



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 CATCH OF THE WEEK



Pecos River: Michael Chavez of Ifield caught a 16-inch rainbow trout using a Panther Martin spinner on Oct. 27.

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Cabresto Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week. The lake closes for the season on Nov. 1.

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

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 29 cubic feet per second (cfs). We had no reports from anglers this week.

Clayton Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using PowerBait. Fishing for catfish was fair when using nightcrawler worms. The lake closes for the season on Nov. 1.

Conchas Lake: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using plastic crawdad lures.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Eagle Nest Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using Garlic PowerBait and Chartruese PowerBait. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using green-and- silver, size-6 Panther Martin spinners, 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: 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. The lake closes for the season on Nov. 1.

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. The lake closes for the season on Nov. 1.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was not measured. Fishing for trout was good when using Elk-hair Caddis flies and Panther Martin spinners.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 45 cfs.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 238 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using small mayfly dry-fly patterns, nymph flies, black leech-pattern flies, bright-colored Streamer flies, black Woolly Bugger flies and white Streamer flies

near the Taos Junction Bridge. Fishing for smallmouth bass was good when using black leech-pattern flies and bright-colored streamer flies near the Taos Junction Bridge.

Rio Hondo: Streamflow near Valdez Monday morning was 8 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 6 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using bead-head nymph flies.

Rio Pueblo: Streamflow near Peñasco Monday morning was 9 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using salmon eggs in Embudo Creek.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing for trout was good when using flies, Kastmaster lures and Pistol Pete spinner flies. The lake is open from 7 a.m.-5 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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. The main lake water surface temperature was in the low 60 F range and the water was clear.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Fenton Lake: Mark Winchester of Albuquerque caught a 19.5-inch rainbow trout using tuna fish and bread on Oct. 21.



San Juan River: Kent Joyce of Roswell caught a 22-inch rainbow trout using a size-22, grey Foam-wing emerger midge-pattern fly on Oct. 24. Dr. David Marks and David Ingram of Tulsa, Oklahoma each caught 23-inch rainbow trout using a size-24 RS2 midge fly on Oct. 10.

NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing was slow, and anglers reported seeing blue-green algae.

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 252 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: 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: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Pistol Pete spinner flies, and tuna fish and bread bait. 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 12 cfs.

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 fair when using snagging hooks near the dam. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to good when using 3-inch plastic worms. Fishing for pike was good when using Rapala Clackin' Minnow lures.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 89 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 950 cfs. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was slow. 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 503 cfs. The Bureau of Reclamation has scheduled a decrease in the release from Navajo Dam from 450 cfs to 40 cfs for Oct. 31 at 8 a.m. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was good when using size-24 RS2 midge flies and size-22, grey Foam-wing Emerger 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 trout was good when using gold Mepps Algia spinners. Fishing for catfish was fair when using live red worms. Fishing for bluegill was fair when using liver and red worms.

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

SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Elephant Butte Lake: Mark Sparks of Los Lunas caught a 4-pound largemouth bass using a 4-inch, white grub on Oct. 23.

SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Alumni Pond: Closed for repairs until further notice.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for all species was slow.

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 4-inch, white grubs and shiner minnows. Fishing for white bass was fair when using white grubs. Fishing for catfish was fair when using live minnows and cut bait.

Escondida Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using chicken liver.

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

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 54 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 trout was good when using Garlic PowerBait.

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

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Grindstone Reservoir: James Alison of Las Cruces caught an 18-inch rainbow trout using salmon eggs on Oct. 22.

SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to 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 29 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: Fishing for all species was slow.

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: Fishing for bass was fair 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 eggs, 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 walleye and bass was slow.

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

Tips, Tricks and Stories – What is Cut Bait?



Tim Molina with a couple nice catfish caught on Sept. 23 using cut carp bait at Caballo Lake.

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish has provided further guidance regarding the proper use of cut bait in its 2023-2024 Fishing Rules and Information Booklet.

Bait and Baitfish

Possession of and use of any baitfish while fishing is illegal, except as defined below. Baitfish may not be used in Special Trout Waters, Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge or Bottomless Lakes State Park. Bluegills and sunfish (genus *Lepomis*) taken legally by angling may be used as live or dead bait in the water where taken. Roe, viscera, and eyes of game fish taken legally may be used in all waters where the use of bait is legal. Chumming is allowed in all waters, except Special Trout Waters. Goldfish or bullfrogs (including larval stages, i.e. tadpoles) may not be used as live or dead bait in any waters. Salamander larva (waterdogs) may be used in all waters where the use of bait is legal. Commercially packaged and processed dead fish are not considered baitfish and are approved for use in all waters where the use of bait is legal.

Taking Minnows

Baitfish may only be taken for personal use and only by anglers who are currently licensed or 11 years of age or younger. Permitted methods for taking minnows include: angling, dip nets, cast

nets, traps and seines. Seines may not be longer than 20 feet, and the mesh size may not be larger than 3/8-inch square. All protected species of fish (including endangered and threatened species) taken with seines, nets, and traps must immediately be returned to the water.

Live and dead baitfish use exceptions

Live and/or dead baitfish are approved for the drainages and waters listed in the table below. This includes Regular Trout Waters (for locations in table only) where the use of bait is legal.

Approved live and/or dead baitfish locations	
Rio Grande Drainage	Fathead minnow, red shiner and shad
Elephant Butte and Caballo reservoirs	Fathead minnow, red shiner, shad and golden shiner
Canadian River Drainage	Fathead minnow, red shiner, white sucker and shad
San Juan River Drainage	Fathead minnow and red shiner
Gila River and San Francisco River Drainages	Fathead minnow only
Pecos River Drainage (excluding Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge and Bottomless Lakes State Park)	Fathead minnow, red shiner, and shad
Approved dead-only baitfish (cutbait) locations	
Statewide	Common carp
Heron Reservoir	White sucker

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

