



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

Bluewater Lake: Bryan Novotny of Rio Rancho caught a 10-pound, 5-ounce tiger muskie using a 7-inch swimbait April 30.

Eagle Nest Lake: Gerald Montoya of Alcalde caught a 21-inch, 5-pound rainbow trout using garlic PowerBait May 3.

Elephant Butte Lake: Nate Sierra of Albuquerque caught a 17-inch, 3-pound smallmouth bass using a ¼-ounce white jig with a 3-inch paddle tail swimbait May 7. Michelle Martinez of Taos caught six white bass fishing from the bank using a fly rod with a Clouser minnow fly May 2.



AmberRose Bebo, age 7, Holly Bebo, age 8, and Tustin Bebo, age 10, of Farmington caught eight rainbow trout April 28 at Lake Farmington.

Greene Acres Lake: Evan Shields of Clovis caught a 4-pound albino catfish and a 6.1-pound channel catfish using cut bait May 5 and May 6.

Lake Farmington: AmberRose Bebo, age 7, Holly Bebo, age 8, and Tustin Bebo, age 10, of Farmington caught eight rainbow trout using cheese PowerBait April 28.

Rio Grande: Rafael Martinez of Las Cruces caught a 46-pound flathead catfish using cut bait April 30. Jeremiah Herrera of Gallup caught a 30-inch pike using a chartreuse Panther Martin spinner near Pilar April 15.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Carlos Dassaro of Santa Fe caught a 19-inch rainbow trout using a small Rapala lure May 1. Fedelino Chacon of Alcalde caught a 17-inch rainbow trout using garlic PowerBait May 1.

Tingley Beach: Levi Weiss, age 10, of Albuquerque caught two catfish and one large bluegill using worms in the kids' pond May 8. Clarence Padilla and his son Santos Padilla, age 3, of Albuquerque caught and released a 3-pound largemouth bass using a wacky rigged red Roboworm May 4.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 26.2 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using chartreuse and salmon peach PowerBait. Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using chartreuse curly tail grubs and crankbaits.

Conchas Lake: Fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass was fair to good when using soft plastic worms and curly tail grubs. Fishing for walleye was fair when using green curly tail grubs and orange Rat-L-Trap crankbaits. Fishing for white bass was good when using white curly tail grubs and Rat-L-Trap crankbaits. Fishing for crappie was good when using small curly tail jigs and live minnows on jig heads.



Jeremiah Herrera of Gallup caught a 30-inch pike using a chartreuse Panther Martin spinner on the Rio Grande near Pilar April 15.

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: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Pecos-Las Vegas Ranger District is currently closed. For more information, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Pecos-Las Vegas Ranger District office at (505) 425-3534.

Coyote Creek: Coyote Creek State Park is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (575) 387-2328.

Eagle Nest Lake: Fishing for rainbow trout was fair to good when using garlic PowerBait, corn and red worms. Fishing for pike was fair when using rainbow trout pattern crankbaits.

Eagle Rock Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Gallinas River: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Pecos-Las Vegas Ranger District is currently closed. For more information, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Pecos-Las Vegas Ranger District office at (505) 425-3534.

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 trout was good when using Gulp Worms and pink and brass Kastmaster lures.

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

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

Monastery Lake: The lake is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information, [visit the Open Gate webpage](#).

Morphy Lake: Morphy Lake State Park is currently closed due to wildfire concerns. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (575) 387-2328.

Pecos River: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Pecos-Las Vegas Ranger District is currently closed, as is Pecos Canyon State Park. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Pecos-Las Vegas Ranger District office at (505) 425-3534. For more information on the Pecos Canyon State Park closure, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (505) 670-8196.

Red River: Streamflow below the hatchery Monday morning was 96.2 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow when using San Juan worms and large heavy nymph flies. The water levels were high, and the river was muddy.

Rio Grande: Streamflow at the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 858 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow. Fishing for pike was fair when using chartreuse Panther Martin spinners near Pilar. The water levels were high, and the river was muddy.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow Monday morning near Valdez was 53.7 cfs.

