caught a 28-inch rainbow trout using an olive leech pattern fly Sept. 10 at Trout Lakes.**

**Fenton Lake:** Wanetta Ferguson of Mayhill caught a 20-inch rainbow trout using a Pistol Pete spinner fly Sept. 8.

**Hopewell Lake:** Richard Baldonado of Alex, Oklahoma, caught a 19-inch, 2.5-pound rainbow trout using a ginger fly Sept. 14.

**Pecos River:** Norman Martinez of Taos caught a 24-inch brown trout using a 3-inch brown trout pattern Rapala lure Sept. 12.

**Seven Springs Brood Pond:** Quinn Fetman, age 7, of Albuquerque caught his first rainbow trout using a chartreuse split tail soft plastic bait on a gold jighead Sept. 17.

**Trout Lakes:** Erik Donoghue of Tijeras caught a 28-inch rainbow trout using an olive leech pattern fly Sept. 10.

**Ute Lake:** Joey Muniz of Santa Rosa caught an 18-inch, 3-pound, 7-ounce smallmouth bass using a Bomber Plug Sept. 17.

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](mailto: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.

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## Northeast Fishing Report

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

**Charette Lakes:** Fishing for trout was good when using corn and salmon peach PowerBait.

**Cimarron River:** Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 36 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was good when using spinners and prince nymph flies.

**Clayton Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms.

**Conchas Lake:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**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). Tentative stocking of Rio Grande cutthroat trout is set for spring 2023.



**Norman Martinez of Taos caught a 24-inch brown trout using a 3-inch brown trout pattern Rapala lure Sept. 12 on the Pecos River.**

**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 rainbow trout was good when using chartreuse PowerBait, Pistol Pete spinner flies and nightcrawler worms.

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

**Gallinas River:** National forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300 for the latest closure information.

**Hopewell Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using ginger flies and green Pistol Pete spinner flies with a water-filled bobber.

**Lake Alice:** Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms.

**Lake Maloya:** Fishing for trout was good when using garlic PowerBait and homemade dough bait.

**Los Pinos River:** Fishing for trout was fair when using Panther Martin spinners and nymph flies.

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

**Monastery Lake:** The lake will reopen to the public Thursday, Sept. 22. For more information about this property, [visit the Open Gate webpage](#).

**Morphy Lake:** State park closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit Morphy Lake State Park's webpage](#) or call (575) 387-2328 for the latest closure information.

**Pecos River:** Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was 63 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using 3-inch brown trout patter Rapala lures, copper beadhead flies and worms.

**Red River:** Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery Monday morning was 57 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using salmon eggs and beadhead nymph flies.

**Rio Grande:** Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 316 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair when using San Juan worm flies, crane flies and prince nymph flies.

**Rio Hondo:** Streamflow near Valdez Monday morning was 26 cfs.

**Rio Mora:** Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 32 cfs.

**Rio Pueblo:** Streamflow near Penasco Monday morning was 17 cfs.

**Santa Cruz Reservoir:** Fishing for trout was good when using chartreuse PowerBait.

**Shuree Ponds:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using caddis dry flies and beadhead nymph flies.

**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 walleye was slow to fair when using Gulp minnows. Fishing for white bass was fair when using slab spoons and blade baits in 20-35 feet of water. Fishing for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass was fair when using Bomber Plug lures, Berkley MaxScent Hit Worms, 4-inch Berkley MaxScent Generals and Whopper Plopper topwater lures. Fishing for crappie was slow. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms. The main lake water surface temperature was in the mid 70 F range and the water clarity was clear.

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## Northwest Fishing Report

**Abiquiu Lake:** Fishing for smallmouth bass was and catfish has been slow to fair when using live worms.

**Animas River:** Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 171 cfs.

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

**Bluewater Lake:** Fishing for tiger muskie was fair to good when using Rat-L-Trap lures and homemade streamer flies.

**Brazos River:** Fishing for trout was good when using hopper dry flies and black and gold Panther Martin spinners.

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

**Cochiti Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver and cut bait.

**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 can be accessed at the North El Vado Day Use Area on State Road 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 the ongoing construction. State Road 112 over the dam will experience periodic closures. For more information, [visit El Vado Lake State Park's webpage](#) or call (575) 588-7247.

**Fenton Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies and Woolly Bugger flies.

**Grants Riverwalk Pond:** The pond has dried up due to pump failure. The city is planning to repair the pumps but is taking this opportunity to dredge the pond. They expect the pond to be offline for at least two to three months. Fish stockings will be discontinued until all work is done.

**Heron Lake:** We had no reports from anglers this week.



**Quinn Fetman, age 7, of Albuquerque caught his first rainbow trout Sept. 17 at Seven Springs Brood Pond.**

**Jemez Waters:** Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 19 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using mop flies and worms.

