



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.

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: Gilbert Chavez of Albuquerque caught a 21-inch rainbow trout using an orange Rooster Tail spinner on Oct. 17.



Eagle Nest Lake: Shannon Hill of Eric, Oklahoma, caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using Garlic PowerBait on Oct. 16.



Embudo Creek: Randy Garcia of Penasco caught a 15-inch rainbow trout and an 11-inch brook trout using salmon eggs near the Rio Pueblo on Oct. 17.



Monastery Lake: Ariana Archuleta, age 11, and Natalia Archuleta, age 9, of Española both caught their limits of rainbow trout using nightcrawler worms and Salmon Peach PowerBait on Oct. 18.



Pecos River: Zach Fresquez and his father Gary of Albuquerque caught their limits of trout using salmon eggs and PowerBait on Oct. 20.

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

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

Charette Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using orange Rooster Tail spinners.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 31 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was good when using worms and Stimulator flies.

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms.

Conchas Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using topwater poppers.

Costilla Creek: Fishing for trout was good when using Hare's Ear Nymph flies.

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

Coyote Creek: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using black dry flies and nymph flies.

Eagle Nest Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Garlic PowerBait and Chartruese PowerBait. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using swimbaits and large spoons. 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 good when using size-22, midge-pattern flies.

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 good when using Panther Martin spinners and black Pistol Pete spinner flies.

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

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout was good when using 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 Salmon Peach PowerBait and nightcrawler worms. 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 eggs and Panther Martin spinners.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was 33 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using red worms, silver Panther Martin spinners, salmon eggs, PowerBait and jerkbaits.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 44 cfs.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 234 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using Panther Martin spinners, Rapala lures, black Woolly Bugger flies and white Streamer flies. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using 5-inch spoons.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow near Valdez Monday morning was 11 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 7 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using bead-head nymph flies.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 10 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs in Embudo Creek.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Panther Martin spinners. The lake is open from 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Thursday-Sunday.

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

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

Storrie Lake: Fishing for catfish was good when using nightcrawler worms.

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

Ute Lake: Fishing for walleye was fair to good when using blade baits, Wally Diver lures, and jig heads with Gulp Minnows in 15-40 feet of water. Fishing for white bass was fair to good when vertical jigging using blade baits in 25-40 feet of water. Fishing for bass was good when using crankbaits, jerkbaits and jigs with grubs fishing on shallow points. Fishing for crappie was slow. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut bait and punch bait. The main lake water surface temperature was in the low 60 F range and the water was clear.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



San Juan River: Isa Gonzales, age 4, of Los Lunas caught a 20-inch brown trout using a nightcrawler worm on Oct. 17 (above, left). Bob Bass of Farmington caught and released a 21-

inch brown trout using an AKSS streamer fly near Cottonwood Campground on Oct. 16 (above, right).



Seven Springs Kids' Pond: Owen Middagh, age 11, of Albuquerque caught his limit of rainbow trout using a white Caddis fly on Oct. 22.

NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for walleye was slow to fair when using jigs.

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 154 cfs.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for tiger muskie was fair to good when using cut carp bait and crankbaits.

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

Canjilon Lakes: Fishing for trout was very good when using dry flies and San Juan Worm flies.

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 fair to good when using PowerBait and Mop 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Jemez Waters: Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 8 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using green, foam, tick-pattern flies in the Valles Caldera.

Laguna del Campo: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

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

Liam Knight Pond: Fishing for all species was slow.

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

Navajo Lake: Fishing for kokanee salmon was good when using snagging hooks near the dam. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to good when using Z-Man, 3.5-inch plastic worms, chartreuse curly-tail grubs and watermelon-green tube jigs. Fishing for pike was very good when using Rapala Clackin' Minnow lures.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 109 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 979 cfs. Fishing for trout below El Vado Lake was fair to good when using Rapala lures and spinners. 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 to good when using corn near Algodones. Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms and 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 497 cfs. Bureau of Reclamation has scheduled a decrease in the release from Navajo Dam from 500 cfs to 450 cfs for Oct. 24, at 4 a.m.. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using size-24, midge-pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair to good when using AKSS streamer flies, PowerBait, and nightcrawler worms.

