

This fishing report, provided by Dustin Berg of <u>www.gounlimited.org</u> (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.

NOTE: There will be fewer reports available during the cooler seasons when fishing slows. The department will make every effort to provide as much information as possible during the winter months.

Check out the latest stocking report

<u>Get your New Mexico fishing license:</u> 2022-23 licenses are still on sale and valid until March 31. 2023-24 licenses will go on sale March 27 and will be valid after April 1.



2022-23 Fishing RIBs Available Online!

The 2022-23 Fishing Rules and Information Booklets (RIBs) are still available in print and online in English and Spanish for download.

2023-24 Fishing RIBs will be available in print and online soon!

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 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 <u>New Mexico Bass Challenge</u>, the <u>New Mexico Trout</u> <u>Challenge</u> and the <u>Master Angler Challenge</u>. Who knows, you could catch a <u>New Mexico Record Fish</u>.

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
- <u>New Mexico Open Gate Properties</u>
- <u>New Mexico Wildlife Management Areas</u>
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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

Catches of the week

Harry McAdams Park Pond: Nick Keele of Hobbs caught a 16-inch, 2.75-pound largemouth bass using a purple worm March 5.

Tingley Beach: Pete Jaramillo of Albuquerque caught a 1.65-pound rainbow trout using Joel-O Shotz red sweet-corn shrimp bait Feb. 28. Leonard Montano of Albuquerque caught a 16-inch rainbow trout using PowerBait Feb. 20.

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 <u>funfishingnm@gmail.com</u>. 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. Fish weights and measurements are provided by the angler and printed here as received.



Pete Jaramillo of Albuquerque caught a 1.65-pound rainbow trout using Joel-O-Shotz red sweet corn shrimp bait Feb. 28 at Tingley Beach.

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 not measured due to ice.

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

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

Costilla Creek: The Valle Vidal is closed to fishing until July.

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



Fishing for largemouth bass was fair when using crankbaits and spinnerbaits last week at Ute Lake.

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

Eagle Nest Lake: Ice fishing for trout was good when using salmon-peach PowerBait and green tungsten jigs. Ice fishing for perch was good when using green and yellow tungsten jigs. For updated lake conditions, visit the <u>park's webpage</u> or call the park office at 575-377-1594.

Eagle Rock Lake: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using jigs tipped with worms.

Gallinas River: National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. <u>Visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage</u> or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at 505-438-5300 for the latest closure information.

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

Lake Alice: Closed due to unsafe ice conditions.

Lake Maloya: Ice fishing for trout and perch was good when using tungsten jigs tipped with wax worms and PowerBait.

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

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

Monastery Lake: Closed to fishing due to unsafe ice conditions.

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

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

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 45 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow when using streamer flies, Woolly Bugger flies and San Juan worm flies. Fishing for trout at the hatchery was slow to fair when using egg-pattern flies and Kastmaster lures.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 577 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using PowerBait and nightcrawler worms.

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

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

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

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Gates are open Thursday-Sunday from 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

Shuree Ponds: Closed to fishing until July.

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 fair when using jigs and Powerbait MaxScent Flatnose Minnows. Fishing for white bass was fair when vertical jigging using jigging spoons and Berkley Gulp Minnows. Fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass was fair when using crankbaits and spinnerbaits. The main lake water surface temperature was in the low to mid 40 F range, and the water clarity was clear.

Northwest Fishing Report

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

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 206 cfs.

Albuquerque Area Drains: Fishing for trout was fair when using peach PowerBait.

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

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

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

Matt Steck of St. Louis caught a 24-inch rainbow trout using a leech-pattern fly Feb. 19 on the San Juan River.

Cochiti Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut carp bait in deeper water near the river channel.

El Vado Lake: Closed due to dam construction project. For more information, <u>visit El Vado Lake</u> <u>State Park's webpage</u> or call 575-588-7247.

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

Grants Riverwalk Pond: The city is in the final stages of repairs; stocking will resume soon.