Rio Mora: All U.S. Forest Service land in the Pecos-Las Vegas Ranger District is currently closed, as is Pecos Canyon State Park. For more information on the Forest Service closure, [visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Pecos-Las Vegas Ranger District office at (505) 425-3534. For more information on the Pecos Canyon State Park closure, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (505) 670-8196.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 52.5 cfs.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using small Rapala crankbaits and garlic 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: The boat ramp and lake access to all motorized vessels is closed. Forest fires in the area are likely to impact the lake. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (505) 425-7278.

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

Ute Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using live minnows rigged on jig heads or trolling Flicker Shad lures, Model A Bombers and Wally Divers. Fishing for white bass was fair when trolling various crankbaits in 14 to 20 feet of water. Fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass was good when using spinnerbaits, chatterbaits and wacky rigged worms on shallow main lake gravel points. Fishing for crappie was good when using live minnows and Road Runner lures in the upper Canadian arm of the lake. Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver and nightcrawler worms. The main lake water surface temperature was in the low to mid 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 2,600 cfs.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for tiger muskie was slow to fair when using large jerkbaits and swimbaits. The water level was low, and anglers reported that launching boats was difficult.

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 1,630 cfs and 1,790 cfs, respectively. Please remember, from the river-crossing bridge on



Clarence Padilla and his son Santos Padilla, age 3, of Albuquerque caught and released a 3-pound largemouth bass May 4 at Tingley Beach.

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: Due to the Cerro Pelado Fire, Cochiti Lake is closed for fishing and all recreation. For more information, visit the [US Army Corps of Engineers website](#).

El Vado Lake: El Vado Lake can be accessed at Hargroves Day Use Area off State Road 322 as well as the Main Park area off State Road 112. The Rio Chama River can be accessed at the North El Vado Day Use area on SR 95 10 miles west of U.S. Highway 84. Lake levels are steady but expected to drop as crews work on the El Vado Dam. The Dam Day Use Area is closed due to the ongoing construction. State Road 112 over the dam will experience periodic closures. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (575) 588-7247.

Fenton Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week. For more information, [visit the park's webpage](#) or call (575) 829-3630.

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

Jemez Waters: Streamflow on the Jemez River near the town of Jemez Monday morning was 48.4 cfs. For more information, [visit the Jemez Ranger District's webpage](#) or call (505) 438-5300.

Laguna del Campo: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Lake Farmington: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using cheese PowerBait.

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 up the San Juan arm of the lake. Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using trout pattern lures. Fishing for smallmouth bass was slow when using crankbaits and skirt jigs.

Rio Grande: Fishing for catfish near Albuquerque was fair to good when using cut bait.

Riverside Park Pond (Aztec Pond #1): Fishing for trout was fair to good when using PowerBait.

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

San Juan River: Streamflow Monday morning was 293 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was fair to good when using zebra midge nymph flies and midge cluster dry flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was good when using nightcrawler worms.

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

Tingley Beach: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using wacky rigged red Roboworms. Fishing for catfish was good when using worms.

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

Southwest Fishing Report

Alumni Pond: Fishing for all species was slow.

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

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for bass was slow when using swimbaits.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for crappie was fair when using live minnows. Fishing for drum was fair using spinnerbaits.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using cut gizzard shad bait. Fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass was good when using chartreuse crankbaits, jigs and soft plastic lures. Fishing for white bass was good when using Clouser minnow flies, 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 good when using garlic nightcrawler worms and curly tail grubs.

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

Gila River: Streamflow Monday morning was 33.4 cfs.

Glenwood Pond: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using orange Trout Magnet lures.

Lake Roberts: Fishing for bass and catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms.

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

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using silver Panther Martin spinners.



Michelle Martinez of Taos caught six white bass fishing from the bank using a fly rod with a clouser minnow fly May 2 at Elephant Butte Lake.

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Monday morning was 680 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms and cut bait near the town of Hatch.