Seven Springs Kids' Pond: Fishing for trout was good when using white Caddis flies.

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

Tingley Beach: Fishing for catfish was slow to fair when using corn and hot dogs.

Trout Lakes: Fishing for trout was good when using Perdigon Nymph flies.

SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Elephant Butte Lake: Scott Perkins of El Paso, Texas, caught a 23-inch; 7-pound, 4-ounce largemouth bass using a shiner minnow on Oct. 13.



Lake Roberts: Kaylynn, Eric and Sophia Artiaga of Silver City caught three Gila trout up to 14 inches long using hot dogs soaked in Kool-Aid on Oct. 15.



Trees Lake: Loren Foy of Deming caught a 28.5-inch, 14-pound catfish using cut bait on Oct. 17.



Whitewater Creek: Jed Webb and Henry Webb, age 5, of Rio Rancho caught their first Gila Trout, 15 and 16 inches, using Irresistible Adams flies on Oct. 20.

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 slow to fair when using crawdads.

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

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using shiner minnows. Fishing for white bass was fair to good when using white grubs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using live minnows and cut bait. Fishing for bluegill was good when using worms.

Escondida Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using red worms and nightcrawler worms.

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

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 40 cfs

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using hot dogs soaked in Kool-Aid. Fishing for catfish was fair when using hot dogs soaked in Kool-Aid.

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

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

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 catfish was good when using cut bait.

Young Pond: Fishing for catfish was fair when using worms.

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Grindstone Reservoir: *Pierce Leachman of Las Cruces caught a 20-inch rainbow trout using Salmon Egg Glitter PowerBait on Oct. 21.*

SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs and PowerBait.

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 33 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 bass was fair when using blue 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.

Dennis Chavez Pond: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using crankbaits.

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 Salmon Peach PowerBait and Salmon Egg Glitter 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using red worms.

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 76 cfs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using worms.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Sumner Lake: Fishing for crappie was fair to good when using live minnows. Fishing for catfish was good when using live worms and cut carp bait. Fishing for walleye and bass was slow.

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

Tips, Tricks and Stories – Wanted! Information on Disruption of Kokanee Salmon Spawning Efforts

