



This fishing report, provided by Dustin Berg of [Go Unlimited](#) (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.

[Check out the latest stocking report](#)

[Get your New Mexico fishing license](#)

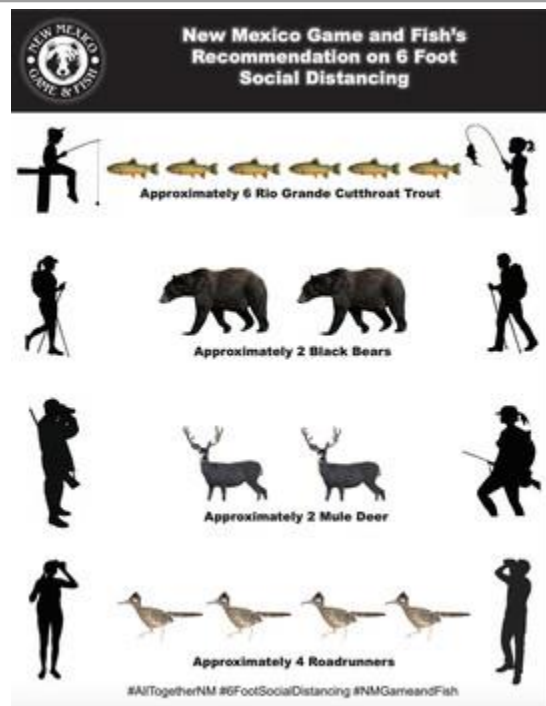
[\(Valid April 1 to March 31; 2020-2021 licenses are on sale\)](#)

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT:

As COVID-19 continues to force all of us to make changes to our daily schedule, the Department would like to remind you that together we can make a difference. To help minimize the spread of the virus:

- Practice social distancing
- Wash your hands regularly
- Avoid non-essential travel
- Wear a face covering
- Avoid interacting with large groups

Click the flyer to the right. Please share it with your friends and family.



## Take the Bass and Trout Challenges!

To promote bass and trout 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](#) and the [New Mexico Trout Challenge](#). Catch all the challenge species that are found throughout New Mexico to receive your certificate and challenge coin.



The Department is continuing to adapt our ways of working to conserve wildlife for all New Mexicans. Through the COVID-19 pandemic, Department biologists and conservation officers continue to conduct wildlife surveys, contact anglers and OHV recreationists and stock fish in open waters throughout the state.

Our teams are wearing personal protective equipment for everyone's safety while working in small groups for maximum social distancing. We ask for your help to keep everyone safe and healthy by following the NMDOH public health emergency order by wearing PPE while staying at least six feet away from staff and equipment.

## Catches of the week

The following reports came in late, but we thought they were definitely worth mentioning.

**Elephant Butte Lake:** Miguel Castillo of Las Cruces caught and released a 17.5-inch largemouth bass using a Rapala crankbait Oct. 25.

**Pecos River:** Andres Martinez of Las Vegas caught a 30-inch catfish using grub worms Oct. 14.

**Rio Grande:** Andrew Yates of Taos caught a 30-inch northern pike using a large streamer Oct. 23. Matthew Martinez of Magdalena caught a 20-inch brown trout using a blue Panther Martin spinner Oct. 16.



**Andrew Yates of Taos caught a 30-inch northern pike in the Rio Grande using a large streamer Oct. 23.**

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 [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.

---

## 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:** Stream flow near Cimarron Monday morning was 10.5 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair using nymph flies.

**Clayton Lake:** Closed until March 2021.

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

**Costilla Creek:** The Department has implemented the final phase of a project to expand Rio Grande cutthroat trout in 120 miles of the Costilla watershed in northern New Mexico. The final phase involved removal of fish within a designated area (Rio Costilla from Costilla Dam downstream to the Valle Vidal Boundary including all tributaries and Comanche Creek from the road culvert crossing on FR 1950 downstream to its confluence with Rio Costilla and all tributaries) with a tentative restocking of Rio Grande cutthroat in spring 2022. Places to fish nearby include Costilla Creek below the fish barrier, Upper Comanche Creek, Shuree Ponds, Middle Ponil Creek, Upper Powderhouse Creek, Little Costilla Creek, Vidal Creek and McCrystal Creek. The Department anticipates completion of this final phase in the fall of 2021. Please check the Department website for additional information on the project and to identify alternative angling opportunities in the interim.