**Laguna del Campo:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

**Lake Farmington:** Fishing for bass was fair when using plastic worms.

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

**Navajo Lake:** Fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass was fair when using Ned Rigs. Fishing for pike was slow to fair when using jerkbaits. Fishing for kokanee salmon was slow.

**Rio Chama:** Streamflow below El Vado Lake and below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 617 cfs and 87 cfs, respectively. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was fair when using orange PowerBait and worms. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was fair when using worms and PowerBait. 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.

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

**Riverside Park Pond (Aztec Pond #1):** We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

**San Juan River:** Streamflow near Archuleta Monday morning was 650 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was fair to good when using bunny leech flies, San Juan worm flies and midge emerger flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair to good when using spinners and worms.

**Seven Springs Brood Pond:** Fishing for trout was good when using chartreuse split tail soft plastic baits on a gold jighead.

**Tiger Park Reservoir:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Tingley Beach:** Fishing for catfish was slow when using hotdogs.

**Trout Lakes:** Fishing for trout was good when using olive leech pattern flies.

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## Southwest Fishing Report

**Alumni Pond:** Fishing for bass was fair when using jointed swimbaits and flies. Fishing for catfish was slow when using worms.

**Bear Canyon Lake:** Fishing for all species was slow.

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

**Caballo Lake:** Fishing for crappie was fair when using live white grubs. Fishing for bass was slow to fair when using crankbaits. Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using small, red, deep-diving crankbaits. Fishing for white bass was fair when using small crankbaits. Fishing for catfish was good when using gizzard shad cut bait.

**Elephant Butte Lake:** Fishing for catfish was good when using cut bait and worms. Fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass was fair when using topwater flies and shad-pattern crankbaits.

Fishing for white bass was good when using chartreuse curly tail grubs. Fishing for crappie was fair when using grubs and worms. Fishing for walleye was slow to fair when using grubs and worms.

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

**Gila River:** Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 34 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 to good when using nightcrawler worms.

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

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

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



**Jace Cde Baca, age 8, of Rio Rancho caught a 9-pound, 11-ounce catfish using gizzard shad cut bait Sept. 10 at Caballo Lake.**



**Rio Grande:** Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam Monday morning was 0 cfs. **Snow Lake:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Trees Lake:** Fishing for bass was fair when using nightcrawler worms.

**Young Pond:** Fishing for all species was slow.

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## Southeast Fishing Report

**Alto Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair when using peach PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair when using live worms. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using live worms.

**Bataan Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair when using shrimp, worms and chicken liver.

**Berrendo Creek:** We had no reports from anglers this week. Please visit the [Open Gate webpage](#) for more information on [this property](#).

**Black River:** Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 5 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.

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

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

**Brantley Lake:** Fishing for longnose gar was fair when using cut bait. Fishing for catfish was fair when using cut bait.

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

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

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

**Eunice Lake:** Fishing for largemouth bass was good when using blue and silver Roostertail spinners.



**Fishing for largemouth bass was good when using 3-inch paddle-tail swimbaits in the Pecos River in southeast New Mexico.**

**Green Meadow Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair when using hot dogs.

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

**Grindstone Reservoir:** Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms.

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

**Lake Van:** Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms and shrimp.

**Oasis Park Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms.

**Pecos River:** Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 99 cfs. Fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass was good when using 3-inch paddle-tail swimbaits.

**Perch Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms and stink bait.

**Rio Bonito:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Rio Ruidoso:** Streamflow at Hollywood Monday morning was 6 cfs.

**Rock Lake Hatchery Kids' Pond:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Santa Rosa Lake:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

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

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## **Tips and Tricks – Fried trout nugget recipe**

**By Rome and Arleen Anaya**

1. Fillet trout into 1-1.5-inch-wide nuggets and place fish nuggets into a large mixing bowl.
2. In a separate mixing bowl, mix enough cornmeal to fully coat all the fish nuggets. Mix salt and pepper to taste into the cornmeal.
3. In a third mixing bowl stir a few raw eggs into a consistent blend.
4. Dip the trout nuggets in the mixed eggs.
5. After the trout nuggets have been thoroughly dipped into the mixed egg, dip them into the mixed cornmeal until they are completely covered in a cornmeal crust.
6. Pan fry using regular cooking oil until nuggets turn golden brown.
7. Serve with lemon.



**These fried trout nuggets go well with a homemade dip of mayonnaise, mustard and lemon juice.**

\* For added flavor, make a homemade dip consisting of one part mustard and three parts mayonnaise with a splash of lemon juice.

Let us know how your fishing trip goes! Share your tips and tricks with your fellow anglers by emailing us at [funfishingnm@gmail.com](mailto: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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