



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](#)

[\(Valid April 1 to March 31; 2022-2023 licenses are on sale now\)](#)



2022-23 Fishing RIBs Available Online!

The 2022-2023 Fishing Rules and Information Booklets (RIBs) are now available online-only for download and use. [English](#) and [Spanish](#) PDF versions are available. In addition to the full RIBs, a one-page summary of “What’s New and Important” can also be downloaded in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

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!

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.

Catches of the week

Bosque Redondo Lake: Julian Griego of Clovis caught a 20-inch largemouth bass using a yellow and red spinnerbait April 15.

Cochiti Lake: Ever Barraza of Bernalillo caught a 36-inch pike using a silver and green Kastmaster lure April 16.

Eagle Nest Lake: Brian Szarek of Sandia Park caught a 23-inch, 5.5-pound rainbow trout using a white PowerBait ball April 12.

Elephant Butte Lake: Brandon May of Elephant Butte caught a 4-pound largemouth bass using a chartreuse crankbait April 14.

Fenton Lake: Justin Moquino, age 10, of Albuquerque caught a 19-inch rainbow trout using a Griffith's Gnat fly April 16. Jeriah Alarcon, age 5, of Albuquerque caught a 22-inch rainbow trout using salmon eggs April 15.

San Juan River: Justin Zanin of Albuquerque caught and released a 21-inch brown trout using a black Woolly Buzzer fly in the Quality Waters April 16.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Elijon Casados, age 11, Joseph Georgia, age 11, and Luke Moriarty, age 11, all of Albuquerque caught their limits of trout measuring 14 to 18 inches long using cheddar and garlic PowerBait April 17.

Santa Rosa Lake: Isaac Moya of Santa Fe caught a 4-pound walleye using a crankbait April 15.



Elijon Casados, age 11, Joseph Georgia, age 11, and Luke Moriarty, age 11, all of Albuquerque caught their limits of trout April 17 at Santa Cruz Reservoir.

Northeast Fishing Report

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

Charette Lakes: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using black and silver Joe's Flies.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 28.7 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using various PowerBaits. Fishing for walleye was fair when using curly tail grubs. Fishing for bass was fair when using crankbaits.

Conchas Lake: Fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass was fair to good when using shallow diving jerkbaits. Fishing for walleye was fair when using crankbaits and curly tail grubs. Fishing for white bass was good when using Bomber and Rat-L-Trap crankbaits.

Costilla Creek: The Department is implementing 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 involves 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 2023. 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 good when using PowerBait.

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

Eagle Nest Lake: Fishing for rainbow trout was fair to good when using white PowerBait. Fishing for pike was fair when using PowerBait. 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.



Brian Szarek of Sandia Park caught a 23-inch, 5.5-pound rainbow trout using a white PowerBait ball April 12 at Eagle Nest Lake.

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

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

Lake Alice: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using corn.

Lake Maloya: Fishing for was good when using salmon peach PowerBait and green 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: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using olive black Pistol Pete spinner flies.

Morphy Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using gold and silver spinners and worms fished under a bobber.

Pecos River: Streamflow near the town of Pecos Monday morning was 146 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using beadhead pheasant tail nymph flies, worms, PowerBait and salmon eggs.

Red River: Streamflow below the hatchery Monday morning was 58.5 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using Panther Martin spinners and rainbow pattern Krocodile spoons.

Rio Grande: Streamflow at the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 338 cfs. Fishing for trout was good in the evenings when using caddis dry flies.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow Monday morning near Valdez was 20.0 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow Monday morning near Tererro was not measured due to ice.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 63.8 cfs.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using garlic PowerBait and cheddar 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 walleye was fair when using crankbaits and swimbaits. Fishing for white bass was fair when trolling medium diving crankbaits in the Canadian arm of the lake. Fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass was good when using crawdad pattern crankbaits, spinnerbaits and swimbaits in 6 to 10 feet of water. Fishing for crappie was fair when using live

minnows in 15 to 20 feet of water. The main lake water surface temperature was in the upper 50-degrees to lower 60-degrees Fahrenheit and the water clarity was stained.

Northwest Fishing Report

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

Animas River: Waterflow below Aztec Monday morning was 261 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using black spinners.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for tiger muskie was good when using Whopper Poppers, large spinners and swimbaits.

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 603 cfs and 579 cfs, respectively. 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.



Justin Moquino, age 10, of Albuquerque caught a 19-inch rainbow trout using a Griffith's Gnat fly April 16 at Fenton Lake.

Cochiti Lake: Fishing for pike was good when using silver and green Kastmaster lures. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to good when using crankbaits and jigs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait and nightcrawler worms.

El Vado Lake: The State Park is open for day use and can be accessed at the Main Park area, North El Vado Day Use Area off Hwy 95, and Hargroves Day Use Area off of Hwy 322.

Fenton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Griffith's Gnat flies, beadhead nymph flies, worms and salmon eggs. Please remember, only two cutthroat trout are allowed to be harvested per day within the regular five-fish limit.

Heron Lake: The lake is free of ice and open to bank fishing or fishing from paddle craft and small boats that can be launched from the shoreline.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow on the Jemez near the town of Jemez Monday morning was 95.2 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using worms.

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: Fishing for pike was fair to good when using streamer flies, jerkbaits and crankbaits. Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using trout pattern lures. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair when using crankbaits and skirt jigs.

Rio Grande: Fishing for catfish near Albuquerque was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms and chicken liver.

