



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.

[CHECK OUT THE LATEST STOCKING REPORT](#)



[The 2024-25 license year is here. Get your new Fishing License now!](#)

2023-24 Fishing Licenses are no longer valid. A 2024-25 Fishing License is now required since the new license year began on April 1. The [2024-25 Fishing Rules and Information Booklet \(RIB\)](#) is available online and in print in English and will soon be available in 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.

NORTHEAST

NORTHEAST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Eagle Nest Lake: Izaak Salazar and his Uncle Andres, both of Santa Fe (above left), caught their limits of rainbow trout trolling using Panther Martin spinners on May 4. Sal Amador of Albuquerque (above center) caught a 22-inch rainbow trout using Garlic PowerBait on May 2. Rob Keeney of Rio Rancho (above right) caught a 19.5-inch kokanee salmon using a Christmas Tree Flasher with a worm trailer on May 1.



Pecos River: Kenny Tafoya, age 13, of Santo Domingo Pueblo caught a 19.5-inch rainbow trout using a worm on April 29.



Santa Cruz Lake: Peter Romero of Pojoaque caught a 22-inch brown trout using a Secret Weapon trout Jig on April 28.



Ute Lake: Brandon Alarid of Española caught a 3-pound smallmouth bass using a green, curly-tail grub on April 29.

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Cabresto Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using bead-head nymph flies.

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

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 38 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Colorado Spoons and various types of PowerBait.

Conchas Lake: Fishing for smallmouth bass was good when using white curly-tail grubs, white fluke lures and green tube baits.

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

Cowles Ponds: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs.

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

Eagle Nest Lake: The lake is open to fishing and boating. Fishing for trout was good when trolling using Panther Martin spinners, red-and-white Dardevle Spoons and Garlic PowerBait. Fishing for kokanee salmon was slow to fair when using Christmas Tree Flashers with a worm trailer. Fishing for pike was slow to fair when using red-and-white Dardevle spoons and red-and-black bucktail streamer flies. For updated lake conditions, visit the [park's webpage](#) or call the park office at 575-377-1594.

Eagle Rock Lake: Fishing for trout using spinners, PowerBait and flies was slow.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout was good when using silver spoons. 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 salmon eggs and gold spoons. The 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 Green Garlic PowerBait and white Pistol Pete spinner flies.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was 286 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using worms, Panther Martin spinners and Woolly Bugger flies.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 91 cfs.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 958 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow. Anglers reported high water levels and poor visibility due to runoff water from melting snow in the high country.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow near Valdez Monday morning was 57 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 117 cfs.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 175 cfs.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Secret Weapon trout jigs and PowerBait.

Shuree Ponds: Closed until July 1.

Springer Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

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

Stubblefield Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

Ute Lake: Fishing for walleye was good when using Berkley Gulp Minnows, Rapala Shad Rap lures, Berkley Flicker Shad lures and Wally Diver lures. Fishing for white bass was very good when using Rat-L-Trap lures, Berkley Flicker Shad lures, Bandit 200s lures and Wally Diver lures. Fishing for bass was very good when using Rat-L-Trap lures, green curly-tail grubs, swimbaits, spinnerbaits, chatterbaits, wacky-rigged Berkley Generals and MaxScent Hit Worms. Fishing for crappie was good when using live minnows. Fishing for catfish was slow to fair when using Punch bait. The main lake water surface temperature was in the low-60 F range, and the water's color was clear.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Navajo Lake: Kevin Ferguson of Albuquerque (above left) caught a 32-inch, 12-pound, 10-ounce brown trout trolling using a deep-diving crankbait on May 4. Ryan Martinez of Albuquerque (above center) caught a 30-inch, 6-pound pike using a spinnerbait on May 4. Eric Ferguson, age 14, of Albuquerque (above right) caught a 37-inch, 12.30-pound pike using a jerkbait on May 4.



Tingley Beach: Benjamin Mast, age 5, of Albuquerque (above left) caught a 20-inch largemouth bass using a chartreuse PowerBait Ribbontail Grub on May 4. Maison Silva, age 5, of Belen caught a rainbow trout (above center), a largemouth bass (above right) and a bluegill using worms on April 30.

NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using red, leech-pattern flies. Fishing for trout was fair when using yellow Rooster Tail spinners. 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 818 cfs.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Panther Martin spinners, Kastmaster lures and Yellow Garlic Glitter PowerBait. Fishing for tiger muskie was fair when using blue-and-silver spinners. Fishing for catfish was fair when using hot dogs.

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

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

Cochiti Lake: Fishing for bass was fair when using white swimbaits. Fishing for walleye was fair when using crankbaits. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using green spinnerbaits and Ned-rig Z-Man Mud Minnows.

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 fair to good when using bead-head nymph flies. 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: Fishing for carp was fair to good when using Boilie Bait.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 210 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using worms near Jemez Springs.

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 spinners, spoons and Rainbow Glitter PowerBait.

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

McGaffey Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Green PowerBait.

Navajo Lake: Fishing for brown trout was slow to fair when using deep-diving crankbaits. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using spinnerbaits and jerkbaits.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 1,500 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 1,510 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): Fishing for trout was fair when using rainbow-colored, Garlic PowerBait.