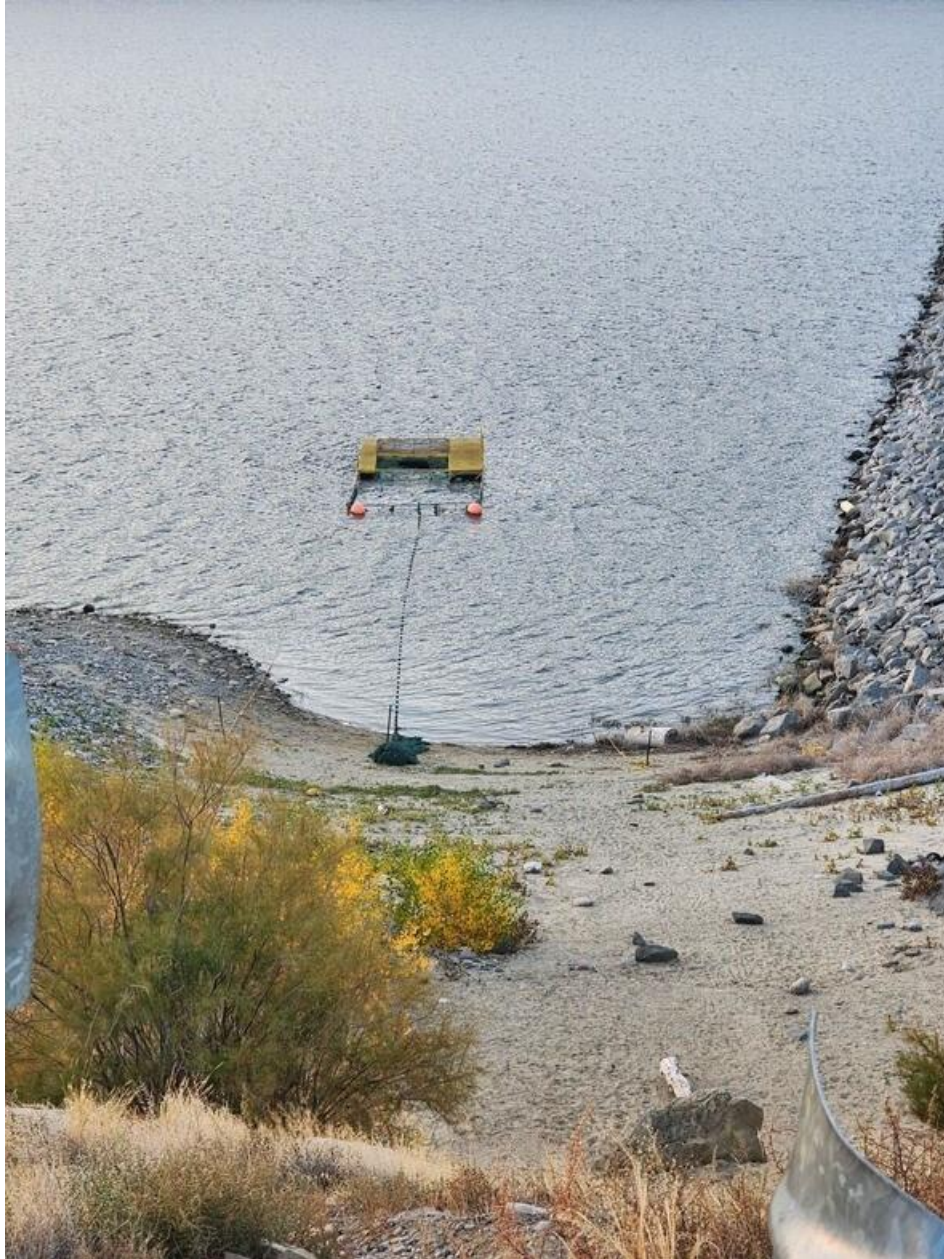


A kokanee salmon captured by Department fisheries biologists as part of annual spawning efforts.

New Mexico's annual kokanee salmon spawning efforts were derailed when its Navajo Lake holding pens were vandalized on Friday, Oct. 20. Each fall salmon are gathered into holding pens to allow Department staff to manually spawn them prior to taking the fertilized eggs to our hatchery. The holding pen was found dragged from the lake and hundreds of salmon inside waiting for spawn were missing.

“The loss of this spawn has dramatic impacts on future kokanee fishing opportunities, as they do not sustain their populations via natural spawning,” said Kirk Patten the Department’s chief of fisheries. Kokanee salmon populations are already low and declining due to drought and warm temperatures, which makes the impacts of this vandalism even worse. Each fall during the salmon’s once-a-year spawning season, the Department attempts to artificially spawn several thousand salmon to hatch and rear the eggs in its Los Ojos Hatchery. The offspring are later stocked into coldwater lakes in northern New Mexico to provide angling opportunities for this popular fish. According to Patten, “every fish we can collect eggs from is critical to maintaining the fishery. To have someone remove these fish from our trap is a massive hit to the state’s fisheries, especially this year when populations are already low.”

Please help us find the culprits to ensure we can avoid further loss of our salmon fishing opportunities. The Department is offering a special \$2,500 reward for information leading to those involved with this incident. Reports can be made anonymously by calling our Operation Game Thief hotline at 1-800-432-4263 or online at <https://onlinesales.wildlife.state.nm.us/public/ogt>.



The kokanee salmon holding pen before it was vandalized on Navajo Lake.

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!



Clean, Drain and Dry your watercraft.

Stop Aquatic Aliens!



Protect New Mexico Waters.

www.wildlife.state.nm.us/ais

