

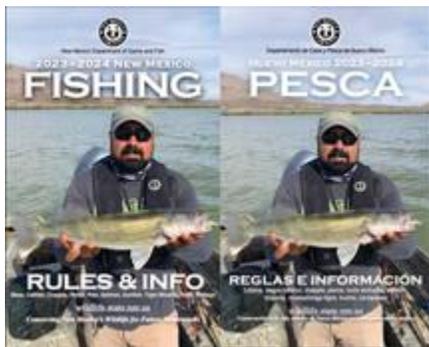


This fishing report, provided by the Department of Game and Fish in cooperation with Dustin Berg of www.gounlimited.org (supporting disabled anglers), has been generated from the best information available from anglers and area conservation officers. Conditions encountered after the report is compiled may differ, as stream, lake and weather conditions alter fish and angler activities.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! Tell us about your latest New Mexico fishing adventure or your catch of the week. 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. Fish weights and measurements are provided by the angler and printed here as received.

Catches of the week are now listed before each region's fishing report to help you quickly find the best places to fish in your area.

CHECK OUT THE LATEST STOCKING REPORT



2023-24 Fishing RIBs and Licenses Available Online!

The 2023-24 Fishing Rules and Information Booklets (RIBs) are available in print and online in [English and Spanish for download](#).

[Get your 2023-24 New Mexico fishing license!](#)

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 [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.

NORTHEAST

NORTHEAST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Conchas Lake: Greg Blea of Albuquerque (above) caught and released a 6-pound, 7-ounce largemouth bass using a topwater Spook Jr. lure on July 12.



Eagle Nest Lake: Pastor John Stephens of Albuquerque (above, left) caught a 25.25-inch, 2.46-pound rainbow trout using a nightcrawler worm on July 5. Jacob Andrade of Albuquerque (above, center) caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using Sherbet PowerBait on July 5. Alaina Sanchez, age 12, and Adrian Sanchez, age 11, of Tome (above, right) caught a 14-inch perch, a 19-inch rainbow trout and a 25-inch rainbow trout using worms on June 24.



Pecos River: Greg Trujillo of Santa Fe (above) caught a 25-inch rainbow trout using a worm on July 9.



Rio Grande: Jeremiah Herrera of Gallup (above) caught a 22.5-inch rainbow trout using a black Panther Martin spinner with red dots on July 9.

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

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

Charette Lakes: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Garlic PowerBait.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 32 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was good when using worms, hopper flies and San Juan Worm flies. Fishing for trout at Gravel Pit Lakes was slow when using PowerBait and worms.

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was slow. Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver.

Conchas Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using topwater Spook Jr. lures.

Costilla Creek: Fishing for trout was fair when using Yellow Sally flies and grasshopper dry flies.

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 trout was good when using brown Pistol Pete spinner flies, Salmon Peach PowerBait, Sherbet PowerBait and nightcrawler worms. Fishing for perch was fair when using worms. 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 good when using white Mepps spinners, salmon eggs, worms and 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 1/4-ounce, black Joe's Flies.

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

Lake Maloya: The ADA dock is open to anglers, with priority given to mobility-impaired persons.

Los Pinos River: Fishing for trout was slow when using dry flies.

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

Monastery Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using dry flies. Benedictine Monastery Lake is part of the Department's [Open Gate Program](#). Please [visit our website for more information about this property](#).

Morphy Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Garlic PowerBait and salmon eggs.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was 60 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using gold Panther Martin spinners and worms.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 72 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using dry-dropper fly setups.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 648 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using white Mepps spinners and black Panther Martin spinners with red dots.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow near Valdez Monday morning was 44 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 10 cfs.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 18 cfs.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was fair when using Brown Garlic PowerBait and worms. The lake is open from 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Thursday-Sunday.

Shuree Ponds: Opened to fishing July 1. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using black Panther Martin spinners.

Springer Lake: Fishing for catfish at night was fair to good when using chicken liver.

Storrie Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using olive leech-pattern flies, Rainbow PowerBait and Garlic PowerBait.

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

Ute Lake: Fishing for walleye was good when trolling using crankbaits that dive 8-12 feet near brushy flats. Fishing for white bass was good when using lures that run 2-3 feet deep. Fishing for bass was fair when using soft plastics and shaky-head, drop-shot rigs in 10-15 feet of water on lake points. Fishing for crappie was slow. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms and chicken liver. The main lake water surface temperature was in the mid-70 F range and the water was lightly cloudy.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Bluewater Lake: Brittany Valles of Silver City (above, left) caught a 34-inch tiger muskie using a purple Bucktail spinner on July 16. Cruz Ramirez, age 14, of Albuquerque (above, right) caught his first fish, a 41-inch tiger muskie, using Yellow PowerBait on July 12.



