



This fishing report, provided by Dustin Berg of www.gounlimited.org (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.

NOTE: There will be fewer reports available during the cooler seasons when fishing slows. The department will make every effort to provide as much information as possible during the winter months.

[Check out the latest stocking report](#)

[Get your New Mexico fishing license](#)

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



2022-23 Fishing RIBs Available Online!

The 2022-2023 Fishing Rules and Information Booklets (RIBs) are still 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 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

Eagle Nest Lake: Mark Olivas of Embudo caught a 23-inch rainbow trout using a wax worm Dec. 29.

Oasis Park Lake: Fidel Velasco, along with his son and grandson, Mario and Mario Jr., caught their limits of rainbow trout using PowerBait Jan. 1.

Pecos River: Robert Sena caught and released three brown trout and two rainbow trout using a streamer fly Jan. 1.

Rio Chama: Brian Szarek of Sandia Park caught and released a 20-inch rainbow trout using a black-and-orange Woolly Bugger fly below Abiquiu Lake on Dec. 25.



Fidel Velasco, along with his son and grandson, Mario and Mario Jr., caught their limits of rainbow trout using PowerBait Jan. 1 at Oasis Park Lake.

Rock Lake Hatchery Kids' Pond: Jeryn Chavez, age 9, of Santa Rosa caught a 6-pound rainbow trout using white-and-orange PowerBait Mice Tails on Dec. 27.

Santa Rosa Lake: Eric Chavez of Albuquerque caught a 3-pound largemouth bass using a Panther Martin spinner Dec. 28.

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. Fish weights and measurements are provided by the angler and printed here as received.

Northeast Fishing Report

Cabresto Lake: Fishing for brook trout and cutthroat trout was good when using ice jigs tipped with wax worms or mealworms. Anglers reported lake ice was about 10 inches thick.

Charette Lakes: Closed to boating and fishing until March.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was not measured due to ice.

Clayton Lake: Closed to boating and fishing until March.

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

Costilla Creek: The Valle Vidal is closed to fishing until July.

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

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

Eagle Nest Lake: Ice fishing for trout was fair to good when using PowerBait, tungsten ice fishing jigs tipped with mealworms and pink Trout Magnet lures. Ice fishing for perch was good when using jigs tipped with worms. 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.

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: Ice fishing for trout was very good using glow ice jigs tipped with mealworms or waxworms. Anglers reported the ice was 13 inches thick.

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

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

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

Maxwell Lake 13: Closed to boating and fishing until March.



Robert Sena caught and released three brown trout and two rainbow trout using a streamer fly Jan. 1 on the Pecos River.

Monastery Lake: Closed to fishing due to unsafe ice conditions.

Morphy Lake: Closed to boating and fishing until March.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was not measured due to ice. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using streamer flies near Tererro.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery Monday morning was 57 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using small nymph and beadhead flies.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge Monday morning was 530 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using brown Joe's Flies, nymph flies and gold-and-black Panther Martin spinners near Pilar.

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

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

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Penasco Monday morning was not measured due to ice.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Closed to fishing due to unsafe ice conditions.

Shuree Ponds: Closed to fishing until 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Northwest Fishing Report

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

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 258 cfs.

Albuquerque Area Drains: Fishing for trout was fair when using salmon eggs.

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.

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

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 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 El Vado Lake State Park's webpage](#) or call 575-588-7247.



Brian Szarek of Sandia Park caught and released a 20-inch rainbow trout on the Rio Chama below Abiquiu Lake on Dec. 25.

Fenton Lake: Closed to fishing due to unsafe ice conditions.

Grants Riverwalk Pond: The city is in the final stages of repairs; stocking will resume soon.

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

Jemez Waters: Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 27 cfs.

Laguna del Campo: Closed to fishing until March.

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

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake and below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 103 cfs and 99 cfs, respectively. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was good when using leech-pattern flies, streamer flies, nymph flies, nightcrawler worms, salmon eggs 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.

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

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

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

San Juan River: Streamflow near Archuleta Monday morning was 352 cfs. The Bureau of Reclamation scheduled a decrease in the release from Navajo Dam from 350 cfs to 300 cfs for Jan. 3 at 4 a.m. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was fair to good when using black, leech-pattern flies and size-20, red annelid flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair to good when using San Juan worm flies and egg-pattern flies near Crusher Hole.

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

Tiger Park Reservoir: Fishing for trout was very good when using purple-and-green leech-pattern flies, black-and-tan Woolly Bugger flies, and black, olive and tan streamer flies.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for trout was good when using dough bait, Pistol Pete spinner flies and olive leech-pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the catch-and-release pond was good when using black Woolly Bugger flies.

