



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.

[Check out the latest stocking report](#)

Get your New Mexico fishing license: *Get your new license today! 2022-23 fishing licenses are no longer valid; please remember to purchase a new license for the 2023-24 license year.*



2023-24 Fishing RIBs Available Online!

The 2023-24 Fishing Rules and Information Booklets (RIBs) are available online in [English and Spanish for download](#).

Printed versions began arriving at vendors and NMDGF offices this week.

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

Bosque Redondo Lake: Evan Shields of Clovis caught a 5-pound largemouth bass using a deep-diving, pumpkin-colored crankbait on April 30.

Brantley Lake: Valerie Wyatt of Roswell caught a 16-inch walleye using chicken breast bait on May 6.

Conchas Lake: Dewey Loveless of Conchas caught his limit of walleye, with the largest being 7.75-pounds, using a Firetiger Berkley Flicker Shad lure trolling in 6-8 feet of water on May 4. Meriah Sandoval of Albuquerque caught and released a 14.5-inch 1-pound, 7-ounce crappie using a plastic worm on May 3.

Fenton Lake: Leia Trujillo and her great-grandfather Manuel Baca of Pena Blanca caught and released 15 trout using PowerBait on May 3. Ryan Spurlock of Albuquerque caught a 19-inch rainbow trout using PowerBait on April 29.

Lake Roberts: Ethan Cameron, age 12, of Silver City caught a 17-inch and 15-inch trout using garlic marshmallow bait on May 6.

Morphy Lake: Vincent Pacheco of Las Vegas caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using orange salmon eggs on May 7.

Navajo Lake: Alejandro Graham of Albuquerque caught a 40-inch pike using a Dardevle Spoon on May 2. Isabel Madrid, age 9, of Bernalillo caught a 28-inch brown trout using a Rapala lure on April 28.

Pecos River: Alvin Garcia of Albuquerque caught a 20-inch rainbow trout using worms on May 7.

Quemado Lake: Zane and Elijah Lam, age 2, caught two 15-inch rainbow trout using Garlic PowerBait and Panther Martin spinners on April 30.

Rio Grande: Dominic Rodarte of Albuquerque caught a 35-inch, 20-pound, 14-ounce catfish near the Village of Corrales using bluegill on May 7.



Evan Shields of Clovis caught a 5-pound largemouth bass using a deep-diving, pumpkin-colored crankbait on April 30 at Bosque Redondo Lake.

Storrie Lake: Leandra Pino of Las Vegas, New Mexico caught an 18-inch 2-pound rainbow trout using salmon eggs on May 3.

Tingley Beach: Sam Stewart of Albuquerque caught an 18-inch, 2.86-pound largemouth bass using a 3.5-inch Lost Creek swimbait on May 6. Lowell Smith of Paraje caught a 20-inch, 4-pound catfish using cut bluegill bait on May 2. Richard Martinez of Albuquerque caught a 20-inch catfish using Orange PowerBait on April 30. Melvin Martinez of Albuquerque caught a 20-inch catfish using Orange PowerBait on April 30.

Trout Lakes: Andrew Romero of Las Vegas caught and released a 21-inch rainbow trout using a Panther Martin spinner on May 5.

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 trout was good when using Zebra Midge flies and Euro Nymph flies.

Charette Lakes: Fishing for trout was fair when using nightcrawler worms.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 50 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was fair to good when using bead-head nymph flies, worms, salmon eggs and Yellow Garlic PowerBait.

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait and worms. Fishing for walleye was fair when using nightcrawler worms. Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver and nightcrawler worms.

Conchas Lake: Fishing for smallmouth bass was good when using jerkbaits and soft-plastic worms. Fishing for walleye was good when trolling using Firetiger Berkley Flicker Shad lures. Fishing



Meriah Sandoval of Albuquerque caught and released a 14.5-inch, 1-pound, 7-ounce crappie using a plastic worm on May 3 at Conchas Lake.

for crappie was fair when using soft-plastic worms.

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: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using black Woolly Buzzer flies and Salmon Peach PowerBait. The boat docks are now in the water. 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 black spinners, White PowerBait Eggs and Pistol Pete spinner flies.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Lake Alice: Fishing for trout was fair when using silver/brass-schemed spoons, small tube jigs and PowerBait worms. The lake is closed to vessel/boat operation.



Leandra Pino of Las Vegas, New Mexico, caught an 18-inch 2-pound rainbow trout using salmon eggs on May 3 at Storrie Lake.

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout was good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies, Gulp Trout Bait, size-17 flies and silver/brass/black/yellow/red-schemed Panther Martin spinners. Fishing for bluegill and perch was fair to good when using small bait and flies. The ADA dock is open to anglers, with priority given to mobility-impaired persons.

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 good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies and PowerBait. The Benedictine Monastery Lake is part of the Department's [Open Gate Program](#). Please [visit our website for more information about this property](#).