Brazos River: Abel Valdez of Bernalillo (above) caught a 14.5-inch brown trout using a Panther Martin spinner on July 3.



Rio Chama: Randy Sanches of Chili (above) caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using a black Woolly Bugger fly below Abiquiu Lake on July 14.



Seven Springs Brood Pond: Luna Larragoite, age 4, of Los Lunas (above) caught her first rainbow trout using nightcrawler worms on July 11.



Tingley Beach: *Kasia Wright, age 11, of Albuquerque (above) caught a bluegill using a small worm during the Foster Family and Friends Fishing Extravaganza on July 15.*

NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when using curly-tail grubs and crankbaits. Fishing for panfish was good when using live worms in the back of lake coves.

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 811 cfs.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for tiger muskie was fair to good when using Whopper Plopper lures, Yellow PowerBait, live waterdogs, purple Bucktail spinners and yellow Bucktail spinners.

Brazos River: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Panther Martin spinners.

Canjilon Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using Glitter Rainbow PowerBait, Copper John flies and Pistol Pete spinner flies.

Cochiti Lake: Fishing for pike and bass was fair to good when using chartreuse Flicker Shad lures and silver Flicker Shad lures. Fishing for catfish was fair when using shrimp.

El Vado Lake: Closed due to dam construction project. For more information, [visit El Vado Lake State Park's webpage](#) or call 575-588-7247.

Fenton Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using garlic PowerBait. For updated lake conditions, visit the [park's webpage](#) or call the park office at 575-829-3630.

Grants Riverwalk Pond: Fishing for bluegill was fair to good when using worms.

Heron Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using orange Rapala lures.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 11 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using Mayfly flies and black Parachute Adams flies.

Laguna del Campo: Fishing for trout was slow.

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

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

McGaffey Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using Rooster Tail spinners and PowerBait.

Navajo Lake: Fishing for kokanee salmon was fair to good when using pink and orange squid tipped with corn. Fishing for pike was fair when using translucent Yo-Zuri medium-depth-diving crankbaits. Fishing for bass was fair when using KVD Spinners.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 421 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 482 cfs. Fishing for trout near the town of Chama was good when using streamer flies, leech-pattern flies, pink Squirmy Wormy flies and egg-pattern flies. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was fair to good when using worms and Countdown Rapala lures. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was slow to fair when using black Woolly Bugger 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.

Rio Grande: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using chicken liver near Albuquerque.

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 509 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using size-22 chocolate foam-wing emerger flies and Crystal Flash midge-pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms.

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

Tingley Beach: Fishing for catfish was slow. Fishing for bluegill was fair when using small hooks and worms.

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

SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Elephant Butte Lake: Corey Shea of Elephant Butte (above, left) caught a 27-inch, 6-pound, 12-ounce walleye using a jig with a paddle-tail swimbait on July 9. Dawn Hearn of El Paso, Texas (above, right), caught a 26-inch walleye while trolling using a dark-green lure on July 8.

SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Alumni Pond: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cheese, beef liver, chicken liver, cut carp bait and live worms.

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

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

Caballo Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using carp cut bait.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to good when using crankbaits and bullhead minnows. Fishing for white bass was fair when using white crankbaits. Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using jigs with paddle-tail swimbaits and trolling using dark-green lures. Fishing for catfish was good when using minnows and fresh cut bait.

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

Estancia Park Lake: Fishing for bass was good when using live worms and Hopper flies.

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 21 cfs.

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was fair when using spinners.

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

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using Chartreuse PowerBait.

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 2,340 cfs. Fishing for catfish was good when using beef liver and chicken liver at Leasburg Dam.

