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This fishing report, provided by the Department of Game and Fish in cooperation with Dustin Berg of www.gounlimited.org (supporting disabled anglers), has been generated from the best information available from anglers and area conservation officers. Conditions encountered after the report is compiled may differ, as stream, lake and weather conditions alter fish and angler activities.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! Tell us about your latest New Mexico fishing adventure or your catch of the week. 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.

Catches of the week are now listed before each region's fishing report to help you quickly find the best places to fish in your area.



[CHECK OUT THE LATEST STOCKING REPORT](#)



[2023-24 Fishing RIBs and Licenses Available Online!](#)

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

[Get your 2023-24 New Mexico fishing license!](#)

[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.



NORTHEAST

NORTHEAST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Charette Lakes: Victor Trujillo Jr. (above, far left) and Victor Trujillo Sr. (above, second from left) of Rio Rancho caught a 24-inch rainbow trout and an 18-inch rainbow trout using Blue Fox minnow lures on May 24.

Conchas Lake: Jim Sanchez (above, second from right) and Larry (above, far right) of Albuquerque caught their limits of walleye trolling nightcrawler rigs in 5 feet of water on May 18.



Morphy Lake: Angelina Garcia (above, left) of Las Vegas caught a 19-inch rainbow trout using Salmon Peach PowerBait on May 26. Jeffrey Sandoval (above, right), along with Collin Mckeller and Albert Gonzales, all of Albuquerque, caught and released multiple trout up to 18 inches long using olive Pistol Pete spinner flies on May 20.



Pecos River: Janessa Salazar (above, left) of Santa Fe caught a 30-inch rainbow trout using a worm on May 26. Michael Romero Jr. (above, center), age 11, of Santa Fe caught a 26-inch rainbow trout using Garlic PowerBait on May 24.

Storrie Lake: Jennifer Durante (above, right) of Albuquerque caught a 17-inch trout using Purple PowerBait on May 23.

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

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

Charette Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using Blue Fox minnow lures and spinners.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 58 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was good when using red Copper John flies, Cimarron Specials, San Juan Worm flies, worms and salmon eggs. Fishing for trout at Gravel Pit Lakes was good when using Salmon Peach PowerBait, Yellow Garlic Glitter PowerBait, worms and salmon eggs.

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

Conchas Lake: Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to good when using Berkley Flicker Shad lures, jerkbaits and nightcrawler worms. Fishing for walleye was good when trolling using silver Rapala lures, nightcrawler-worm harness spinner rigs and Flicker Shad lures. Fishing for crappie was fair to good when using live minnows and nightcrawler 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 streamer flies and Salmon Peach PowerBait. Fishing for pike was good when using large spinners and spoons. 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: 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: Anglers reported that there was open water, free of ice.

Lake Alice: Fishing for trout was fair when using corn, Yellow PowerBait, Green PowerBait, Rainbow Gulp PowerBait and Salmon Peach PowerBait.

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout was good when using size-18-22 dark-colored nymph flies, Pistol Pete spinner flies, Panther Martin spinners, marshmallows, corn, Yellow PowerBait, Green PowerBait, Rainbow Gulp PowerBait and Salmon Peach PowerBait. 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, small yellow bodied Panther Martin spinners, brown nymph 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 very good when using olive Pistol Pete spinner flies and Salmon Peach PowerBait.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was 429 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using worms and Garlic PowerBait.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 261 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair when using Panther Martin spinners at the hatchery.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 3,920 cfs. Anglers reported high water levels, murky water color and poor fishing conditions.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow near Valdez Monday morning was 141 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 89 cfs.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 184 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using beadhead nymph flies and worms.

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

Shuree Ponds: Closed to fishing until July.

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

Storrie Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Purple PowerBait and Garlic PowerBait.

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

Ute Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using chicken liver, nightcrawler worms and punch bait. Fishing for all other species was slow. The main lake water surface temperature was in the high-60 F range, and the water was dirty.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Fenton Lake: Phillip Velasquez (above, left) of Albuquerque caught an 18.25-inch rainbow trout using worms on May 28.

Jemez River: Will Leger (above, center) caught a 17-inch brown trout using a gold Blue Fox spinner on May 26.

