



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 area officers and anglers. 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.

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](#)



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 CATCH OF THE WEEK



Fishing for pike was fair to good when using green, size-6 Panther Martin spinners on the Rio Grande last week.

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

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

Charette Lakes: Closed until March 1.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was not measured due to ice. Fishing for trout was fair when using beadhead nymph flies with flash, salmon eggs and worms.

Clayton Lake: Closed until March 1.

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

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

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

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

Eagle Nest Lake: The lake surface is closed due to unsafe ice conditions. 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Lake Alice: The lake surface is closed due to unsafe ice conditions.

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout was good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies and size 12-20 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: Closed until March 1.

Monastery Lake: The lake is closed due to unsafe ice conditions. Monastery Lake is part of the Department's [Open Gate Program](#). Please [visit our website for more information about this property](#).

Morphy Lake: Closed until March 1.

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

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 33 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was good when using Rapala lures, prince nymph flies and yellow Panther Martin spinners near the hatchery.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 354 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using rainbow trout-pattern Streamer flies, bright-colored Streamer flies and white Streamer flies. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using green, size-6 Panther Martin spinners.

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 Peñasco Monday morning was 8 cfs.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Closed for the season.

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

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

Storrie Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using worms.

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

Ute Lake: Fishing for walleye and white bass was good when using vibrating blade baits jigging in 30-40 feet of water off main lake points. The main lake water surface temperature was in the low 50 F range and the water was lightly stained.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Fishing for tiger muskie was slow at Bluewater Lake last week.

NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Abiquiu Lake: The boat ramp will be closed periodically until April as part of dam maintenance efforts. Contact the Abiquiu Lake Main Office at 505-685-4371 for updated lake conditions and closure information.

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 169 cfs.

Albuquerque Area Drains: Fishing for trout was good when using worms and small lures. Fishing for bass was fair when using worms and small lures. Fishing for carp was fair when using corn and worm combined.

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait. Fishing for tiger muskie was slow.

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: Closed due to dam construction project. For more information, [visit El Vado Lake State Park's webpage](#) or call 575-588-7247.

Fenton Lake: The lake surface is closed due to unsafe ice conditions. For updated lake conditions and potential closure information, visit the [park's webpage](#) or call the park office at 575-829-3630.

Grants Riverwalk Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Jemez Waters: Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 15 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Stone Fly nymph and Pheasant-Tail nymph flies.

Laguna del Campo: Closed until March 1.

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

Lake Farmington: Fishing for trout was fair when using Gulp Perch swimbaits.

Liam Knight Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

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

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 100 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 56 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 only two trout.

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

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 315 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was fair to good when using black Streamer flies, midge emerger-pattern flies and Griffith's Gnat dry flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair to good when using worms.

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

Tiger Park Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using wax worms with a Carolina Rig.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using olive Woolly Bugger flies.

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

SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Elephant Butte Lake: George Torres of Stanley caught and released a 34-pound blue catfish using gizzard shad on Dec. 8.



Young Pond: Frank Rittel and Brian Rittel of El Paso, Texas, caught their limits of trout using Orange Garlic PowerBait on Dec. 9.

SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Alumni Pond: Closed for repairs until further notice.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies and Joe's Flies.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using Flicker Shad with anise scent and black-and-red Woolly Bugger flies.

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

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

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

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

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 56 cfs.

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Corn PowerBait with trout attractant. Fishing for catfish was fair when using Salmon Peach PowerBait.

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

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Garlic PowerBait.

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 0 cfs.

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

Trees Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using silver-and-green Rooster Tail spinners.

Young Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using Orange Garlic PowerBait.

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Alto Lake: Michael Ortega of Las Cruces caught a 20-inch rainbow trout using a Strike King KVD square-bill crankbait on Dec. 6.



Grindstone Reservoir: Paul Wenzel of Ruidoso caught a 15-inch rainbow trout using a 50-year-old bamboo fly rod with a size 14 beadhead black Woolly Bugger fly on Dec. 3.

SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Strike King KVD square-bill crankbaits.

Bataan Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Peach PowerBait.

Berrendo Creek: Please visit the [Open Gate webpage](#) for more information on this property.

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 11 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Brantley Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

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.

Dennis Chavez Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Green Meadow Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using size 14 beadhead black Woolly Bugger flies.

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

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

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

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 15 cfs.

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 6 cfs.

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

Santa Rosa Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

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

Tips, Tricks and Stories – Growing Worms for Fishing and Healthy Gardens

Submitted by SYMbio Agriculture, LLC

What is a world without worms? Worms and nightcrawlers make a huge contribution to our life and are incredible creatures. They have multiple uses and are relatively easy to take care of. Worms create vermicomposting – converting organic waste into fertilizer. Vermicompost, otherwise known as worm poop, is a valuable fertilizer that can be added to your house plants or gardens. Your plants will devour the delicious plant nutrients and in return be healthier happier plants. Trust me, your plants and flowers and fruits will thank you later.



In addition to making your plants and gardens happy, it is also nice to have a never-ending supply of live fishing bait on hand. Worms are constantly breeding and lay a worm egg or sac, which means you will always have a great supply. If you allow enough worms to reproduce, there should not be any issues. Worms are phenomenally successful breeders. Who would have thought that little worm on the end of your fishing line could be grown in the courtesy of your own home for little to no cost?



Red worms are great for composting and the bigger ones can be used for fishing, but they are not as strong and hardy as the European nightcrawlers. Nightcrawlers can breathe underwater and are known for their wiggle and ability to stay on a hook. I like to have them both growing in the same colonies as they balance each other out between composting ability and fishing use.

Worms are best kept at temperatures between 40 degrees and 70 degrees Fahrenheit. If your worms get too hot in the summer months, there is no need to fear – just place some ice in Ziploc bags or frozen water bottles on top of the bedding to bring temperatures down. Also, make sure you are not adding any more moisture than necessary.

Worms and nightcrawlers prefer dark places with moist bedding. A good container for growing worms is a regular old plastic storage tote with air holes drilled on top. For worms and nightcrawler bedding, I like to use a broken-up coco coir brick or shredded newspaper (black print only). Make sure and use only filtered, non-chlorinated water for moistening bedding (no chemicals). The bedding needs to be moist – think damp-sponge consistency. You can buy worm food online or most outdoor stores, or just feed your worms kitchen fruit scraps and vegetable peelings. Do not feed worms dairy or citrus peels or any kind of sugar or breads. Also, I know some guys who say stay away from banana peels and broccoli. I am sure they can eat almost anything, but I would not recommend that stinky situation! Save money! Grow your own! Happy worm farming!

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!



A DAY OF ICE FISHING

7 A.M. TO 5 P.M., SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2024

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and New Mexico Outdoor Adventures invite you to a day of ice fishing at Eagle Nest Lake State Park.

The event is open to families who have previously fished. Registrants are responsible for travel, lodging

and purchasing a fishing license for participants 12 years old and older. We'll spend seven hours ice fishing for trout and perch and learning fishing techniques and ice safety.

Breakfast, lunch, dinner and hot beverages will be provided.

REGISTRATION OPENS AT 9 A.M., DECEMBER 26, 2023 AND CLOSSES WHEN THE WORKSHOP FILLS

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