



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



Cabresto Lake: Enriquez Maes of Albuquerque caught multiple brook trout (above, left) and cutthroat trout (above, right) using Olive Caddis flies, Orange Stimulator flies and Blue Dun spinner-pattern flies on July 24.



***Pecos River:** Keith Brewer (above) of Los Lunas caught a 26-inch, 7.5-pound rainbow trout using worm on July 23.*

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Cabresto Lake: Fishing for brook and cutthroat trout was good when using Olive Caddis flies, Orange Stimulator flies and Blue Dun spinner-pattern flies.

Charette Lakes: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Garlic PowerBait.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 30 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was good when using Stimulator dry flies, Hare's ear nymph flies, worms, black Creek Bugz and yellow salmon eggs. Fishing for trout at Gravel Pit Lakes was fair to good when using Yellow Garlic PowerBait, worms and salmon eggs.

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was slow. Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver.

Conchas Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using topwater Spook Jr. lures.

Costilla Creek: Fishing for trout was fair when using Yellow Sally flies and grasshopper dry flies.

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 Rainbow PowerBait and Salmon Peach PowerBait. Fishing for pike was good when using Rapala lures, bucktail spinners, black streamer flies and swimbaits. 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 white Mepps spinners, salmon eggs, worms and PowerBait.

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: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Orange Glitter PowerBait.

Lake Alice: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Red, White and Blue PowerBait.

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout from boats was good when using PowerBait, Rapala lures and Panther Martin spinners at depths of 15-20 feet. The ADA dock is open to anglers, with priority given to mobility-impaired persons.

Los Pinos River: Fishing for trout was slow when using dry flies.

Maxwell Lake 13: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Monastery Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using dry flies. 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 Salmon Peach PowerBait and salmon eggs.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was 51 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using worms.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 59 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using dry-dropper fly setups and size-10 Mayfly dry flies.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 510 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using white Mepps spinners and black Panther Martin spinners with red dots.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow near Valdez Monday morning was 31 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 9 cfs.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 11 cfs.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using Brown Garlic PowerBait and worms. The lake is open from 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Thursday-Sunday.

Shuree Ponds: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using black Panther Martin spinners.

Springer Lake: Fishing for catfish at night was fair to good when using chicken liver.

Storrie Lake: Fishing for trout was slow.

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

Ute Lake: Fishing for walleye was slow when trolling using Wally Diver lures. Fishing for white bass was good when using casting spoons, crankbaits that run 5 to 8 feet deep, jig and grub combinations, slabs and blade baits. Fishing for bass was fair when using wacky-rigged plastic worms. Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver and Punch Bait. The main lake water surface temperature was in the low-to-mid-80 F range and the water was clear.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Bluewater Lake: Owen Middagh (above), age 11, of Albuquerque caught and released a 34-inch, 8.5-pound tiger muskie using a Whopper Plopper lure on July 30.



Navajo Lake: Eric Ferguson (above, left), age 13, of Albuquerque caught a 16-inch, 2.8-pound largemouth bass using a nightcrawler worm on July 25. Ryan Martinez (above, center), age 8, of Albuquerque caught a 17-inch, 2.3-pound smallmouth bass using a curly-tail grub on July 25.

Trace Johnson (above, right) of Albuquerque caught a 20-inch smallmouth bass using a silver and red spinner on July 25.

NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair when using Yum white, curly-tail grubs with pink jig heads. Fishing for panfish was good when using live worms in the back of lake coves.

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 337 cfs.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for tiger muskie was fair to good when using Whopper Plopper lures and live waterdogs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using shrimp.

Brazos River: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Panther Martin spinners.

Canjilon Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using Rainbow PowerBait, Copper John flies and Pistol Pete spinner flies.

Cochiti Lake: Fishing for pike was fair to good when using white spinnerbaits and nightcrawler worms. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms and shrimp.

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 garlic earthworms 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 bluegill was fair to good when using worms.

Heron Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using orange Rapala lures.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 9 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using Mayfly flies and black Parachute Adams flies.

Laguna del Campo: Fishing for trout was slow.

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

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

McGaffey Lake: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using Rooster Tail spinners and PowerBait.