Morphy Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using orange salmon eggs, CDC Flashback Pheasant Tail nymph flies and

Panther Martin spinners.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was 471 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using worms and gold bead-head nymph flies.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 195 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair when using worms.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 2,620 cfs.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow near Valdez Monday morning was 92 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 157 cfs.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 275 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using worms.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using black Pistol Pete spinner flies, worms, spinners, Orange PowerBait and Rainbow PowerBait.

Shuree Ponds: Closed to fishing until July.

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

Storrie Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using salmon eggs and garlic PowerBait.

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

Ute Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when trolling using Berkley Flicker Shad lures, Wally Diver lures, Berkley Flicker Minnow lures and nightcrawler spinner rigs. Fishing for walleye was fair when jigging using live minnows and Gulp Minnows. Fishing for white bass was fair to good when using crankbaits that dive 8-10 feet. Fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass was good when using chatter baits, Bandit Crankbaits, Senko worms and crawdad-pattern baits. Fishing for crappie was fair to good when using live minnows in 12-15 feet of water. Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver and punch bait. The main lake water surface temperature was in the low to mid 60 F range, and the water was clear.



Dewey Loveless of Conchas caught his limit of walleye, with the largest being 7.75-pounds, on May 4 at Conchas Lake.



Vincent Pacheco of Las Vegas caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using orange salmon eggs on May 7 at Morphy Lake.

Northwest Fishing Report

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

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 2,730 cfs.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

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

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

Cochiti Lake: Fishing for pike was good when using 6-inch, topwater lures and jerkbaits. Fishing for white bass was slow when using crankbaits. Fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass was fair to good when using jerkbaits and swimbaits. Fishing for catfish was good when using nightcrawler worms and cut carp bait.



Dominic Rodarte of Albuquerque caught a 35-inch, 20-pound, 14-ounce catfish near the Village of Corrales using bluegill on May 7.

El Vado Lake: Closed due to dam construction project. 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 Mop Flies, black Rooster Tail spinners and PowerBait. For updated lake conditions, visit the [park's webpage](#) or call the park office at 575-829-3630.

Grants Riverwalk Pond: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies.

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

Jemez Waters: Fishing for trout was good when using nymph flies near Fenton Lake. Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 308 cfs. Due to the rising popularity of fishing in Valles Caldera National Preserve, the National Park Service began charging a fee for its fishing permits starting April 1, 2023, to support the management of its fishing program. The new fee schedule will be \$20 for an annual pass (\$10 for youth 12-17) and \$5 for a 7-day pass (\$3 for youth 12-17). A State of New Mexico fishing license is also required to fish within Valles Caldera. For more information visit www.nps.gov/vall.

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 good when using dough bait.

McGaffey Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait. The lake is full and was recently stocked with rainbow trout.

Navajo Lake: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using Rapala lures. Fishing for pike was slow to fair when using large crankbaits and spoons. Fishing for bass was slow.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 129 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 1,540 cfs. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was fair when using nightcrawler worms and brown trout-pattern Rapala lures. 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.



Isabel Madrid, age 9, of Bernalillo caught a 28-inch brown trout using a Rapala lure on April 28 at Navajo Lake.

Rio Grande: Fishing for catfish was good when using cut bait near the Village of Corrales area.

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.

San Juan River: Streamflow near Archuleta Monday morning was 515 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was slow to fair when using midge-pattern flies, leech-pattern flies and red annelid flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair when using silver Kastmaster lures and PowerBait.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait Floating Mice Tails.

Tiger Park Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using Kastmaster lures and bead-head nymph flies.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bluegill bait and Orange PowerBait. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using white streamer flies and swimbaits. Fishing for trout was slow.

Trout Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using Panther Martin spinners.



Andrew Romero of Las Vegas caught and released a 21-inch rainbow trout using a Panther Martin spinner on May 5 at Trout Lakes.



Lowell Smith of Paraje caught a 20-inch, 4-pound catfish using cut bluegill bait on May 2 at Tingley Beach.



Melvin Martinez of Albuquerque caught a 20-inch catfish using Orange PowerBait on April 30 at Tingley Beach.



Sam Stewart of Albuquerque caught an 18-inch, 2.86-pound largemouth bass using a 3.5-inch Lost Creek swimbait on May 6 at Tingley Beach.



Richard Martinez of Albuquerque caught a 20-inch catfish using Orange PowerBait on April 30 at Tingley Beach.

Southwest Fishing Report

Alumni Pond: Fishing for catfish was good when using beef liver and chicken liver. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using small, black floating shad-pattern lures.

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

Bill Evans Lake: The department is conducting a boater and angler improvement project at Bill Evans Lake extending into May. Improvements include the installation of a new concrete boat ramp and dock; improvements to the existing boat ramp; the installation of rock, fishing jetties; road improvements; and re-grading the north camping access area. Anglers should expect road and lake closures during construction. For current conditions, contact the department's Fisheries Management Division at 505-476-8055. Anglers are encouraged to visit surrounding lakes such as Bear Canyon Lake, Lake Roberts and Trees Lake for alternate fishing locations.