Riverside Park Pond (Aztec Pond #1): Fishing for trout was good when using green and black Rooster Tail spinners.

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 black Woolly Buzzer flies and Griffiths Gnat flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair to good when using rainbow pattern Rapala lures.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using gold beadhead nymph flies, black and orange leech pattern flies, pheasant tail nymph flies and salmon eggs.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using garlic PowerBait and worms. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using shrimp. Fishing for bass was fair when using Texas rigged curly tail worms.

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

Southwest Fishing Report

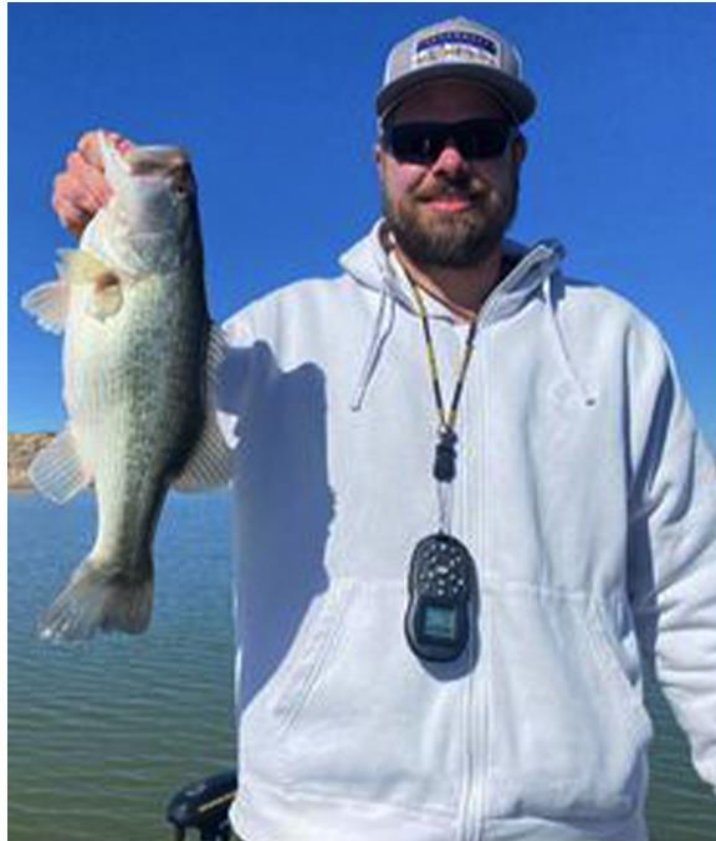
Alumni Pond: Fishing for trout was slow when using PowerBait. Fishing for largemouth bass was slow when using streamer flies. Fishing for catfish was slow when using worms.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs and yellow PowerBait.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass was fair to good when using soft plastic crawdad pattern baits.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for white bass was fair when using crankbaits.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using dough bait. Fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass was fair to good when using chartreuse crankbaits, jigs and plastic crawdads. Fishing for white bass was fair to good when using white Bombers, jointed Rapalas and Rat-L-Trap lures. Fishing for crappie was good when using small jigs and live minnows. Fishing for walleye was slow when using curly tail grubs.



Brandon May of Elephant Butte caught a 4-pound largemouth bass using a chartreuse crankbait April 14 at Elephant Butte Lake.

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

Gila River: Streamflow Monday morning was 58.6 cfs. Fishing for trout on Whitewater Creek was fair to good when using gold and black Panther Martin spinners.

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using PowerBait and worms.

Percha Dam: Anglers reported low water levels and poor fishing.

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 0.31 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using garlic dough bait.

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 slow to fair when using garlic PowerBait.

Southeast Fishing Report

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs and 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](#).

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 16.7 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. It appears that the lake will be out of commission until later this year.

Bosque Redondo Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass was good when using yellow and red spinnerbaits.

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

Brantley Lake: Fishing for bass was good when using red flake plastic worms and crawdad imitation lures.

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using chartreuse PowerBait.

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

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



Isaac Moya of Santa Fe caught a 4-pound walleye using a crankbait April 15 at Santa Rosa Lake.

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

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using 3-inch plastic worms.

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

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

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

Kids Pond at Santa Rosa Fish Hatchery: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait.

Lake Van: Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver.

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

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 94.7 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using worms. Fishing for trout was good when using bright green PowerBait.

Perch Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using yellow and orange PowerBait.

Ruidoso River: Streamflow Monday morning at Hollywood was 5.55 cfs.

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using crankbait lures.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for catfish below the dam was fair to good when using worms.

Timberon Ponds: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using pink PowerBait.

Tips and Tricks – Fishing the Spring Runoff

Benjamin Naranjo recently went fishing near Mora Campground in Pecos Canyon State Park and gave us an update on the fishing conditions.

“Fishing is amazing right now,” he said. “The runoff makes for tons of new fishing holes. It is not a problem catching fish at all. I used worms from noon to six and was extremely successful. I caught browns and a few rainbow trout. I kept two trout for dinner that were about 14 and 16 inches long.”

Benjamin’s setup:

- 3/0 or 0.25-ounce split shot 20 to 30 inches from the hook.
- A small size 6 snelled hook.
- Do not crimp your split shot onto your line too tight. You want to be able to adjust the weight up and down your line if needed.
- For catch-and-release, crimp your hook barbs down using pliers.



Benjamin Naranjo with a couple Pecos River brown trout he caught in the beginning of April.



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!

As the snow melts, increasing river flows during the spring runoff flush worms and bugs from the bank and into the mouths of hungry trout.

