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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](#)

[\(Valid April 1 to March 31; 2021-2022 licenses are on sale now\)](#)

Check the Fishing Conditions and Trip Planner!

The Department's Fishing Conditions and Trip Planner was created using data from the 2016 to 2019 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.



NEW – 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 new webpage to plan your trip now!](#)



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](#), the [New Mexico Trout Challenge](#) and the [Master Angler Challenge](#).



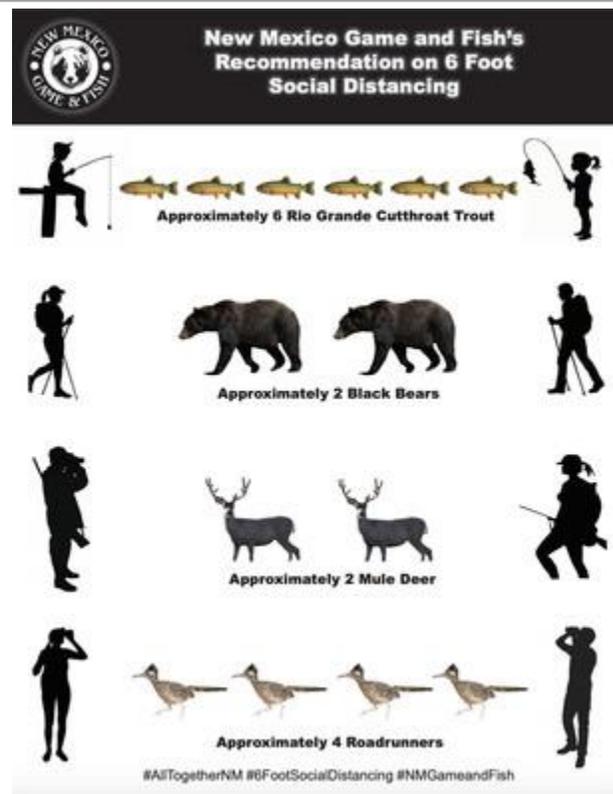
Catch all the challenge species that are found throughout New Mexico to receive your certificate and challenge coin!

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.





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.

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.



Catches of the week

Bill Evans Lake: Brandon Marshall of Las Cruces caught a 9-pound catfish using a nightcrawler worm Oct. 8.

Brantley Lake: Joaquin Ashley, age 6, of Artesia caught a 15.5-inch largemouth bass using a Mepps spinner Oct. 9.

Canjilon Lakes: Kevin Miller of Santa Fe caught a 20-inch rainbow trout using a red midge fly Oct. 11.

Eagle Nest Lake: Chris Serrano of Albuquerque caught a 24-inch rainbow trout using green PowerBait Oct. 14. Monica Serrano of Albuquerque caught a 20-inch rainbow trout using green PowerBait Oct. 12.

Fenton Lake: Joseph Jones of Carlsbad caught a 17-inch rainbow trout using Fire Balls salmon eggs Oct. 17. Jothum Stallings of Albuquerque caught a 21.75-inch rainbow trout from his kayak using a nightcrawler worm Oct. 11.



Chris Serrano of Albuquerque caught a 24-inch rainbow trout using green PowerBait Oct. 14 at Eagle Nest Lake.

Grindstone Reservoir: Mateo Martinez, age 9, of Los Ranchos caught his limit of trout using PowerBait Oct. 17.

San Juan River: Alex Martinez, age 9, of Farmington caught a 14-inch rainbow trout using a worm Oct. 9. 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. 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: Fishing for brook trout was fair to good using pale morning dun flies.

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

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 8.07 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was good when using worms, PowerBait and spinners.

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms and PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using chicken liver.

Conchas Lake: Conchas Lake State Park has closed access to all boat ramps due to dropping water levels. The boat ramps on the south side of the lake managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are open. Fishing for bass was slow.