Lake Farmington: Xavier LeFebre (above, right) of Farmington caught a 13.6-pound carp using a nightcrawler worm on May 22.



Liam Knight Pond: Harlee Porter (above, left), age 8, of Albuquerque caught a 5-pound catfish using Premo dip bait on May 26.

McGaffey Lake: Sean Mitchell Jr. (above, right), age 5, of Thoreau caught multiple rainbow trout using garlic scented PowerBait on May 25.



Navajo Lake: Eric Ferguson, age 13, of Albuquerque caught a 17-inch largemouth bass (above, left) using a grub, a 14-inch smallmouth bass (above, center) using a tube jig and a 33-inch pike (above, right) using a Flicker Shad lure on May 25.



San Juan River: Ariel Griego (above, left), age 11, of Albuquerque caught a 21-inch rainbow trout using a nightcrawler worm in the bait waters on May 29. Marcus Sanchez (above, right), age 19, of Albuquerque caught a 30-inch brown trout using a cone head crystal Woolly Bugger fly on May 18.



Seven Springs Brood Pond: Landen Baros of the Pueblo of Pojoaque and Emerson Saunders of Corrales (above, left) caught and released several fish before taking home four 14-inch and one 18-inch rainbow trout using various types of yellow- and green-colored PowerBaits on May 23.

Tingley Beach: Tyler Cordova (above, right) of La Joyal caught an 18-inch 3.41-pound largemouth bass using a 10-inch pink ribbon-tail worm Texas rig on May 24.

NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using shrimp and nightcrawler worms.

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 4,330 cfs.

Albuquerque Area Drains: Fishing for carp was good when using corn in the Corrales Riverside Drain.

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for tiger muskie was slow to fair when using minnows and spinners.

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

Canjilon Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using worms.

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

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 salmon eggs, Chartreuse PowerBait, nightcrawler worms, mayfly emerger-pattern flies and Pistol Pete spinner flies. 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 when using foam worms. Fishing for bluegill was good when using salmon eggs and Mini Trout Magnet lures.

Heron Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 106 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using gold Blue Fox spinners, stimulator dry flies and barbless Prince Nymph flies. 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 carp was fair to good when using worms.

McGaffey Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using garlic PowerBait.

Navajo Lake: Fishing for trout was slow when using Rapala lures. Fishing for pike was fair when using Flicker Shad lures. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using grubs and tube jigs.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 2,250 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 1,580 cfs. 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: Fishing for catfish was good when using cut bait and chicken liver near Corrales.

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 3,960 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was fair to good when using cone-head crystal Woolly Bugger flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair when using nightcrawler worms and egg-pattern flies. Streamflow is anticipated to rise multiple times throughout the month of May. Visit <https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nm/nwis/current/?type=flow> for current flow rates.

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

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

Tingley Beach: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bluegill bait and shrimp. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using 10-inch pink ribbon-tailed worms and watermelon-colored plastic crawdad lures. Fishing for trout was slow.

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

SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Bill Evans Lake: Keith Rogers (above, left) of Silver City caught and released a 21.75-inch 7.08-pound largemouth bass using a swimbait on May 23.

Elephant Butte Lake: Caitlin Laney (above, center) of Silver City caught a 4-pound largemouth bass using a swimbait on a drop shot rig on May 20.

Rio Grande: William Schroeder (above, right) of Las Cruces caught a 14.7-pound catfish using cut carp bait near Hatch on May 27.

SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Alumni Pond: Fishing for catfish was slow when using beef liver and chicken liver. Fishing for bass was fair when using perch-pattern crankbaits, Bomber crankbaits and floating shad-pattern lures.

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

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using swimbaits. The lake is now open! The old boat ramp has been modified to provide better access for non-motorized watercraft, and several fishing jetties have also been added. The new boat ramp remains closed until the lake's water level rises, at which time the new boat dock will be installed. For current conditions, contact the department's Fisheries Management Division at 505-476-8055.

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

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass was fair when using Texas-rigged weightless craw baits in shallow water and swimbaits. Fishing for white bass was fair to good when using curly-tail grubs, Super Duper lures and crankbaits. Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using silver Rat-L-Trap lures, Super Duper lures and Jack Hammer chatterbaits. Fishing for crappie was fair when using live minnows. Fishing for catfish was good when using fresh cut bait.

