

This fishing report, provided by the Department of Game and Fish in cooperation with Dustin Berg of <a href="www.gounlimited.org">www.gounlimited.org</a> (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 <a href="mailto:funfishingnm@gmail.com">funfishingnm@gmail.com</a>. 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 <u>English and Spanish for</u> 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 <a href="New Mexico Bass Challenge">New Mexico Trout Challenge</a> and the <a href="Master Angler Challenge">Master Angler Challenge</a>. Who knows, you could catch a <a href="New Mexico Record Fish">New Mexico Record Fish</a>.



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:** Ernie Gaddis of Tijeras caught a 30-inch, 8.87-pound catfish using fresh cut bait on July 27.



**Eagle Nest Lake:** Scarlet Ludwig-Head of Santa Fe caught a 19-inch rainbow trout using a worm on July 31.

### NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

**Cabresto Lake:** Fishing for brook and cutthroat trout was good when using olive Caddis flies, orange stimulator flies and Blue Dun spinner-pattern flies.

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

**Cimarron River:** Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 25 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was good when using stimulator dry flies, Hare's Ear nymph flies, worms, black Creek Bugz and yellow salmon eggs. Fishing for trout at Gravel Pit Lakes was fair to good when using Yellow Garlic PowerBait, worms and salmon eggs.

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

Conchas Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using fresh cut bait.

**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 fair to good when using worms, Rainbow PowerBait and Salmon Peach PowerBait. Fishing for pike was good when using Rapala lures, bucktail spinners, black streamer flies and swimbaits. For updated lake conditions, visit the <u>park's</u> webpage or call the park office at 575-377-1594.

Eagle Rock Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

**Lake Maloya:** Fishing for trout from boats was good when using PowerBait, Rapala lures and Panther Martin spinners at depths of 15-20 feet. 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 worms. Benedictine Monastery Lake is part of the Department's <u>Open Gate Program</u>. Please <u>visit our website for more information about this property</u>.

**Morphy Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using Salmon Peach PowerBait and salmon eggs.

**Pecos River:** Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was 35 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using beadhead Prince nymph flies, salmon eggs and worms.

**Red River:** Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 53 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using streamer flies and dry-dropper fly setups.

**Rio Grande:** Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 338 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 27 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 6 cfs.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 9 cfs.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: The lake is open from 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Thursday-Sunday.

Shuree Ponds: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Parachute Adams dry flies.

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

Storrie Lake: Fishing for trout was slow.

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

**Ute Lake:** Fishing for walleye was slow when trolling using Wally Diver lures. Fishing for white bass was good when trolling using crankbaits. Fishing for bass was slow when using wackyrigged plastic worms. Fishing for catfish was slow. The main lake water surface temperature was in the mid-80 F range and the water was clear.

## **NORTHWEST**

#### NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



**Bluewater Lake:** James Schaerfl of El Paso, Texas, caught and released a 38-inch tiger muskie using a deep-diving shad-pattern crankbait on Aug. 5.



Cochiti Lake: Dennis and Tish Maynez of Sandia Park caught and released a 17.5-inch largemouth bass and 17.5-inch smallmouth bass using chartreuse/pearl curly-tail grubs on July 31.



**Fenton Lake:** Ryleigh Chroninger, age 9, of Holloman AFB caught her first fish, a 12-inch rainbow trout, using a nightcrawler worm on Aug. 4.



**Lake Farmington:** Tyler Thompson, age 10, of Farmington caught a 4-pound, 7-ounce smallmouth bass using a crawdad on Aug. 5.



**Liam Knight Pond:** Christian Fuentes, age 8, of Rio Rancho caught a 9-pound catfish using a bluegill on Aug. 1.



**Tingley Beach:** Jathan Le, age 6, of Albuquerque caught his first fish, a 20-inch catfish, using a beef stick on Aug. 5.

#### NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for panfish was good when using live worms in the back of lake coves.

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 242 cfs.

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

**Bluewater Lake:** Fishing for tiger muskie was fair to good when using deep-diving shad-pattern crankbaits, Rapala lures and hot dogs.

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

Canjilon Lakes: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies.

**Cochiti Lake**: Fishing for pike was fair to good when using bluegill and white spinnerbaits. Fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass was fair to good when using chartreuse/pearl curlytail grubs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms and shrimp.

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

**Fenton Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms and PowerBait. For updated lake conditions, visit the <u>park's webpage</u> 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 9 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using Mayfly flies and white spinners.

Laguna del Campo: Fishing for trout was slow.

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

**Lake Farmington:** Fishing for bass was good when using crawdads.

Liam Knight Pond: Fishing for catfish was fair when using bluegill.