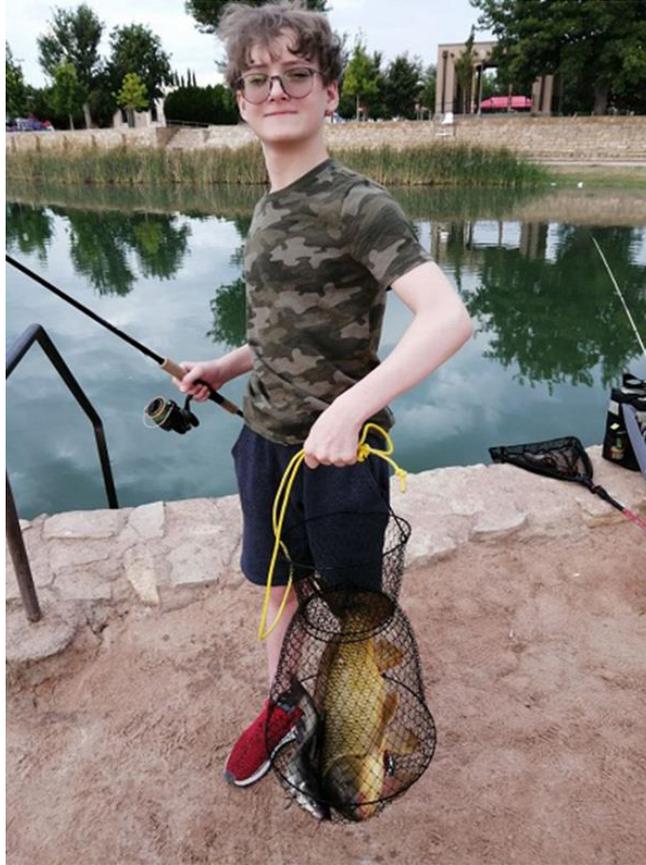
Snow Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Young Pond: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut carp bait and beef liver.

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Grindstone Reservoir: Scot Henry, age 18, of Roswell caught a 15.75-inch and 16.25-inch rainbow trout using Garlic Magic Bait on July 5.



Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Maxim Timchenko, age 12, of Carlsbad (above) caught a 26-inch, 7-pound carp using corn and a bobber on July 15.



Grindstone Reservoir: Aubry (above, left) and Luke Beluscak (above, right) of Rio Rancho caught their first fish, a 10-inch and 19-inch rainbow trout, using Pink PowerBait Eggs on July 16.



Oasis Park Lake: Joshua Beha of Portales (above) caught a 15-inch catfish using liver and cheese bait on July 14.



Pecos River: *Gavino Gutierrez Jr. and Gavino Gutierrez III of Loving (above) caught a 16-inch albino catfish using worms near Carlsbad on July 8.*

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 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. The lake is full but needs time for aquatic habitat to develop in order to sustain a healthy fish population. The city hopes to reopen the lake for recreational purposes in June 2024.

Bosque Redondo Lake: Fishing for catfish and bluegill was fair when using live crickets.

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

Brantley Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass was fair when using Whopper Plopper lures.

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Fishing for carp and catfish was fair to good when using corn and a bobber.

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 catfish was fair to good when using hot dogs and corn.

Green Meadow Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Pink PowerBait eggs and Garlic PowerBait.

Harry McAdams Park Pond: Fishing for bluegill was good when using Garlic PowerBait.

Jal Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using shrimp.

Lake Van: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using chicken liver-flavored Magic Bait.

Ned Houk Ponds: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using chicken liver and cheese bait.

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 100 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using worms near Carlsbad.

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 7 cfs.

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

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using Firecracker Moxi lures and chartreuse jigs.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

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

Tips, Tricks and Stories – Rigging a Pistol Pete or Fly to Your Casting Rod

By Storm W. Usrey

If you are new to fishing and want to try something cool and fun, consider using a clear bubble float with a Pistol Pete or fly on your next fishing adventure for trout or panfish. Always ensure your license is current and if any special restrictions apply to the area you want to fish. This is a pretty simple setup and the equipment needs are below:

- Casting rod
- Reel (can be open-bail or closed-face) with 6-10-pound test fishing line
- Size-12 barrel swivel (or similar size)
- Clear bubble float
- Spare 6-pound test line (for your leader)
- Your choice of Pistol Pete or fly

Start by ensuring your line is through all line guides of your fishing rod. Then, run the end of the fishing line through your clear bubble float. Next, using an improved clinch knot, tie one end on your barrel swivel. After this, cut about 12-18 inches of your 6-pound test fishing line, tie one end to the barrel swivel (opposite end of where you tied your main fishing line), and again use an improved clinch knot.

Look around the area and see if any visible insects resemble your flies or Pistol Pete assortment. Again, you can tie on your fly or Pistol Pete to the leader opposite the barrel swivel using an improved clinch knot. Your last step is to put water into your clear float bubble, between half to three-quarters full. Then you are ready to fish!

Depending on the regulations for the water you are fishing, take off any barbs on the hook if you are in a special water where this is required. This can be quickly done by crimping the barb with needle-nose pliers, which may take several attempts.

This setup allows anglers who do not have fly-fishing gear an easy way to try something new and fun. As you progress as an angler, you may entertain getting into fly fishing and even fly tying at a later date.



Be safe, stay ethical and have fun!

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!