Ethan Cameron, age 12, of Silver City caught a 17-inch and 15-inch trout using garlic marshmallow bait on May 6 at Lake Roberts.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for white bass was fair when using curly-tail grubs and small crankbaits. Fishing for walleye was good when using white Bomber lures, Rat-L-Trap crankbaits and curly-tail grubs.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass was fair to good when using shad-pattern jerkbaits, square-billed crankbaits, live minnows and swimbaits. Fishing for white bass was fair to good when using crankbaits. Fishing for walleye was fair when using liver shiners. Fishing for crappie was fair to good when using live minnows. Fishing for catfish was very good when using raw shrimp at the marina.

Escondida Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using artificial worms.

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

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 158 cfs.

Glenwood Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using Orange and Chartreuse PowerBait fished with a bobber.

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was fair when using garlic marshmallow bait and PowerBait.

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

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Garlic PowerBait and Panther Martin spinners.

Rancho Grande Ponds: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 351 cfs.

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

Trees Lake: Fishing for bass was fair when using 3-inch, soft-plastic worms.

Young Pond: Fishing for catfish was slow when using hot dogs.

Southeast Fishing Report

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using PowerBait and various flies. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using plastic worms.

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

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

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 3 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. The lake is full but needs time for aquatic habitat to develop in order to sustain a healthy fish population. The city hopes to reopen the lake for recreational purposes in June 2024.



Valerie Wyatt of Roswell caught a 16-inch walleye using chicken breast bait on May 6 at Brantley Lake.

Bosque Redondo Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut shad bait. Fishing for bass was good when using deep-diving, pumpkin-colored crankbaits.

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

Brantley Lake: Fishing for white bass was fair to good when using live minnows. Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using chicken breast bait and crankbaits.

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using hot dogs.

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

Corona Pond: Fishing for trout was fair when using Salmon Peach PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using raw chicken.

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

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass was good when using nightcrawler worms with garlic scent.

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

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using Garlic PowerBait and Salmon Peach PowerBait.

Harry McAdams Park Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Lake Van: Fishing for catfish was fair when using worms.

Ned Houk Ponds: 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 when using hot dogs south of Carlsbad.

Perch Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using cut-shad bait and garlic salmon eggs.

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

Rio Ruidoso: Streamflow at Hollywood Monday morning was 12 cfs.

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

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for all species was slow. The water temperature was in the upper 50 F range, and water quality was poor with high levels of turbidity.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when using live minnows and Berkley Flicker Shad lures.

Timberon Ponds: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Woolly Worm flies.

Tips and Tricks – One Tough Hombre, and a Fish of a Lifetime!

By Dustin Berg

On May 2, we had the opportunity to fish with Alejandro Graham and his father Lenny at Navajo Lake. Their friend Rodney reached out to us in the early part of 2023 to schedule a fishing trip for this very deserving father-son duo.

Alejandro has been in and out of the hospital battling cancer. His father has been right there with him, battling too. The heart and human spirit are never more evident than when faced with the most challenging of circumstances.

To no avail, we spent the morning trolling a variety of large lures fishing for brown trout. In the afternoon, we decided to try fishing for pike. We were casting Dardevle spoons to the shoreline from our boat when Alejandro hooked into something big. After several minutes of fighting the fish and multiple drag-pulling runs, the fish finally revealed itself. A gigantic pike was on the end of the line! Alejandro eased the fish towards the boat and fishing guide Ken Howell was barely able to fit the 40-inch fish into the net.



Alejandro with his 40-inch pike that he caught at Navajo Lake using a Dardevle spoon. Next to him is his father, Lenny, and fishing guide Ken Howell.

That evening, we barbecued steaks and relived the excitement of catching such a tremendous fish. The next day, we only spent a little over an hour fishing for trout before we decided to look for pike once again. The fishing was tough, and we were only able to manage a fluke catch of one more pike that was about 33 inches long. It was a funny fluke because Rodney had cast, using a bait-casting reel, and completely bird-nest tangled the line in the reel. While he was sorting out the tangle, Ken was hand-lining the lure in when suddenly there was a pike at the end of the line. Ken hand-line landed that fish, and we all got a good laugh.



**The pike that was caught by fluke, luck, or both.
From left to right: Ken Howell, Alejandro Graham,
Lenny Graham and Rodney Ruck.**

The weather was fantastic and great memories were made by all. If you plan to fish Navajo Lake soon, plan to cast a lot without many bites, but when you do get a bite, it could be the fish of a lifetime.

This was a GO Unlimited fishing trip supporting anglers with disabilities. For more information visit <https://www.gounlimited.org/>.

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!



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