Costilla Creek: Fishing for trout was good when using caddis dry flies. 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. Please check the Department website for additional information on the project and to identify alternative angling opportunities in the interim.

Cowles Ponds: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using garlic peach PowerBait.

Coyote Creek: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using brown San Juan worm flies.

Eagle Nest Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using green PowerBait. Fishing for pike was good when using soft plastic watermelon red Googan Darts and black and white spinners.

Eagle Rock Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using pink and orange PowerBait.



Monica Serrano of Albuquerque caught a 20-inch rainbow trout using green PowerBait Oct. 12 at Eagle Nest Lake.

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

Hopewell Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using silver Panther Martin spinners, Kastmaster lures and chocolate foam wing emerger flies.

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

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout was good when using pink garlic PowerBait, silver spinners and nymph flies.

Los Pinos River: Fishing for trout was good when using small beadhead nymph flies.

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

Monastery Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait and Pistol Pete spinner flies.

Morphy Lake: The lake has been closed for the season by the State Parks Division.

Pecos River: Streamflow near the town of Pecos Monday morning was 44.7 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using yellow salmon eggs, orange glitter PowerBait, worms, corn and elk hair caddis flies.

Red River: Streamflow below the hatchery Monday morning was 42.4 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs, small streamer flies and tungsten beadhead nymph flies.

Rio Grande: Streamflow at the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 252 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using silver spoons, streamer flies, Poundmeister flies and dry fly with dropper nymph fly setups.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow Monday morning near Valdez was 13.6 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using attractor dry flies.

Rio Mora: Streamflow Monday morning near Tererro was 19.2 cfs.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 9.28 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using size 20 zebra midge and copper john flies beneath a stimulator dry fly.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was fair when using worms and PowerBait.

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 was fair to good when using deep diving crankbaits and jigging slab spoons in 30 to 35 feet of water. Fishing for bass was slow. Fishing for walleye was fair to

good when using Gulp minnows and blade baits on main lake points in 20 to 25 feet of water. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms. The water surface temperature was in the low to mid 60 degrees Fahrenheit and the main lake color was clear.

Northwest Fishing Report

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms and cut bait.

Animas River: Waterflow below Aztec Monday morning was 264 cfs.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for tiger muskie was fair to good when using jerkbaits and large streamer flies.

Brazos River: Fishing for trout was good when using beadhead nymph flies.

Canjilon Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using dry flies, worms and pink PowerBait.

Chama River: Monday-morning flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 35.9 cfs and 74.5 cfs, respectively. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was good when using nightcrawler worms, salmon eggs and PowerBait. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was fair to good when using green beadhead 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 two trout only.

Cochiti Lake: Fishing for pike and bass was fair to good when using white and silver crankbaits near the dam.

El Vado Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good using PowerBait at the North El Vado Day Use Area off State Road 95. Fishing for smallmouth bass, perch and trout was fair to good near the Dam Day Use Area.



Jothum Stallings of Albuquerque caught a 21.75-inch rainbow trout from his kayak using a nightcrawler worm Oct. 11 at Fenton Lake.

Fenton Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using worms, green PowerBait and Fire Balls salmon eggs. Please remember, only two cutthroat trout are allowed to be harvested per day within the regular five-fish limit.

Heron Lake: Willow, Sierra Vista and La Laja boat launches are closed. The primitive boat launch is open. Shoreline fishing is available between Sierra Vista and the spillway or in Rincon. Fishing for trout was slow. The Quality Waters of the Rio Chama can be accessed at the Rio Chama Trailhead. The stairs are closed so use the road to the spillway. Non-quality waters can be accessed at the North El Vado Day Use Area located on State Road 95, 13 miles west of U.S. Highway 84.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow on the Jemez near the town of Jemez Monday morning was 10.0 cfs. Fishing for trout on the San Antonio River was fair to good when using small gold spinners.

Laguna del Campo: Fishing for trout was good when using orange PowerBait.