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

Trees Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using worms, PowerBait and shrimp. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using maroon plastic worms rigged with a small spinner in front.

Young Pond: Fishing for all species was slow.

Southeast Fishing Report

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait.

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 3.97 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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



Evan Shields of Clovis caught a 4-pound albino catfish and a 6.1-pound channel catfish using cut bait May 5 and May 6 at Greene Acres Lake.

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 bass was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms.

Greene Acres Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait.

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was fair to 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 109 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using worms.

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

Ruidoso River: Streamflow Monday morning at Hollywood was 4.09 cfs.

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when using live minnows. Fishing for bass was fair when using live minnows.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using jigs and worms.

Timberon Ponds: We had no reports from anglers this week.

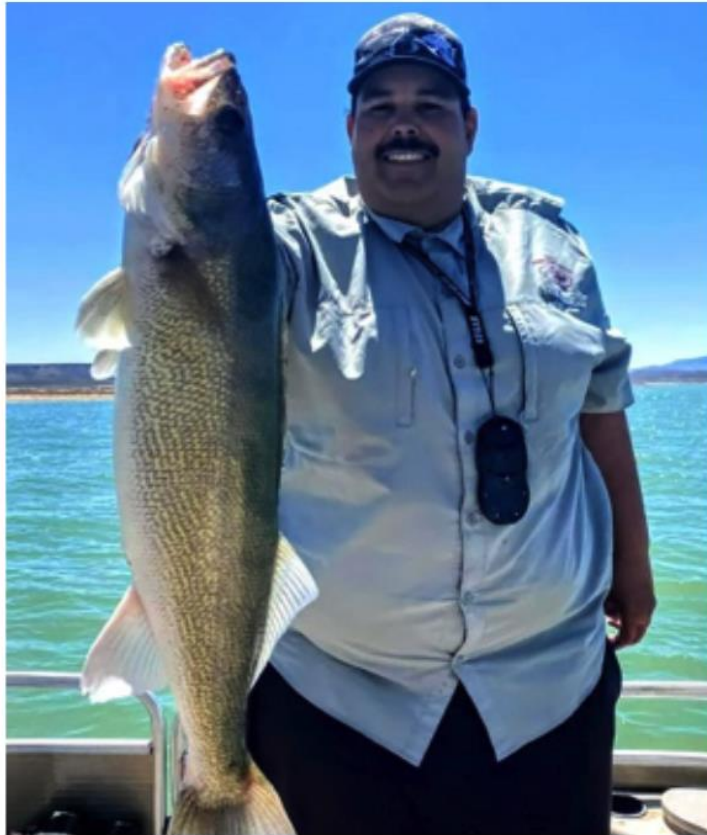
Tips and Tricks – David di Bartolomeo on Catching the Walleye Bite

David is among a group of anglers who are consistently catching walleye at Elephant Butte Lake right now. He has been catching walleye in 6 to 10 feet of water along gravel banks and points where the walleye like to spawn.

Noticeably larger walleye are often females and are prime candidates for catch-and-release because of their ability to lay thousands of eggs that help replenish their population.

Tackle for Targeting Walleye

1. A 1-ounce bottom bouncer with a chartreuse curly tail grub on a 3/8-ounce jig head. Tip the hook of the jig head with a couple inches of worm. Slowly bounce along the bottom of the lake. If David is fishing in 10 feet of water, he lets about 15 feet of line out and drifts about 0.8 to 1 mph.
2. A 3/8-ounce jig head with just a worm. Bounce the jig head with worm along the bottom of the lake.
3. Bright-colored crankbaits such as chartreuse, fire tiger and white. While trolling 2 to 2.5 mph, drag your crank baits along gravel banks, allowing your crankbait to bounce off the rocks.



David di Bartolomeo with a 7-pound walleye that he caught and released at Elephant Butte Lake.

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!



Clean, Drain and Dry your watercraft.

Stop Aquatic Aliens!



Protect New Mexico Waters.

www.wildlife.state.nm.us/ais

