



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 past 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: Eric Baros of Los Lunas caught and released a 38-inch tiger muskie using a crankbait July 23.

Caballo Lake: Frank Rittel and Brian Rittel of El Paso, Texas, caught 26 crappie and one white bass using white grubs July 23.

Eagle Nest Lake: Eason Chapman, age 5, of Aledo, Texas, caught an 18.5-inch rainbow trout using a Platte River Special July 28.

Elephant Butte Lake: Marie Cadieux of Tome caught a 14-inch white bass using a white jig July 26. Rebecca Calcutt of Albuquerque caught a 15-inch, 1.5-pound crappie using a jig July 26. Ed Engel of El Paso, Texas, caught and released a 10-pound striper using shiner minnows July 23.

Fenton Lake: Troy Quinones, age 6, of Albuquerque caught a 19-inch rainbow trout using Big Gulp salmon PowerBait July 27. Benjamin Archuleta, age 12, of Albuquerque caught a 16-inch rainbow trout using rainbow garlic PowerBait July 20.



Jaxon Rael, age 4, of Tucumcari caught his first fish, a 10-inch smallmouth bass, July 23 at Ute Lake with his grandpa, Jimmy.

Ute Lake: Jaxon Rael, age 4, of Tucumcari caught his first fish, a 10-inch smallmouth bass, using a nightcrawler worm July 23 with his grandpa, Jimmy.

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

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 15.2 cubic feet per second (cfs). We had no reports from anglers this week.

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using chicken liver and homemade dough baits.

Conchas Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when using bottom bouncer worm harness rigs. Fishing for bass was good when using curly tail grubs.

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 the 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). Tentative stocking of Rio Grande cutthroat trout is set for spring 2023. Places to fish nearby include Costilla Creek below the fish barrier, Upper Comanche Creek, Shuree Ponds, Upper Powderhouse Creek, Little Costilla Creek, Vidal Creek and McCrystal Creek. **National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200 for the latest closure information.**

Cowles Ponds: National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300 for the latest closure information.

Coyote Creek: Fishing for trout was slow.

Eagle Nest Lake: Fishing for rainbow trout was good when using Platte River Specials.

Eagle Rock Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using orange PowerBait.



Eason Chapman, age 5, of Aledo, Texas, caught an 18.5-inch rainbow trout using a Platte River Special July 28 at Eagle Nest Lake.

Gallinas River: National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300 for the latest closure information.

Hopewell Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using various flies. National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200 for the latest closure information.

Lake Alice: Fishing for trout was fair when using nightcrawler worms. Fishing for perch was good when using small nightcrawler worms. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms.

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs, and pink and green PowerBait.

Los Pinos River: National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200 for the latest closure information.

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

Monastery Lake: The lake will remain closed until further notice. For more information, [visit the Open Gate webpage](#).

Morphy Lake: State Park closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit Morphy Lake State Park's webpage](#) or call (575) 387-2328 for the latest closure information.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was 300 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using worms. National Forest and State Park closures are in place restricting fishing access to much of the Pecos River. [Visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300 for the latest forest closure information. [Visit Pecos Canyon State Park's webpage](#) or call (505) 670-8196 for the latest park closure information.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery Monday morning was 89.4 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair when using salmon eggs.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 601 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using worms and black and gold Panther Martin spinners near Pilar.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow near Valdez Monday morning was 24.7 cfs. National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200 for the latest closure information.

Rio Mora: Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 226 cfs. National Forest and State Park closures have been in place restricting fishing access to the Rio Mora. [Visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-

5300 for the latest forest closure information. [Visit Pecos Canyon State Park's webpage](#) or call (505) 670-8196 for the latest park closure information.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Penasco Monday morning was 52.2 cfs. **Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200 for the latest closure information.**

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using green PowerBait.

Shuree Ponds: Fishing for trout was good when using dry flies.

Springer Lake: Fishing for pike was good when using chatterbaits with plastic Roboworm trailers. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms.

Storrie Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using pink and orange PowerBait. Fishing for crappie was fair to good when using gold Panther Martin spinners.

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

Ute Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when trolling using Flicker Shad lures and DT10 Rapala lures. Fishing for white bass was fair to good when using jigging spoons in 40 feet of water. Fishing for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass was good when using Berkley MaxScent General worms, 3-inch crawdad pattern plastics, Ned Rigs and topwater lures in the mornings in 8 to 16 feet of water. Fishing for crappie was slow. Fishing for catfish was good when using punch bait and cut bait. Fishing for bluegill was good when using worms. The main lake water surface temperature was in the lower 80° F range and the water clarity was clear.

Northwest Fishing Report

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when using nightcrawler worms and crankbaits. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using shrimp.

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 805 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 good when using crankbaits, Whopper Plopper lures and hot dogs.

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

Canjilon Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using rainbow PowerBait and orange PowerBait. **National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200 for the latest closure information.**



Benjamin Archuleta, age 12, of Albuquerque caught a 16-inch rainbow trout using rainbow garlic Power-Bait July 20 at Fenton Lake.

Chama River: Streamflow below El Vado Lake and below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 781 cfs and 748 cfs, respectively. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was fair when using worms and PowerBait. 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 was fair to good when using spinnerbaits and crankbaits. Fishing for white bass was fair to good when using white spinners. Fishing for catfish was good when using hotdogs.

El Vado Lake: El Vado Lake can be accessed at Hargroves Day Use Area off State Road 322 and the main park area off State Road 112. The Rio Chama can be accessed at the North El Vado Day Use Area on State Road 95, 10 miles west of U.S. Highway 84. Lake levels are steady but expected to drop as crews work on 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 El Vado Lake State Park's webpage](#) or call (575) 588-7247.