**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 using salmon peach PowerBait, Woolly Buggler flies and spinners tipped with PowerBait.

**Eagle Rock Lake:** Fishing for trout was slow using PowerBait and salmon eggs. Fishing for trout was fair to good using spinners.

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



Andres Martinez of Las Vegas caught this 30-inch catfish in the Pecos River using grub worms Oct. 14.

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

**Hopewell Lake:** Fishing for trout was good using chartreuse PowerBait and Pistol Pete's spinners.

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

**Lake Maloya:** Fishing for trout was good using elk hair caddis flies, silver spinners 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 due to Covid-19 health concerns. Check the [Open Gate webpage](#) for future updates.

**Morphy Lake:** Closed for a renovation project on the dam and no firm opening date has been set.

**Pecos River:** Stream flow near the town of Pecos Monday morning was 21.9 cfs. Fishing for trout was good using red Fire Ball salmon eggs and worms. Fishing for catfish was fair at Villanueva State Park using grub worms.

**Red River:** Stream flow below the hatchery Monday morning was 38.7 cfs. Fishing for trout was good using small nymph flies, Woolly Buggers, salmon eggs and worms.

**Rio Grande:** Stream flow at the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 225 cfs. Fishing for trout was good using silver Panther Martin spinners, double nymph fly rigs in slow moving pools and mayfly dry dropper setups in the riffles.

**Rio Hondo:** Stream flow Monday morning near Valdez was 27.8 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Rio Mora:** Stream flow Monday morning was 5.86 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Rio Pueblo:** Stream flow near Penasco Monday morning was 6.02 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Santa Cruz Reservoir:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

**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 white bass and walleye was fair to good vertical jigging slabs, live minnows and blade baits in 25 to 30-feet of water. We had no reports on other species. The surface water temperature was in the mid-50s and the main lake was clear.

---

## **Northwest Fishing Report**

**Abiquiu Lake:** Angling activity has been very light. Due to low water levels, anglers are advised to use four-wheel drive vehicles to launch boats and watch for obstructions on the water.

**Animas River:** Water flow below Aztec Monday morning was 206 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

**Bluewater Lake:** Fishing for tiger muskie was fair to good Rapala lures and swimbaits. Fishing for trout was fair using green glitter PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair using chicken liver and hot dogs.

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

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

**Chama River:** Monday morning flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 102 cfs and 48.5 cfs respectively. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was good using nightcrawlers and brown trout pattern Rapala lures. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was good using mop flies and small egg pattern flies. The water level was low, and the watercolor was clearing.

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

**El Vado Lake:** The lake is open for Salmon Snagging Season. Park hours are 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Kokanee salmon snagging was reported as slow.

**Fenton Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair using worms. Fishing for trout was good using bunny leech flies.

**Heron Lake:** Salmon snagging season opens **Nov. 13**. Please note Nov. 13 is the correct opening date for snagging season at Heron Lake and any other reported opening dates are incorrect. Fishing was reported as slow.

**Jemez Waters:** Stream flow on the Jemez near the town of Jemez Monday morning was 16.8 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair using worms and salmon eggs.

**Laguna del Campo:** Fishing for trout was fair to good using yellow and green garlic scented PowerBait and worms.

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

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

**Manzano Lake:** Closed until further notice.

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

**Navajo Lake:** Fishing for kokanee salmon using snagging hooks was good near the dam. Please note that the buoyed no-wake areas and shoreline within the no-wake areas at the Pine River Boat Ramp and Simms Boat Ramp at Navajo Lake are currently closed for salmon snagging and will open on Nov. 13.

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

**San Juan River:** Stream flow Monday morning was 435 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good using size 24 black, crème and olive midge pupa pattern flies, small baetis nymph flies and RS2's.

**Seven Springs Brood Pond:** Closed due to Covid-19 health concerns. Check the [Department's Alerts page](#) for future updates.