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 70 cfs.

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was fair when using nightcrawler worms, salmon eggs and PowerBait.

Percha Dam: Fishing for walleye was fair when using live minnows, crankbaits, and worms. Fishing for white bass was fair when using crankbaits and curly-tail grubs.

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

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 2,210 cfs. Fishing for catfish was good when using cut bait and chicken liver near Hatch.

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

Trees Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using beef liver, chicken liver, garlic-dough bait and worms. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using jigs with curly-tail grubs. Fishing for trout was fair when using cheese-scented PowerBait.

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

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Grindstone Reservoir: Deb Beckham of Roswell caught a 17-inch rainbow trout using a yellow and red Panther Martin spinner on May 20.

SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using worms, Garlic 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 Rooster Tail spinners. Please visit the [Open Gate webpage](#) for more information on [this property](#).

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 46 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.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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 all species was slow when using Panther Martin spinners, Pistol Pete spinner flies, corn and salmon eggs.

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

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

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using yellow and red Panther Martin spinners and Garlic PowerBait.

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

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

Ned Houk Ponds: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing for catfish was very good when using chicken liver, shrimp, and worms. Fishing for bass was slow.

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 100 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using hot dogs, night crawler worms and cut bait.

Perch Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using Pautzke salmon eggs.

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

Rio Ruidoso: Streamflow at Hollywood Monday morning was 17 cfs.

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

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for walleye and crappie was good when using white jerkbaits, live minnows and jigs with curly-tail grubs.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using live minnows and chartreuse curly-tail grubs.

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

Tips and Tricks – Interested in Angling and Exploring the Great Outdoors?

This Saturday is [Free Fishing Day](#), which is an excellent opportunity to introduce someone to fishing. [Learn more about Free Fishing Day here.](#)

Today, we will lay out a plan for new anglers to keep it simple, have fun, catch fish and enjoy nature. Well — *maybe* catch fish. As John Buchan said,

“The charm of fishing is that it is the pursuit of what is elusive but attainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope.” As I see it, we hope we catch fish, but we always have fun.

To set up any beginner to have fun and have a high probability of catching fish, do not overthink it.



1. Buy a rod with a fishing reel you can operate. [A push-button cast reel](#) is the easiest, underrated, and especially great for kids. [A spin cast reel](#) is good for pretty much any angler, and although the reel is slightly harder to learn to use compared to the push-button cast reel, it is much more capable.
2. Use worms if you are a beginner. Pretty much any fish eats worms. If you are not catching anything, try different-sized worms: half a worm; a quarter of a worm; a whole worm; etc.
3. If you are going for large-mouthed fish such as bass, use a 1-inch long hook. If you are going for smaller fish or fish with smaller/softer mouths such as trout/bluegill use smaller hooks, maybe a $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long.
4. Bring bobbers and weights. If one does not work, try the other. If you are fishing a stream or river you will often need neither a bobber nor weight — the weight of the baited hook with worm is enough.

Remember that fish live off what their environment provides. Sometimes the best bait is the bait you can catch near where you are fishing. You can have a whole separate adventure searching for bait. Look under rocks and logs for worms and crickets. Look in grassy areas for grasshoppers. Catching natural bait is often the best bait for catching fish because that is what the fish are used to eating — and the bait is fun to catch, especially for kids.

Be respectful of the environment — #ResponsibleRecreation

In New Mexico, we have beautiful streams, rivers, and lakes that people are encouraged to enjoy. Part of enjoying these places is to experience and not destroy. Encourage others to be stewards of the land. Lead by example. It is devastating to these locations when people show up and leave their trash. Besides the point that leaving your trash turns an otherwise natural

environment into an unsightly litter box, it passes on a terrible lesson to the next generation of outdoorsmen.

It also harms wildlife. If two out of 10 people leave their trash and 500 people visit the area, it equals a lot of nasty waste left outdoors. Many wild animals rely on New Mexico's limited water sources, and could easily consume or become entrapped in leftover trash. Think of the wildlife and the people who are learning from you.

Lead by example and take the easy steps to haul your trash back to the city to dispose of it. Do it for your enjoyment of the outdoors and for the sake of everything wild in our great outdoors.

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!

