



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](#)

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

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.



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 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](#).



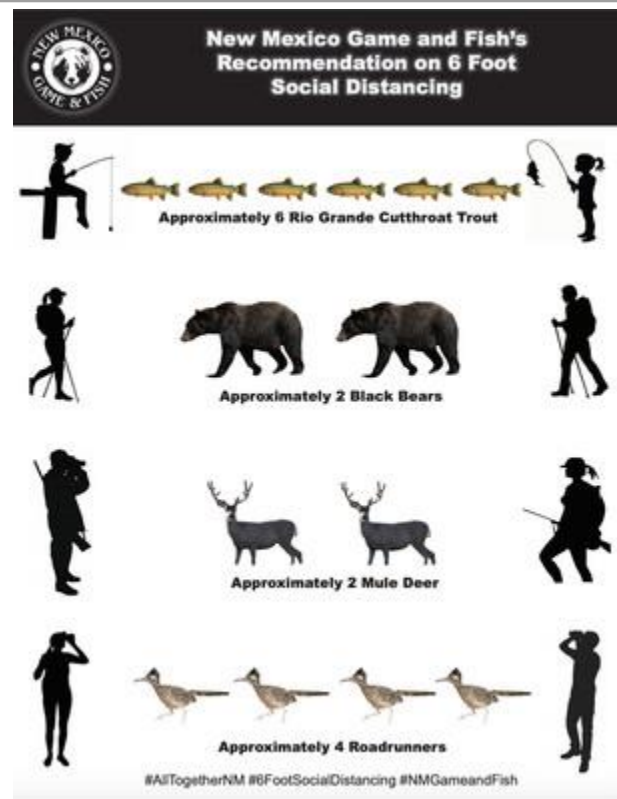
Catch all the challenge species that are found throughout New Mexico or a New Mexico State Record Fish and receive a certificate and challenge coin for your accomplishment!

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

Elephant Butte Lake: Kiki Flores of Las Cruces caught a 2-pound blue catfish using cut carp bait Jan. 8.

Hopewell Lake: Isaac Sanchez and Matthew Medina of Albuquerque caught and released over 50 rainbow and brook trout using tungsten glow ice jigs tipped with meal worms and wax worms Jan 9.

Monastery Lake: Nino Furneri of Santa Fe caught 12- and 10-inch rainbow trout using salmon peach PowerBait Dec. 30.

Perch Lake: Justin Estrada of Las Vegas caught and released over 20 rainbow trout using homemade flies resembling a cross between a prince nymph and a hare's ear nymph Jan. 3.

Rio Grande: Cash Lujan, age 6, of Santa Fe caught a 14-inch brown trout using a nightcrawler worm near the town of Embudo Jan. 8.

San Juan River: Ron and Roberto Devargas of Abiquiu both caught 18-inch rainbow trout using San Juan worm flies Jan. 6.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Tom Chrobocinski of Ojo Caliente caught a 15-inch rainbow trout using a silver spoon Jan. 6.

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.



Isaac Sanchez, pictured, and Matthew Medina of Albuquerque caught and released over 50 rainbow and brook trout Jan. 9 at Hopewell Lake.

Northeast Fishing Report

Cabresto Lake: Ice fishing for brook trout was good when using small glow tungsten ice jigs with glow plastics. The roads were snow-packed and slippery.

Charette Lakes: Closed for the season. The lake will reopen in March.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 13.8 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Clayton Lake: Closed for the season. The lake will reopen in March.

Conchas Lake: New winter season hours - open for day-use access only Thursday-Sunday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For updated lake conditions [visit the park's webpage](#) or call the park office at (575) 868-2270.



Cash Lujan, age 6, of Santa Fe caught a 14-inch brown trout using a nightcrawler worm on the Rio Grande near the town of Embudo on Jan. 8.

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 this spring. 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Eagle Nest Lake: The State Parks Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department has temporarily closed Eagle Nest Lake to boating and ice-fishing due to recent winter weather conditions that created unsafe lake surface conditions. The lake is currently closed to all watercraft, including canoes, kayaks, inflatables and all types of motorboats. Park staff will continue to monitor ice conditions for ice fishing. While boat ramp access is closed, the park is open for day-use access. Hiking trails remain open at the park. For updated lake conditions [visit the park's webpage](#) or call the park office at (575) 377-1594.

Eagle Rock Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs, pink PowerBait and small silver spoons.

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

Hopewell Lake: Anglers reported the lake was frozen and the entrance gates are locked until spring. Ice fishing for rainbow and brook trout was very good using tungsten glow ice jigs tipped with meal worms and wax worms.

Lake Alice: Temporarily closed due to recent weather conditions and ice forming on the lake. State Park officials have deemed the lake unsafe at this time.

Lake Maloya: Temporarily closed due to recent weather conditions and ice forming on the lake. State Park officials have deemed the lake unsafe at this time.

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

Maxwell Lake 13: Closed for the season. The lake will reopen in March.

Monastery Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using salmon peach PowerBait.

Morphy Lake: Closed for the season. The lake will reopen in March.

Pecos River: Streamflow near the town of Pecos Monday morning was not measured due to ice. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using small beadhead nymph flies.