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

Lake Farmington: Fishing for bass was good when using nightcrawler worms and Senko worms.

McGaffey Lake: Due to extremely low water levels and unstable ground conditions, stocking efforts have been suspended. Lake conditions will be monitored and stockings will resume once conditions improve.

Navajo Lake: Fishing for kokanee salmon was good when using snagging hooks near the dam.

Rio Grande: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using hotdogs and nightcrawler worms near Los Lunas.

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

San Juan River: Streamflow Monday morning was 451 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using olive, brown and grey midge pattern flies, annelid flies, crystal flash midge pattern flies and leech pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was good when using worms and salmon eggs.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using green PowerBait and worms.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using homemade dough bait and salmon eggs. Fishing for catfish was slow to fair when using homemade dough bait.

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

Southwest Fishing Report

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

Bear Canyon Lake: The water level is extremely low and will remain low through October for dam repairs.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using nightcrawler worms. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using live minnows.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for white bass was fair when using crankbaits. Fishing for largemouth bass was fair when using live minnows. Fishing for crappie was fair to good when using live minnows. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut carp bait, live worms and dough bait.



Brandon Marshall of Las Cruces caught a 9-pound catfish using a nightcrawler worm Oct. 8 at Bill Evans Lake.

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

Gila River: Streamflow Monday morning was 54.8 cfs. Fishing for Gila trout was good when using orange nymph flies.

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

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

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

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon peach PowerBait.

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Monday morning was 0.51 cfs. Fishing for catfish south of Hatch was fair when using live worms.

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

Trees Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using small grubs, live red worms, PowerBait and dry flies.

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

Southeast Fishing Report

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using nightcrawler worms. Fishing for bass was good when using nightcrawler worms.

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

Berrendo Creek: Please visit the [Open Gate webpage](#) for more information on [this property](#). Fishing for bass was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms.

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 23.8 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. It appears 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: Fishing for bass was slow to fair when using Mepps spinners.

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using homemade dough bait.

Chaparral Park Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using shrimp and hotdogs.

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

Eunice Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using nightcrawler worms 24 inches beneath a bobber.

Greene Acres Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using hotdogs and shrimp.

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using garlic PowerBait.



Joaquin Ashley, age 6, of Artesia caught a 15.5-inch largemouth bass using a Mepps spinner Oct. 9 at Brantley Lake.

Jal Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass was fair to good when using gray and yellow tube baits.

Lake Van: Fishing for catfish was fair when using worms.

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using cut bait and worms.

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 88.3 cfs.

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

Ruidoso River: Streamflow Monday morning at Hollywood was 5.28 cfs.

Santa Rosa Lake: Due to low lake levels, Santa Rosa Lake State Park will operate as a no-wake lake until conditions improve.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for catfish was slow to fair when using chicken liver and cut bait.

Tips and Tricks – Winterize Your Outboard Boat Engine and Avoid Problems in the Spring

This past weekend, we took our boat home from Navajo Lake and put it away for the winter. But, first, we did a couple small maintenance and motor preservation projects before tucking it away under a tarp. These two simple projects can save you a world of headache and costly repairs in the spring. Do these things now so you are fishing next spring and not regretting putting off easy preventative measures.

1. Run fuel stabilizer through your engine. Gasoline that sits in your boat motor for an extended period (such as over the winter) can separate. After it separates, it does not burn properly and causes issues with the engine such as the engine not running at all. The simple fix is to run a recommended dose of fuel stabilizer through your boat engine before putting it away for the winter. Directions for how much stabilizer to use should be on the bottle you purchase.

We used SeaFoam fuel stabilizer in our Mercury outboard boat engine.

2. Check the lower unit and change the gear oil. If water has gotten into the lower unit during the summer, this water can freeze during the winter causing your lower unit to crack. If your lower unit cracks it can cost thousands of dollars to replace. Avoid this costly time-consuming repair by changing the oil in the lower unit. [This project only takes a few minutes.](#)

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!





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