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

Southwest Fishing Report

Alumni Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs soaked in garlic, Velveeta cheese, chunky cheese PowerBait and marshmallows.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for rainbow trout was slow to fair when using spinners.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using orange and chartreuse PowerBait fished with a bobber.

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

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using cut carp bait and cut shad bait.

Escondida Lake: Fishing was fair to good when using garlic PowerBait and small pieces of shrimp. Anglers reported the lake surface freezing at night but thawing in the afternoon.

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 789 cfs.

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using chartreuse PowerBait and flies.

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

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 Dam Monday morning was 0 cfs.

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

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

Young Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon-peach PowerBait, chunky-cheese PowerBait and corn soaked in garlic.



Fishing for rainbow trout was slow to fair when using spinners at Bear Canyon Lake this past week.

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

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 9 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using yellow Panther Martin spinners.

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.

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 trout was fair to good when using PowerBait.

Chaparral Park Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using sweet corn.

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 trout was fair to good when using worms fished with a bobber.

Greene Acres Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using worms fished with a bobber.

Grindstone Reservoir: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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



Eric Chavez of Albuquerque caught a 3-pound largemouth bass using a Panther Martin spinner Dec. 28 at Santa Rosa Lake.

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing for trout was very good when using PowerBait.

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 14 cfs. Fishing for white bass was fair when using crankbaits.

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

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

Rio Ruidoso: Streamflow at Hollywood Monday morning was 15 cfs.

Rock Lake Hatchery Kids' Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using white and orange PowerBait Mice Tails.

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for bass was fair when using Panther Martin spinners.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for white bass was good when using curly-tail, shad-pattern jigs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using shad and crawdads. Fishing for walleye was slow when using shad-pattern jigs.

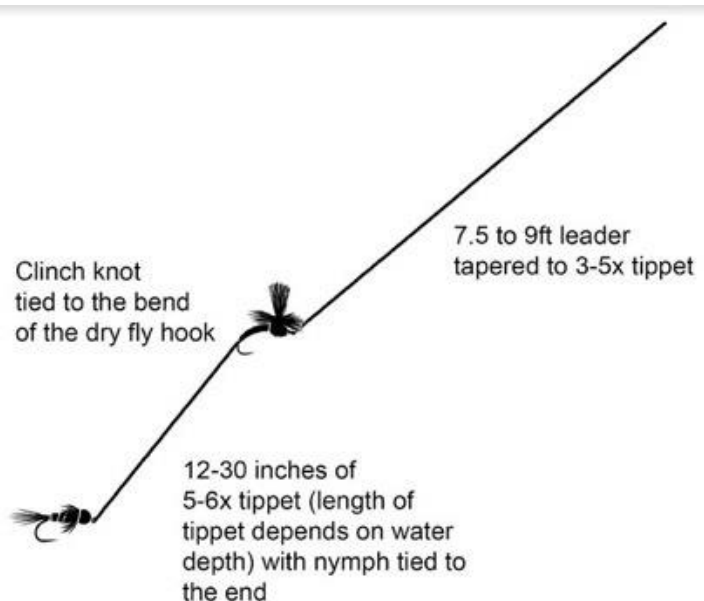
Timberon Ponds: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Tips and Tricks – How to Fly Fish the Dry-Dropper Setup

By Joey and Jojo Lujan

The dry-dropper setup is a great way to catch fish when fish are feeding on or just below the water's surface. This technique is productive year round. It is best to use a nice, visible, natural-looking hopper fly as opposed to a big, clunky indicator fly when using this setup during the winter months. This is especially important when fishing in clear water, where fish can be easily spooked.

Occasionally you get a take on the hopper fly, but most takes will be on the nymph fly, while the hopper serves as an indicator. When the hopper drops under the water's surface, it has either reached the bottom of the river or lake, or a fish has taken the dropper nymph fly.



During the summer months, big, bright indicator flies work well, sometimes better than hopper flies.

You will want to change the length of your tippet between your two flies depending on the depth of the body of water you are fishing. Fly fishing is all about making adjustments depending on the situation.

Joey and Jojo Lujan tie all their own flies and find extra enjoyment catching fish with their creations.

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!



Here are a few of the flies that Joey and Jojo Lujan use in their dry-dropper setup.



10-year-old Jojo Lujan loves the dry-dropper setup. Here he is with a brown trout he caught this past fall in Jemez Springs.



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