Red River: Streamflow below the hatchery Monday morning was 30.6 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair when using zebra midge flies and RS2 flies.

Rio Grande: Streamflow at the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 429 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using small beadhead nymph flies, midge flies, gold Panther Martin spinners and nightcrawler worms.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow Monday morning near Valdez was not measured due to ice.

Rio Mora: Streamflow Monday morning near Tererro 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 fair to good when using pink, orange and green PowerBait.

Shuree Ponds: Closed for the season. The ponds will reopen in July.

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 all species was slow.

Northwest Fishing Report

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

Animas River: Waterflow below Aztec Monday morning was 201 cfs.

Albuquerque Area Drains: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs, garlic PowerBait, worms and marshmallows.

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.



Roberto Devargas of Abiquiu caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using San Juan worm flies Jan. 6 on the San Juan River.

Chama River: Monday-morning flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 97.3 cfs and 59.9 cfs, respectively. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was fair to good when using spinners and streamer flies. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was good when using Panther Martin spinners, beadhead nymph flies and leech pattern 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 catfish was fair when using cut bait, shrimp and chicken liver.

El Vado Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Fenton Lake: There was no fishing due to thin ice covering the lake. Please remember, only two cutthroat trout are allowed to be harvested per day within the regular five-fish limit.

Heron Lake: All boat ramps are currently closed.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow on the Jemez near the town of Jemez Monday morning was 13.0 cfs. Fishing for trout below the town of Jemez was good when using worms and flashback nymph flies.

Laguna del Campo: Closed for the season. The lake will reopen in May.

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

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

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

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

San Juan River: Streamflow Monday morning was 302 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using San Juan worm flies, leech pattern flies and black midge pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was good when using worms.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using salmon eggs, garlic PowerBait and worms.

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

Southwest Fishing Report

Alumni Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs, live worms and marshmallows.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using PowerBait and salmon eggs.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using red PowerBait.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for catfish was slow when using cut carp bait and shad. Fishing for white bass was slow to fair when casting crankbaits.

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

Gila River: Streamflow Monday morning was 83.1 cfs.

Glenwood Pond: Fishing for trout was slow.

Lake Roberts: Fishing for all species was slow.

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



Kiki Flores of Las Cruces caught a 2-pound blue catfish using cut carp bait Jan. 8 at Elephant Butte Lake.

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

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Monday morning was 0.043 cfs.

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

Trees Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using pink and chartreuse garlic PowerBait.

Young Pond: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using marshmallows, live worms and lime green garlic scent PowerBait.

Southeast Fishing Report

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

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 13.0 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 later this year.

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 white bass and smallmouth bass was fair when using paddle tail shad pattern swimbaits. Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait.

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

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



Justin Estrada of Las Vegas caught and released over 20 rainbow trout using homemade flies Jan. 3 at Perch Lake.

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

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 silver spoons and green PowerBait.

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

Lake Van: Fishing for trout was good when using green PowerBait and cheese baits.

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

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 15.5 cfs. Fishing for white bass and largemouth bass was fair to good when using bright pink lures and swimbaits near Carlsbad.

Perch Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using prince nymph flies and hare's ear nymph flies.

Ruidoso River: Streamflow Monday morning at Hollywood was 3.67 cfs.

Santa Rosa Lake: The lake is open to boating, but due to low lake levels, Santa Rosa Lake State Park will operate as a no-wake lake until conditions improve. Fishing for all species was slow.

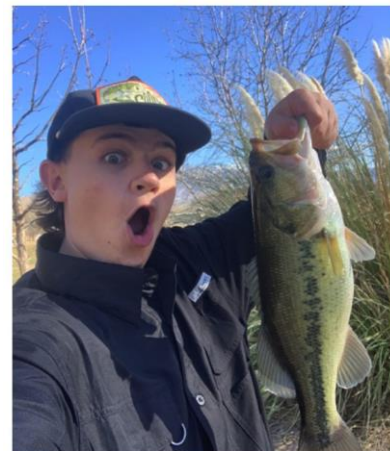
Sumner Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Tips and Tricks – Isaiah Bogue’s Winter Bass Fishing Tips

By Isaiah Bogue

During the winter, when fishing for bass, I basically only use black and blue jigs with craw trailers and lipless crankbaits. With the jig, I cast as far as possible to the deepest part of the pond or lake and twitch it across the bottom, because in the winter, the twitches will trigger a feeding response. With the lipless crankbaits, I let them sink to the bottom and then quickly rip it up hard and do that repeatedly, because it resembles an injured baitfish. That’s how I caught the pictured bass in Corrales.

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.



Isaiah Bogue of Albuquerque caught a 2.5-pound largemouth bass using a Googan Squad Klutch Ghost Gill pattern lipless crankbait Jan. 1 in Corrales.

Thanks for reading and supporting our angling community!



Clean, Drain and Dry your watercraft.

Stop Aquatic Aliens!

Protect New Mexico Waters.
www.wildlife.state.nm.us/ais

A green alien with a fish head is holding a fishing rod. The entire illustration is enclosed in a red circle with a diagonal slash through it, indicating prohibition. To the left of the alien is the New Mexico Game & Fish logo.