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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.

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



[The 2024-25 license year is here. Get your new Fishing License now!](#)

2023-24 Fishing Licenses are no longer valid. A 2024-25 Fishing License is now required since the new license year began on April 1. The [2024-25 Fishing Rules and Information Booklet \(RIB\)](#) is available online in English and will soon be available in Spanish and in print.

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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!

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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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## NORTHEAST

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NORTHEAST CATCHES OF THE WEEK

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**Rio Grande:** Marissa Valencia, age 11, of Norwalk, California, caught a 17-inch brown trout using a nightcrawler worm on March 30.



**Santa Cruz Reservoir:** Bill Cissna of the North Valley Senior Fishing Club caught his limit of rainbow trout using Green Garlic PowerBait and Pink PowerBait on March 27.

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

**Charette Lakes:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using worms and Orange PowerBait.

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

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

**Conchas Lake:** Fishing for smallmouth bass and walleye was fair to good when using clown-pattern crankbaits and nightcrawler worms.

**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:** Closed to ice fishing and watercraft. Currently open to shore fishing only. 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:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Lake Alice:** Ice fishing season has ended.

**Lake Maloya:** Ice fishing season has ended. 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:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Monastery Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs and gold spoons. The 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 PowerBait and olive Hare's Ear flies.

**Pecos River:** Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was not measured due to ice. Fishing for trout was good when using live worms and Woolly Bugger flies.

**Red River:** Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 44 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Hare's Ear flies and black Streamer flies.

**Rio Grande:** Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 563 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using nightcrawler worms and black Balanced Leech flies.

**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:** Fishing for trout was good when using Green Garlic PowerBait and Pink PowerBait.

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

**Springer Lake:** Fishing for all species was slow.

**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 jerkbaits and paddle-tail swimbaits. Fishing for white bass was very good when trolling using Berkley Flicker Shad lures and casting using spoons and small swimbaits. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair when using deep-diving crankbaits and swimbaits. The main lake water surface temperature was in the lower 50 F range, and the water's color was lightly stained from wind.

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## NORTHWEST

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### NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK

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***Tingley Beach:*** Michael and Aaron Coca, ages 8 and 10, of Las Vegas caught their limits of trout using Salmon-Peach PowerBait on March 29.

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## NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

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**Abiquiu Lake:** 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 206 cfs.

**Albuquerque Area Drains:** Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using nymph flies near Alameda Bridge.

**Bluewater Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using Panther Martin spinners, Kastmaster lures, and Yellow Garlic Glitter PowerBait.

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

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

**Cochiti Lake:** Fishing for bass was fair when using crankbaits.

**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 good when using worms and PowerBait. 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 104 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using brown-and-white nymph flies.

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

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

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

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

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

**Navajo Lake:** Fishing for brown trout was slow to fair when trolling using large lures. Fishing for pike was good when using large, diving crankbaits and Streamer flies.

**Rio Chama:** Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 252 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 222 cfs. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was fair to good 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 only two trout.

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

**Riverside Park Pond (Aztec Pond #1):** Fishing for trout was good when using rainbow-colored, Garlic PowerBait.

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

**San Juan River:** Streamflow near Archuleta Monday morning was 352 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was fair to good when using Red Annelid flies, lime-green Mop Flies and small Pheasant-Tail nymph flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was good when using spinners, spoons, egg-pattern flies, bead-head mayfly-pattern flies and nightcrawler worms near Crusher Hole and Cottonwood Campground.

**Seven Springs Kids' Pond:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using salmon eggs, worms and Yellow PowerBait.

**Tiger Park Reservoir:** Fishing for trout was good when using a variety of PowerBait and flies.

**Tingley Beach:** Fishing for trout was good when using Salmon-Peach PowerBait.

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

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## SOUTHWEST

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### SOUTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK

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**Caballo Lake:** *Jacob Monje of Las Cruces caught a 19-inch walleye using a blue crankbait on March 22.*





**Elephant Butte Lake:** Daxon Ferguson, age 5, of Albuquerque caught a 14-inch crappie while trolling an Erie Dearie lure tipped with a minnow on March 27.



**Rio Grande:** Mark Sparks of Los Lunas caught a 7-pound largemouth bass using a smoke-colored plastic grub in a riverside ditch near Los Lunas on March 29.