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

San Juan River: Streamflow near Archuleta Monday morning was 367 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using size-22 and size-24, black Foam-Wing Emerger midge flies, Pheasant-Tail Nymph flies and chocolate-colored emergers. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair to good when using 1.5-inch crankbait lures.

Seven Springs Kids' Pond: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using salmon eggs, worms and Yellow PowerBait.

Tiger Park Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using spinners and green, leech-pattern flies.

Tingley Beach: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using *chartreuse PowerBait Ribbontail Grubs* and live worms. Fishing for bass was fair when using worms. Fishing for bluegill was fair to good when using worms.

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

SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Elephant Butte Lake: Frank Rittel and Brian Rittel of El Paso, Texas, caught 12 catfish using cut carp bait at Dam Site Marina on May 4. Michelle Dominguez of Albuquerque caught a 4-pound smallmouth bass using a green tube on April 28.



Escondida Lake: Albert Segura, age 9, of Tomè caught a 12-inch rainbow trout using Green PowerBait on April 30.



Young Pond: Tony Arena and Frank Ortiz of Las Cruces caught a 7-pound catfish and a 6-pound catfish using marinated chicken on May 1.

SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Alumni Pond: Closed for repairs until further notice.

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

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using Bomber lures. Fishing for crappie was fair to good when using Rapala lures.

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

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for bass was good when using green tubes. Fishing for white bass was very good when using green tubes, umbrella shad rigs and Creme Lure jigs. Fishing for crappie was fair when using green tubes. Fishing for catfish was good when using cut shad bait and cut carp bait.

Escondida Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Green PowerBait and Corn PowerBait.

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 fair when using PowerBait.

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was good when using Garlic PowerBait and Glitter PowerBait.

Percha Dam: Fishing for white bass was fair when using Underspin swim jigs.

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Yellow, Salmon Egg PowerBait.

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 1,190 cfs.

Snow Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using flashy spinners, worms and Orange PowerBait.

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

Young Pond: Fishing for catfish was good when using chicken and nightcrawler worms.

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Bosque Redondo Lake: Julian Griego of Clovis (above left) caught a 10-pound carp using a topwater lure on May 3. Myrah Roundtree of Clovis (above right) caught a 25-inch, 9.2-pound catfish using worms on April 28.

SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Alto Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms.

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

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

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 16 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 to sustain a healthy fish population. The city hopes to reopen the lake for recreational purposes in June.

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

Bottomless Lakes: Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait.

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

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Fishing for bass was good when using crawdad-pattern, soft-plastic lures and crankbaits. Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait worms and eggs.

Chaparral Park Lake: Fishing for bass was good when using Texas-rigged, pumpkin-green-colored plastic worms.

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 PowerBait and Kastmaster lures.

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 spinners.

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

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using skirt jigs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms.

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 98 cfs. Fishing for bass was good when using Z-Man Slim Swimz at 6 Mile Dam.

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 19 cfs.

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

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for bass was fair when using Senko worms.

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

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

Tips, Tricks and Stories – Try Adjusting Weights and Strike Indicator Before Changing Flies

By Dustin Berg, NMDGF Weekly Fishing Report Author

Some anglers seemingly have all the luck and routinely catch the big fish of the day or most fish amongst a group. It's true: luck is a funny thing, and you shouldn't trade any of it if you are fortunate enough to have it! For the rest of us, we must keep working, grinding, trying to find the magical combination of fishing tackle, lures, bait, flies, weights, bobbers, lucky fishing hats, etc. that gives us an edge, or at least helps us to keep pace with the anglers that are flat-out lucky.

On a recent fly-fishing trip, I found myself amongst a bunch of "lucky" anglers that were out-catching me handily. If you think you are a pretty decent angler, then you know just how humbling an experience this can be. I had a couple boxes of top-notch flies that had served me well on this river in the past. I figured one of the flies in my box was going to be the golden goose egg that would bring fish to net.

I changed flies repeatedly with the same result—a bite here and there but not at the same rate as my peers. They were too far away to ask what they were having success using, and honestly, I really didn't want to ask them anyway. You know what I mean! I've been doing this too long not to be able to figure out the solution on my own. And, maybe, there's a touch of stubbornness.

Well, my good friend Cody cracked the code by adding more weight and lengthening the distance between his strike indicator and his nymph fly. He discovered that the fish were actually eating a variety of flies and we just needed to get to the right depth quickly. Adding more weight in the form of a number 0/0, 48-gram, split-shot weight enabled him to get his fly deeper more quickly. By extending his indicator to about 6 feet, his fly was now making contact with the bottom.

He continued to shorten this distance by 3-4 inches on each cast until his fly stopped contacting the bottom. The "sweet spot" fly-to-indicator distance in this particular situation was 4½ feet or so. At the "sweet spot," he knew his fly was traveling just off the bottom of the river. This was where the fish were feeding, and he caught a fish on his first or second cast and proceeded to catch many more fish in a relatively short amount of time.

It's good to keep an assortment of weights on hand to help adjust your presentation. There are also these fairly new handy foam strike indicators that twist onto your line, making them super easy to adjust their position. I'll post pictures below of both these handy tools to take with you on your next fishing adventure. Hopefully these tips can help a future Catch of the Week contributor find success!



A variety of split-shot weights to help get your fly or bait into the zone where the fish are feeding.



Foam twist-on strike indicators that can be bought at most local fly-fishing tackle stores or online.

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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