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

Jemez Waters: Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 28 cfs. Fishing for trout on the lower Jemez River was fair to good when using Parachute Adams flies. Due to the rising popularity of fishing in Valles Caldera National Preserve, the National Park Service will begin charging a fee for its fishing permits starting April 1, 2023 to support the management of its fishing program. The new fee schedule will be \$20 for an annual pass (\$10 for youth 12-17) and \$5 for a 7-day pass (\$3 for youth 12-17). A State of New Mexico fishing license is also required to fish within Valles Caldera. For more information visit www.nps.gov/vall.

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

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

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

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 pike was fair when using large streamer flies and jerkbaits.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 100 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 74 cfs. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was fair when using Panther Martin spinners. 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 311 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using leech-pattern flies and orange and red beadhead annelid flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters section was good when using black-and-gold Panther Martin spinners.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Tiger Park Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using olive beadhead, streamer flies.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Joel-O Shotz red sweet-corn shrimp bait and white PowerBait eggs. Fishing for trout in the catch-and-release pond was good when using black and olive leech-pattern flies.

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

Southwest Fishing Report

Alumni Pond: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using canned corn, garlic PowerBait, Velveeta cheese, salmon-peach PowerBait and Pistol Pete spinner flies fished with a bobber.

Bear Canyon Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Bill Evans Lake: The department is conducting a boater and angler improvement project at Bill Evans Lake from February to April. Improvements include the installation of a new concrete boat ramp and dock; improvements to the existing boat ramp; the installation of rock, fishing jetties; road improvements; and re-grading the north camping access area.



Fishing for crappie was good when using small, dark-colored jigs and white curly tail jigs last week at Elephant Butte Lake.

Anglers should expect road and lake closures during construction. For current conditions, contact the department's Fisheries Management Division at 505-476-8055. Anglers are encouraged to visit surrounding lakes such as Bear Canyon Lake, Lake Roberts and Trees Lake for alternate fishing locations.

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

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for crappie was good when using small, dark-colored jigs and white curly-tail jigs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using cut bait.

Escondida Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon-peach PowerBait.

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 639 cfs.

Glenwood Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs and orange PowerBait.

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

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

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

Rancho Grande Ponds: Fishing for all species was slow.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 0 cfs.

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 fair when using canned corn, salmon-peach PowerBait and Pistol Pete spinner flies fished with a bobber.

Southeast Fishing Report

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using PowerBait and gold spinners.

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

Berrendo Creek: Please visit the <u>Open Gate webpage</u> for more information on <u>this property</u>. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using red-and-black Senko worms.

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 4 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.



Nick Keele of Hobbs caught a 16-inch, 2.75-pound largemouth bass using a purple worm March 5 at Harry McAdams Park Pond.

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: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using corn-flavored PowerBait.

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using worms fished beneath a bobber.

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

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

Harry McAdams Park Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using homemade dough bait. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using purple plastic worms and creature baits.

Lake Van: Fishing for all species was slow.

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

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 90 cfs.

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

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

Rio Ruidoso: Streamflow at Hollywood Monday morning was 30 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.

Tips and Tricks – Springtime Trout Flies

The weather the past several days has been beautiful in central New Mexico! If you are ready to venture out for some rapidly improving, fair-weather fishing, here are a few flies to try that have proven themselves successful in the early spring. When the snow starts to melt in the mountains, runoff will make our streams and rivers murky. You will notice the theme with this list of flies is bright colors for visibility, beadheads for swift water, and large buggy flies for hungry trout.

Let us know how your fishing trip goes! Share your tips and tricks with your fellow anglers by emailing us at <u>funfishingnm@gmail.com</u> and let's help the next generation of anglers find success.

Thanks for reading and supporting our angling community!



From top left to bottom; black beadhead pink perdigon,gold beadhead pink hotspot baetis, black beadhead pink body mayfly, gold beadhead orange hotspot pheasant tail, gold beadhead caddis and gold beadhead gold ribbed caddis.



