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This fishing report, provided by the Department of Game and Fish in cooperation with Dustin Berg of [www.gounlimited.org](http://www.gounlimited.org) (“supporting disabled anglers”), 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.

**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](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. Fish weights and measurements are provided by the angler and printed here as received.

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.

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## [CHECK OUT THE LATEST STOCKING REPORT](#)



### **2023-24 Fishing RIBs and Licenses Still Available Online!**

The 2023-24 Fishing Rules and Information Booklets (RIBs) are still available in print and online in [English and Spanish for download](#). Licenses for the 2024-25 license year will be available for purchase beginning March 25.

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

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## 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.

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## NORTHEAST

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### NORTHEAST CATCH OF THE WEEK

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*Fishing for pike was fair to good when using green, size-6 Panther Martin spinners last week on the Rio Grande.*

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### NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

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

**Charette Lakes:** Closed until March 1.

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

**Clayton Lake:** Closed until March 1.

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

**Costilla Creek:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

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

**Eagle Nest Lake:** The lake is now open to ice fishing; however, it is restricted to foot traffic only. Avoid ice fishing near feeder streams or known springs, brush, logs, plants or docks, or areas with multiple cracks or ice that is popping or otherwise weak. Ice measurements are holding

from 7-11 inches of total ice and 5-7 inches of clear, strong ice, though ice was only measured in the middle of the lake. For updated lake conditions, visit the [park's 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:** Ice fishing for trout was very good when using small jigs tipped with wax worms.

**Lake Alice:** The lake surface is closed due to unsafe ice conditions.

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

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

**Maxwell Lake 13:** Closed until March 1.

**Monastery Lake: The lake is closed due to unsafe ice conditions.** Monastery Lake is part of the Department's [Open Gate Program](#). Please [visit our website for more information about this property](#).

**Morphy Lake:** Closed until March 1.

**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 36 cubic feet per second (cfs).

**Rio Grande:** Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 387 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using rainbow trout-pattern Streamer flies, bright-colored Streamer flies and white Streamer flies. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using green, size-6 Panther Martin spinners.

**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:** Closed for the season.

**Shuree Ponds:** Closed until July 1.

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

**Storrie Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using worms.

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

**Ute Lake:** Fishing for walleye and white bass was fair when jigging in 30-40 feet of water off main lake points using vibrating blade baits. The main lake water surface temperature was in the low 50 F range and the water was clear.

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## NORTHWEST

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### NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK

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***Tingley Beach:*** *Isaiah Jaramillo, age 8, caught a 16-inch rainbow trout using a Rooster Tail spinner in the children's pond on Dec. 30.*

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### NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

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**Abiquiu Lake:** The boat ramp will be closed periodically until April as part of dam maintenance efforts. Contact the Abiquiu Lake Main Office at 505-685-4371 for updated lake conditions and closure information.

**Animas River:** Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 182 cfs.

**Albuquerque Area Drains:** Fishing for trout was good when using worms and small lures. Fishing for bass was fair when using worms and small lures. Fishing for carp was fair when using corn and worms combined.

**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.

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

**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:** The lake surface is closed due to unsafe ice conditions. For updated lake conditions and potential closure information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call the park office at 575-829-3630.

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

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

**Jemez Waters:** Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 17 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using bead-head nymph flies.

**Laguna del Campo:** Closed until March 1.

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

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

**Liam Knight Pond:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using green-colored PowerBait.

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

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

**Rio Chama:** Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 100 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 58 cfs. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was fair when using bright-colored nymph 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 only two trout.

**Rio Grande:** Fishing for catfish was fair when using Joel-O Shotz fish bait.

**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 324 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using size-22 Annelid Flies and Oregon cheese-colored, egg-pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was very good when using worms and one-quarter-ounce spinners.

**Seven Springs Kids' Pond:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Tiger Park Reservoir:** Fishing for trout was good when using wax worms with a Carolina Rig.

