



This fishing report, provided by the Department of Game and Fish in cooperation with Dustin Berg of [www.gounlimited.org](http://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](mailto: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.

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## [CHECK OUT THE LATEST STOCKING REPORT](#)

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### **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!](#)

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## 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.

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## NORTHEAST

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### NORTHEAST CATCHES OF THE WEEK

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***Eagle Nest Lake:*** Val Armijo of Albuquerque caught his limit of rainbow trout, with the biggest being 20 inches and 4 pounds, using Salmon Peach PowerBait on Dec. 1.



*Rio Grande: Kyle Duda of Alcalde caught a 23-inch brown trout using a Rapala lure on Dec. 1.*

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## **NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT**

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**Cabresto Lake:** Fishing for brook trout was good when using nymph flies. Anglers reported the lake looks like it will be completely covered in ice soon.

**Charette Lakes:** Closed until March 1.

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

**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:** Fishing for trout was good when using Salmon Peach PowerBait. 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 fair to good when using worms.

**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:** 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:** *Monastery Lake will close on Dec. 5, 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 27 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was fair when using small, bead-head nymph flies.

**Red River:** Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 38 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 370 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 9 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 fair to good when using white Slab Spoons, vibrating blade baits and jigging spoons 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 clear.

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## NORTHWEST

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### NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK

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**Lake Farmington:** Jared Davis of Aztec caught a 12-inch rainbow trout using a Gulp Perch swimbait on Nov. 30.

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### NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

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**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 236 cfs.

**Albuquerque Area Drains:** Fishing for trout was good when using silver Panther Martin spinners.

**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:** Fishing for pike was fair when using white swimbaits.

**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. Anglers reported the lake was freezing over but there were still small amounts of open water. 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 all species was slow.

**Jemez Waters:** Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 16 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 to good when using Gulp Perch swimbaits.

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

**McGaffey Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair when using PowerBait and Panther Martin spinner flies.

**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 3 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:** Fishing for white bass was fair when using small, white jigs near Corrales.

**Riverside Park Pond (Aztec Pond #1):** Fishing for trout was slow. Fishing for catfish was slow to fair when using spoons.

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

**San Juan River:** Streamflow near Archuleta Monday morning was 320 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 very good when using wax worms with a Carolina Rig.

**Tingley Beach:** Fishing for trout was fair to good when using olive Woolly Bugger flies and Rooster Tail spinners.

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

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## SOUTHWEST

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### SOUTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK

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**Elephant Butte Lake:** George Torres of Stanley caught and released a 27-pound blue catfish using cut carp bait on Dec. 3.

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## SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT

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**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 to good 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 good when using cut carp bait.

**Escondida Lake:** Fishing for trout was fair when using Salmon Peach and Lemon Twist PowerBait. Fishing for bass was fair when using crankbaits.

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

**Gila River:** Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 61 cfs.

**Glenwood Pond:** Fishing for trout was good when using Yellow Corn PowerBait.

**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 Rooster Tail spinners, small spoons and cheese bait.

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## SOUTHEAST

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### SOUTHEAST CATCH OF THE WEEK

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**Grindstone Reservoir:** Alicia Ceballos of Roswell caught a 14.5-inch rainbow trout using Peach PowerBait on Nov. 18.

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## SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

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**Alto Lake:** Fishing for trout was good when using spinners and flies.

**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 10 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 corn and Peach PowerBait.

**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 good 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 25 cfs.

**Perch Lake:** Fishing for catfish was good when using PowerBait mixed with sausage meat.

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

**Rio Ruidoso:** Streamflow at Hollywood Monday morning was 5 cfs.

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

**Santa Rosa Lake:** Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait.

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

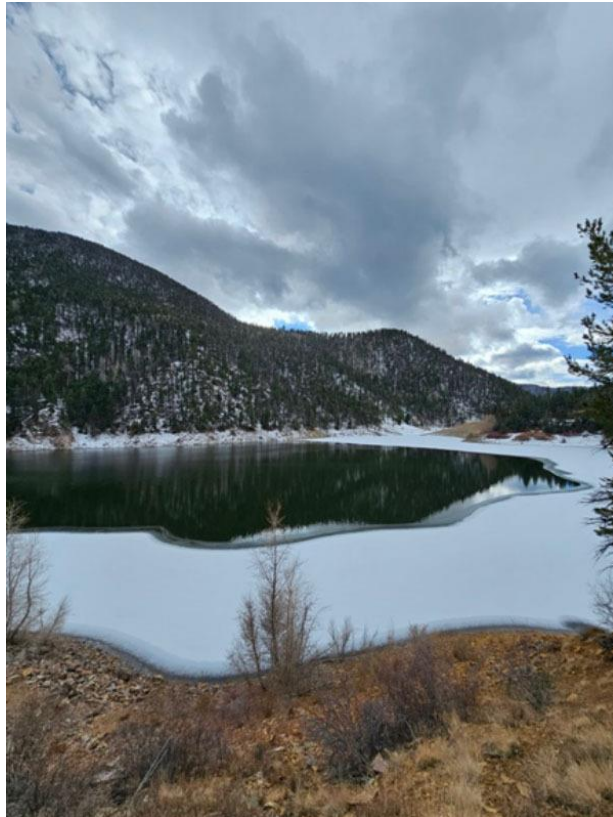
**Timberon Ponds:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

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## Tips, Tricks and Stories – Northern New Mexico Fishing Update

**By Alex Morton**

I wanted to share some info from the last two weeks. I fished Cabresto Lake on Nov. 24 with a friend visiting from Texas. There was barely 20 feet of unfrozen shoreline, and it looked like it would be totally unfishable soon (I've included a picture). Despite the ice, we each caught multiple brook trout, with many males in spawning colors.



*Cabresto Lake*



*A brook trout caught by Alex Morton on Nov. 24.*



*A brook trout caught by Alex Morton on Nov. 24*

The Rio Grande Gorge has been fishing great for two weeks. The tail end of the brown trout spawn has had larger brown trout aggressively hitting streamer flies – even really colorful, flashy ones.



*Alex Morton with a nice brown trout he caught using a Micro Game Changer rainbow trout-pattern Streamer fly on the Rio Grande, 2 miles above Pilar.*



*Alex's friend Owen Phillips from Southlake, Texas, caught his first northern pike on Nov. 24 in the Rio Grande Gorge using a green, #6 Panther Martin spinner. He saw a larger pike swipe at his lure once as well.*

The Red River near the hatchery had active rainbows, 10-14 inches long, hitting just about anything. We caught some trout on Prince Nymph flies under an indicator and yellow Panther Martin spinners. My friend Owen caught his first brown trout there on Nov. 24 at the hatchery as well, also on a yellow Panther Martin spinner.

Santa Cruz Lake is closed for the winter (we tried to go last Thursday, which was supposed to be the final day but they closed it early for the snowstorm).

My wife and I are headed to the Pecos today to see what it looks like. We will keep you posted!

– Alex Morton, Santa Fe



Let us know how your fishing trip goes! Share your tips and tricks with your fellow anglers by emailing us at [funfishingnm@gmail.com](mailto:funfishingnm@gmail.com) and let's help the next generation of anglers find success.

Thanks for reading and supporting our angling community!