**Tingley Beach:** Fishing for trout was fair to good using white PowerBait eggs and PowerBait worms.

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

---

## Southwest Fishing Report

**Alumni Pond:** Fishing for trout was good using marshmallows and white PowerBait.

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

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

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

**Elephant Butte Lake:** An angler caught and released a 17.5-inch largemouth bass using a Rapala crankbait Oct. 25.

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



**Miguel Castillo of Las Cruces caught and released a 17.5-inch largemouth bass at Elephant Butte using a Rapala crankbait Oct. 25.**

**Gila River:** Stream flow Monday morning was 47.7 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

**Glenwood Pond:** Fishing for trout was fair to good using crystal flash nymph flies and salmon eggs.

**Lake Roberts:** Fishing for catfish was good using beef liver and worms. Fishing for trout was good using pink and orange PowerBait.

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

**Quemado Lake:** Anglers reported fishing for trout was slow.

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

**Rio Grande:** Stream flow below Elephant Butte Monday morning was 0.52 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

**Trees Lake:** Fishing for trout was good using grey colored nymph flies, marshmallows and PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair using chicken liver and worms.

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

---

### **Southeast Fishing Report**

**Alto Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair to good using yellow glitter PowerBait.

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

**Black River:** Stream flow at Malaga Monday morning was 19.4 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

**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. It appears now that the lake will be out of commission until 2022.

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

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

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

**Carlsbad Municipal Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair using nightcrawlers and homemade dough bait.

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

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

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

**Green Meadow Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair using chicken and beef liver. Fishing for bass was fair using worms.

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

**Grindstone Reservoir:** Fishing for trout was good using salmon eggs and salmon peach PowerBait.

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

**Lake Van:** Fishing for catfish was fair using chicken liver and worms.

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

**Pecos River:** Stream flow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was .42 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

**Ruidoso River:** Stream flow Monday morning at Hollywood was 4.31 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

**Sumner Lake:** Fishing for walleye was fair using curly tailed grubs and live minnows.

---

## Tips and Tricks

Marcelo Taimen Richert, age 9, was born in Taos and currently lives in Arroyo Hondo.

Marcelo started fishing at age three, but he did not really take a strong interest until this past spring and summer. His developing passion for fishing might be attributed to some great days spent at Eagle Nest Lake ice fishing last winter. Right now, he is very interested in catching pike because he says they look "toothy and dangerous." He caught a 32-inch 10-pound pike this past summer using 4-pound test line while fishing for perch.



**This 14-inch brown trout was caught by Marcelo Oct. 17 in the Rio Grande using spinners.**



Trout have always caught Marcelo's attention and, after completing the New Mexico Trout Challenge, he wanted to share his story and tips with fellow anglers.

"One day last spring when we were driving home my Dad told me about the New Mexico Trout Challenge. I was more curious about it every day and asked him more and more questions. We decided to give it a try. Soon after we got started, I was catching everything from 9-inch 5-ounce brook trout to 19-inch 3-pound cutbows! Here are some tips I find helpful fishing for trout."

1. Go fishing from dawn to dusk if possible. If not, then a few hours in the morning or in the evening is best.

2. Try using lots of different lures, baits and/or flies until you find what the fish are biting. Some of my favorite lures and baits that I recommend using are spinners, nightcrawlers and dry and nymph flies.

3. Fish in riffles, pools and behind big rocks.

4. Exploring is lots of fun. Enjoy the adventure aside from just fishing. Lately I have seen an otter rolling in the sand and sliding down some grass on its belly into the river, bighorn sheep and lots of birds.



This 19.5-inch cutbow was caught by Marcelo Sept. 30 in the Rio Grande using spinners. Marcelo likes the Rio Grande because it has some big trout in it.

I was fortunate enough to complete the Trout Challenge. Good luck on your next cast!

If you love the great outdoors and fishing for trout like Marcelo does, then give the New Mexico Trout Challenge a try!

---

### Closure Information:

The Department reminds anglers it is their responsibility to be aware of closures and contact land managers for properties of interest when restrictions are lifted.

- [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.

**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)



## TEST YOUR FISHING SKILLS ON NEW MEXICO'S NEWEST CHALLENGE!

LARGEMOUTH BASS  
SMALLMOUTH BASS  
SPOTTED BASS  
WHITE BASS



For more information go to [www.wildlife.state.nm.us/fishing/nmbc/](http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/fishing/nmbc/) 1-888-248-6866