**Tingley Beach:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Rooster Tail spinners in the children's pond.

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

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## SOUTHWEST

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### SOUTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK

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*Winter trout stocking is underway throughout New Mexico, including at Bill Evans Lake, Glenwood Pond and Rancho Grande Ponds.*

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### SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT

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**Alumni Pond:** Closed for repairs until further notice.

**Bear Canyon Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies and Joe's Flies.

**Bill Evans Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair when using Flicker Shad with anise scent and black-and-red Woolly Bugger flies.

**Caballo Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair when using cut bait.

**Elephant Butte Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut carp bait.

**Escondida Lake:** Fishing for bass was fair when using live worms.

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

**Gila River:** Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 70 cfs.

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

**Lake Roberts:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Corn PowerBait with trout attractant. Fishing for catfish was fair when using Salmon Peach PowerBait.

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

**Quemado Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using Garlic PowerBait.

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

**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:** Fishing for trout was good when using silver-and-green Rooster Tail spinners.

**Young Pond:** Fishing for trout was good when using spinners and Orange Garlic PowerBait.

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## SOUTHEAST

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### SOUTHEAST CATCH OF THE WEEK

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**Oasis Park Lake:** Mason Leeper, age 8, of Hobbs caught and released several rainbow trout using a black Panther Martin fly with his new baitcasting reel on Dec. 28.

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## SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

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**Alto Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using nymph flies, salmon eggs and worms fished with a bobber.

**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 12 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:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

**Brantley Lake:** Fishing for bass was good when using light-colored buzz baits.

**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.

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

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

**Green Meadow Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using spoons.

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

**Grindstone Reservoir:** Fishing for trout was very good when using Yellow Garlic PowerBait, Green Garlic PowerBait and worms.

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

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

**Lake Van:** Fishing for trout was fair when using worms and PowerBait.

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

**Oasis Park Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using black Panther Martin flies.

**Pecos River:** Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 16 cfs.

**Perch Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using PowerBait.

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

**Rio Ruidoso:** Streamflow at Hollywood Monday morning was 5 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.

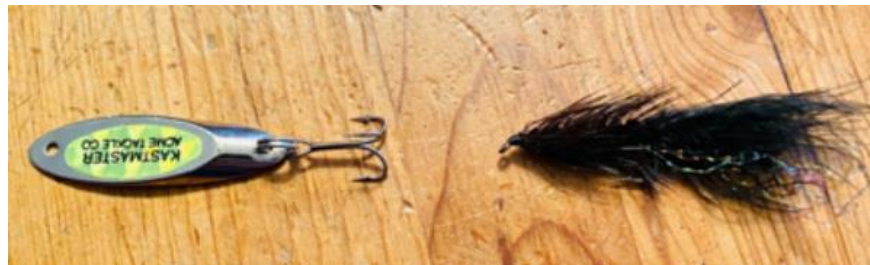
**Timberon Ponds:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

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## Tips, Tricks and Stories – Attaching a Fly to Your Spinner or Spoon

Spiff up your favorite spinner or spoon with a fly and create your own fish catching combination. Sometimes a small fly attached to your spinner/spoon works good and other times a larger fly such as a Woolly Buzzer is what adds the extra enticement that it takes to get the fish to bite.

For this example, I am using a Kastmaster spoon and adding a black Woolly Buzzer fly. This will create the 3 to 4-inch lure that I am using to target trout and pike. You can troll or cast this lure.



1. Remove the treble hook from the O-ring of the spoon and leave the O-ring attached to the spoon.
2. Thread the eye of the Woolly Buzzer hook onto the O-ring of the spoon.



It is that simple! As you could imagine, there are tons of different spoon/spinner/fly combinations you can create. I have had good success using brown and black flies in combination with my spinners and spoons.

This is also an easy way to turn a spinner/spoon with a treble hook into a single hook that can be de-barbed and fished in quality waters where such fishing restrictions exist.

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!