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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 Pink and Rainbow PowerBait and black-and-yellow Panther Martin spinners.

**Bill Evans Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair when using crankbaits and Garlic PowerBait.

**Caballo Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait. Fishing for walleye was fair when using blue crankbaits.

**Elephant Butte Lake:** Fishing for bass was good when using minnows. Fishing for crappie was fair when using Erie Dearie lures. Fishing for catfish was good when using cut shad bait and cut carp bait. The main lake water surface temperature was in the lower 50 F range.

**Escondida Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait and salmon eggs.

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

**Gila River:** Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 341 cfs.

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

**Lake Roberts:** Fishing for trout was good when using Natural-Scent, Glitter PowerBait.

**Percha Dam:** Fishing for white bass was fair when using Underspin Swim Jigs.

**Quemado Lake:** Fishing for all species was slow.

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

**Rio Grande:** Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 1,540 cfs. Fishing for bass in the riverside ditches near Los Lunas was fair to good when using smoke-colored plastic grubs.

**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 nightcrawler worms.

## SOUTHEAST

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### SOUTHEAST CATCH OF THE WEEK

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**Brantley Lake:** Valerie Wyatt of Roswell caught a 14-inch walleye using a hotdog on March 30.



*Pecos River: George Smithson of Edgewood caught a 20-inch smallmouth bass using a black Streamer fly on March 26.*

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## SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

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**Alto Lake:** Fishing for trout was very good when using PowerBait Trout Nuggets.

**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 7 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 to sustain a healthy fish population. The city hopes to reopen the lake for recreational purposes in June.

**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 walleye was fair when using hotdogs.

**Carlsbad Municipal Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair when using Pink PowerBait.

**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:** Fishing for trout was fair when using Kastmaster lures.

**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 good when using Mepps spinners.

**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 spinners.

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

**Oasis Park Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using a variety of different PowerBait.

**Pecos River:** Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 74 cfs. Fishing for smallmouth bass was good when using black Streamer flies.

**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 17 cfs.

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

**Santa Rosa Lake:** Fishing for bass was fair when using Senko worms.

**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 – Diego Baca and Bryan Novotny Spring Bass Fishing Story

By Bryan Novotny.

With water temperatures in the low 50 F range, we chose to fish for the aggressive, shallower fish, which meant covering a lot of water. With the trolling motor down, Diego and I rotated between lipless crank baits, medium-diving crankbaits and square-bill crankbaits until we dialed the fish into one particular pattern. The 5-foot to 9-foot zone on sunny, main-lake, chunk rock banks with a slight sloping drop mixed with sporadic boulder rocks was the final established



pattern. Some smaller fish were caught shallower on lipless crank baits and square-bill crank baits as well.



*Diego Baca and Bryan Novotny with several 14.5 to 19-inch largemouth bass caught at Conchas Lake in early April. All the fish were released happy and unharmed.*

For larger fish, Bandit 200/300 series, and Bomber 7A crankbaits in white and firetiger colors were the lure of choice. We were using Daiwa Tatula baitcasting reels spooled with 8-pound P-Line CXX with 7-foot, custom-built Batson RX-7 crankbait rods.

Spring bass fishing is starting to get really good!

Up the ante by taking on the New Mexico Bass Challenge! With the state's record largemouth bass coming in just under 16 pounds and the smallmouth record coming in at seven pounds, it's easy to see why New Mexico isn't overlooked when it comes to bass fishing. The best part about bass fishing in New Mexico is that anglers not only have the opportunity to catch bass from one end of the state to the other, anglers can also fish year-round due to the state's accommodating climate.

For more information on how to participate in the New Mexico Bass Challenge visit [New Mexico Bass Challenge - New Mexico Department of Game & Fish.](#)

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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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An advertisement for NMDGF youth programs. On the left, a photograph shows a man in a grey shirt and a young girl in a purple shirt smiling. On the right, a blue box contains the text: "Donate to NMDGF youth programs! When applying for the draw or buying a hunting or fishing license, just click the box!" with a white icon of a hand clicking a checkmark box.

**Donate to NMDGF youth programs!**  
When applying for the draw or buying a hunting or fishing license, just click the box!



Clean, Drain and Dry your watercraft.

**Stop Aquatic Aliens!**



**Protect New Mexico Waters.**

[www.wildlife.state.nm.us/ais](http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/ais)