Navajo Lake: Fishing for kokanee salmon was slow to fair when using white spinners, and pink and orange squid tipped with corn. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to good when using silver and red spinners, and curly-tail grubs. Fishing for largemouth bass was fair when using

nightcrawler worms. Fishing for pike was fair to good when trolling using deep-diving crankbaits that dive 25 feet deep. Fishing for bass was fair when using KVD Spinners.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 500 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 512 cfs. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was fair to good when using worms and Countdown Rapala lures. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was slow to fair when using black Woolly Bugger flies. 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 fair to good when using chicken liver near Albuquerque.

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 728 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using size 12 Pig Sticker flies, red annelid flies, size-24 grey foam-wing emerger flies and Pheasant-tail Nymph flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair to good when using red wiggler worms.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: Fishing for trout was fair when using nightcrawler worms.

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

Tingley Beach: Fishing for catfish was fair when using antelope liver. Fishing for bluegill was fair when using small hooks and worms.

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

SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using jigs with paddle-tail swimbaits and trolling using dark-green lures last week at Elephant Butte Lake.

SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Alumni Pond: Fishing for catfish was slow to fair when using cheese, beef liver, chicken liver, cut carp bait and live worms.

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

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using topwater lures.

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

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to good when using crankbaits and bullhead minnows. Fishing for white bass was fair when using white crankbaits. Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using jigs with paddle-tail swimbaits and trolling using dark-green lures. Fishing for catfish was good when using minnows and fresh cut bait.

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

Estancia Park Lake: Fishing for bass was good when using live worms.

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 27 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait.

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for catfish was fair when using chicken liver and homemade stink bait.

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

Quemado Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using Chartreuse PowerBait.

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 2,180 cfs. Fishing for catfish was good when using nightcrawler worms near Bernardo.

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

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

Young Pond: Fishing for catfish was good when using live minnows and cut carp bait.

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Alto Lake: Brayton Neil (above, left) of Soldotna, Alaska, caught a 20-inch, 4-pound catfish using sweetbread on July 25. Brayden Sanchez (above, right), age 8, of Portales caught a 26-inch, 12-pound catfish using a hot dog on July 22.



Grindstone Reservoir: Rodney Adams (above) of Roswell caught a 3-pound rainbow trout using a nightcrawler worm on July 20.

SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using Yellow Garlic PowerBait with gold flakes. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using hot dogs and sweetbread.

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 7 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 and bluegill was fair when using live crickets.

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

Brantley Lake: Fishing for largemouth bass was fair when using Whopper Plopper lures.

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Fishing for carp and catfish was fair to good when using corn and a bobber.

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 catfish was fair to good when using hot dogs and corn.

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using earthworms.

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

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using nightcrawler worms and Garlic PowerBait.

Harry McAdams Park Pond: Fishing for bluegill was good when using Garlic PowerBait.

Jal Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using shrimp.

Lake Van: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using chicken liver-flavored Magic Bait.

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

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using worm-flavored catfish bait and chicken liver.

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 81 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using worms near Carlsbad.

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 4 cfs.

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

Santa Rosa Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using Firecracker Moxi lures and chartreuse jigs.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

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

Tips, Tricks and Stories – Smoked Kokanee Salmon Sliders

Smoking your catch is a great way to store fish in the freezer and adds an incredibly delicious flavor. [Here is how I brine my fish before smoking.](#)

After letting my fish brine for about 24 hours, I typically use a “hot smoke” method of smoking my salmon. Cold smoked salmon is delicious, but I simply have a hard time keeping my electric smoker cool during the summer heat.

[Here is some good information on how to smoke your catch.](#)

Once my fish is smoked to my liking, I put portioned amounts into vacuum-sealed bags for freezing.

But not all of it goes straight into the freezer. I like to make fresh smoked salmon sliders with Ritz crackers. For this easy recipe, I pair smoked salmon with ripe tomato and roasted green chile on a Ritz cracker.



For this batch of sliders, I used homegrown tomatoes and hot green chile from Lemitar.

Put everything together on a Ritz cracker and you have a nutritious and delicious snack.

The smoked salmon has a fair amount of salty flavor that works really well with the tomato and green chile.

Let us know if you have a recipe you would like to share with your fellow anglers, cooks and gardeners!



The frozen, vacuum-sealed smoked salmon portions.

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!