Fenton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Big Gulp salmon PowerBait, rainbow garlic PowerBait, spinners, beadhead prince nymph flies and worms.

Grants Riverwalk Pond: The pond has dried up due to pump failure. The city is planning to repair the pumps but is taking this opportunity to dredge the pond. They expect the pond to be offline for at least two to three months. Fish stocking will be discontinued until all work is done.

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

Jemez Waters: Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 48.4 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using worms and grasshopper dry flies. **National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300 for the latest closure information.**

Laguna del Campo: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait and Pistol Pete spinner flies.

Lagunitas Lakes: **National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200 for the latest closure information.**

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

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

Navajo Lake: Fishing for pike was fair to good when using 4-inch green grubs and swimbaits. Fishing for smallmouth bass was good when using plastic worms and Ned rigs in 20 feet of water. Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using spinners. Fishing for kokanee salmon was slow to fair when using orange and pink spinners tipped with corn.

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

Riverside Park Pond (Aztec Pond #1): We had no reports from anglers this week.

San Gregorio Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week. **National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Santa Fe National Forest webpage](#) or call the Santa Fe National Forest office at (505) 438-5300 for the latest closure information.**

San Juan River: Streamflow near Archuleta Monday morning was 397 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was fair to good when using ant pattern dry flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was slow to fair due to heavy rainfall.

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

Tiger Park Reservoir: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for catfish was slow when using cut bait.

Trout Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using chartreuse PowerBait and flies. **National Forest closures have been in place restricting fishing access. [Visit the Carson National Forest webpage](#) or call the Carson National Forest office at (505) 758-6200 for the latest closure information.**

Southwest Fishing Report

Alumni Pond: Fishing for bass was fair when using blue and gold Blue Fox spinners and purple plastic worms. Fishing for catfish was slow.

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

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for bass was fair when using worms and crankbaits. Fishing for trout was slow. Fishing for bluegill was good when using red wiggler worms.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for crappie was very good when using white grubs and live minnows. Fishing for walleye was slow to fair when using yellow and red Panther Martin spinners. Fishing for white bass was slow to fair when using white grubs.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass was fair when using live minnows and jigs. Fishing for white bass was good when using live shiner minnows. Fishing for crappie was fair when using jigs and live minnows. Fishing for strippers was fair when using shiner minnows. Fishing for catfish was good when using cut carp bait and minnows.



Rebecca Calcutt of Albuquerque caught a 15-inch, 1.5-pound crappie using a jig July 26 at Elephant Butte Lake.

Escondida Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using shrimp chicken liver.

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 575 cfs. Fishing for catfish was good when using worms.

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was slow when using streamers and black Woolly Bugger flies. Fishing for catfish was good when using worms and chicken liver.

Percha Dam: Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver.

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using worms and light-colored dry flies.

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

Rio Grande: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait and homemade dough bait.

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

Trees Lake: Fishing for bass was slow. Fishing for catfish was good when using chicken liver and stinkbait. Fishing for bluegill was good when using live worms and flies.

Young Pond: Fishing for catfish was good when using hotdogs, dough bait and nightcrawler worms.

Southeast Fishing Report

Alto Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using PowerBait and garlic-scented nightcrawler worms.

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

Berrendo Creek: We had no reports from anglers this week. Please visit the [Open Gate webpage](#) for more information on [this property](#).

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 0.0 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 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: Fishing for gar was fair when using cut bait. Fishing for largemouth bass was fair when using live worms and wacky-rigged Senko worms. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait and nightcrawler worms.

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using shrimp.

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

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

Eunice Lake: Fishing for bass was good when using dark blue soft plastic Texas rigged worms. Fishing for catfish was slow when using worms.

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using worms.

Greene Acres Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using worms and cut shad bait.

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Panther Martin spinners. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using worms. Fishing for bluegill was fair when using worms.

Jal Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using worms.

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

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using hot dogs and worms.

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

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

Rio Bonito: Fishing for rainbow trout was good when using worms.

Rio Ruidoso: Streamflow at Hollywood Monday morning was 8.31 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

Rock Lake Hatchery Kids' Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Santa Rosa Lake: Boat ramp temporarily closed due to low water level. Fishing for walleye from the shore was fair to good when using minnows.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for walleye and white bass was fair when using redheaded Buck Perry spoon plugs trolling in 8 feet of water. The main lake water surface temperature was in the upper 70° F range.

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

Tips and Tricks – The Key Ingredient for Catching Kokanee Salmon

The one key ingredient that can be the difference between not getting a single bite or catching a limit of kokanee salmon is the corn you put on your spinner's hooks. It seems totally odd that it makes that big of a difference, but it is absolutely important that you tip your spinners with corn.

White shoepeg corn can be found at most grocery stores and works well on a spinner's hook when fishing for kokanee salmon.

New Mexico kokanee salmon can be found in Navajo Lake, Eagle Nest Lake and Heron Lake. This time of year, kokanee salmon begin to congregate in large schools as they prepare for their annual spawning season. The vast majority of anglers who fish for kokanee salmon troll for them using boats to access the deeper portions of the lake. It is popular to use downriggers or lead line to access the kokanee salmon schools that often reside 30 to 70 feet deep.

Pink, orange, green, silver and gold spinners are a few colors of choice amongst kokanee anglers. The spinners are trolled at slow speed behind flashy attractions such as dodgers and Christmas trees (a string of flashy attractors).

Kokanee salmon are a delicious fish to eat. If you go out and catch some, please share your recipes with us!

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.



White shoepeg corn can be found at most grocery stores and works well on a spinner's hook when fishing for kokanee salmon.



Rose with a kokanee salmon recently caught at Eagle Nest Lake using a pink spinner tipped with corn.

Thanks for reading and supporting our angling community!