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

**Navajo Lake:** Fishing for kokanee salmon was slow when using purple-and-orange squid tipped with corn. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to good when using 3-inch plastic worms, chartreuse curly-tail grubs and watermelon green tubes.

**Rio Chama:** Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 481 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 632 cfs. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was slow when using Rooster Tail spinners. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was slow to fair when using salmon eggs. 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 728 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was slow to fair when using size-24 midge-pattern flies, red annelid flies, size-24 grey foam-wing emerger flies and San Juan worm flies.

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

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

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

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

#### SOUTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Fishing for catfish was good when using nightcrawler worms last week on the Rio Grande near Bernardo.

#### **SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT**

Alumni Pond: Closed for repairs until further notice.

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

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for bass was slow.

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

**Elephant Butte Lake:** Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to good when using crankbaits. Fishing for white bass was fair when trolling using shad-pattern crankbaits. Fishing for catfish was fair when using minnows and worms.

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

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

**Gila River:** Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 22 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait.

Glenwood Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait and worms.

Lake Roberts: Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver and homemade stink bait.

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

**Quemado Lake:** Anglers reported a lot of algae in the lake. Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait.

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

**Rio Grande:** Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 1,960 cfs. Fishing for catfish was good when using nightcrawler worms near Bernardo.

**Snow Lake:** Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using green PowerBait and lures. Anglers reported a lot of algae in the lake.

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

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

### SOUTHEAST

#### SOUTHEAST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



**Bosque Redondo Lake:** Justin Wilshusen of Clovis caught a 36-inch flathead catfish using a plastic worm while fishing for bass on Aug. 6.



**Green Meadow Lake:** Cassie DeLeon of Lubbock, Texas, caught a 6-pound catfish using a nightcrawler worm on Aug. 4.







**Oasis Park Lake:** Mario and Monica Velasco of Portales caught three catfish, including one weighing 7.5 pounds, using worms and chicken liver on Aug 6.

#### SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

**Alto Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair when using Yellow Garlic PowerBait with gold flakes. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using hot dogs and sweetbread.

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 13 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 bass was fair when using plastic worms. Fishing for catfish and bluegill was fair to good when using worms.

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

Brantley Lake: Fishing for bass and walleye was fair to good when using lipless crankbaits.

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

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

**Corona Pond:** The Department is investigating reported problems with fish survival in the pond.

Eunice Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using hot dogs and corn.

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using nightcrawler worms.

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

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for catfish was fair when using worms.

Harry McAdams Park Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

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 fair to good when using worms and chicken liver.

**Pecos River:** Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 89 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 4 cfs.

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

**Santa Rosa Lake:** There is a water release scheduled to begin Aug. 14 that will drop the lake level approximately 25 feet. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait.

level approximately 25 feet. I isning for catholi was fall to good when using cut be

Sumner Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

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

# Tips, Tricks and Stories – Marquez Family Fishing Trip to Navajo Lake

By Dustin Berg

In 2017, Alvaro Marquez was involved in an unfortunate incident that left him paralyzed from the neck down. He continues to beat the odds, overcoming great obstacles and says that his family is the "motor" that keeps him going. Upon meeting Alvaro, it is readily apparent that he is a genuinely kind, polite, loving father and family man. It was an absolute pleasure spending this past Saturday fishing at Navajo Lake with Alvaro, his wife Ana and their two children Aziel and Ariel.



From left to right: Ariel, Alvaro, Ana and Aziel Marquez

Aziel was unsure how his father would get onto a boat with his electric wheelchair. He would soon learn one of many important life lessons in perseverance, determination and adapting to one's circumstance. Utilizing the GO Unlimited wheelchair-accessible pontoon boat at Navajo Lake, Alvaro was able to take his family on their first boat ride and teach his children how to catch their first fish. Aziel caught a bass and hollered out in excitement "Daddy, Daddy – are you proud?" No doubt, Alvaro was proud, as were his kids – proud of their dad.



The kokanee salmon fishing was a bit slow, but Ariel was able to land a beautiful 18-inch specimen using a purple squid.



Aziel caught the biggest bass of the trip using a 3-inch plastic worm on a Ned Rig. He is a proficient learner and now officially an avid bass fisherman.

It is a real blessing to be a part of trips like this. A family living life to the fullest in the great outdoors is just such an experience. Thanks to everyone who helps make opportunities like these available to others.

For more information on adaptive fishing trips in New Mexico, <u>visit GO Unlimited's website</u>. You can also visit GO Unlimited on Instagram or Facebook.

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

Thanks for reading and supporting our angling community!



