



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.

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.

[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



Eagle Nest Lake: Val Armijo of Albuquerque caught his limit of rainbow trout, with the biggest being 19 inches, long using Salmon Peach PowerBait on Nov. 3.

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Cabresto Lake: The lake closed for the season on Nov. 1.

Charette Lakes: Closed until March 1.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was 7 cubic feet per second (cfs). Fishing for trout was fair to good when using nymph flies, worms, salmon eggs and PowerBait.

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 flies, Salmon Peach PowerBait and swimbaits. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using rainbow trout-pattern swimbaits. For updated lake conditions, visit the [park's webpage](#) or call the park office at 575-377-1594.

Eagle Rock Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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 Woolly Bugger flies.

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

Lake Maloya: Fishing for trout was good when using Woolly Bugger flies, various patterns of white and black flies, homemade dough bait, PowerBait, and marshmallows. 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: 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: Closed until March 1.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was not measured. Fishing for trout was fair when using small flies and worms.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 46 cfs.

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 271 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. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair to 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 10 cfs.

Rio Mora: Streamflow near Terrero Monday morning was 6 cfs.

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-Monday.

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, drop-shot rigs, and jig heads with Gulp Minnows in 25-35 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 high 50 F range and the water was stained.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Fishing for tiger muskie was fair to good when using chicken last week at Bluewater Lake.

Tingley Beach: Anthony Gonzales of Albuquerque caught a 20-inch, 2-pound catfish using a Rooster Tail spinner on Oct. 27.

NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

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

Animas River: Streamflow below Aztec Monday morning was 230 cfs.

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

Bluewater Lake: Fishing for tiger muskie was fair to good when using chicken.

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. Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Perdigon Flies.

Laguna del Campo: Closed until March 1.

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

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

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

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

Navajo Lake: Fishing for kokanee salmon was slow to fair when using snagging hooks near the dam.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 109 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 1,120 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 333 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was fair to good when using size-24 RS2 midge flies and size-22, grey Foaming Emerger midge-pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was fair to good when using 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 fair when using gold Mepps Algia spinners. Fishing for catfish was fair when using Rooster Tail spinners.

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

SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Lake Roberts: Michelle Bruns of Tijeras caught a 24-inch catfish using Salmon Peach PowerBait, as well as a 20-inch rainbow trout using Corn PowerBait with trout attractant on Oct. 31.



Quemado Lake: *Gabryanna Salas, age 7, and Josiah Anzures, age 12, both of Los Lunas caught eight trout using Rainbow PowerBait on Nov. 4.*

SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Alumni Pond: Closed for repairs until further notice.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for all species was slow when using Panther Martin spinners, bait and flies.

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 shad crankbaits. Fishing for white bass was fair to good when using white crankbaits. Fishing for catfish was fair when using live minnows and cut bait.

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

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 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 Rainbow 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 Garlic PowerBait.

Young Pond: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when using PowerBait.

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Fishing for trout was fair to good when using salmon eggs and PowerBait last week at Alto Lake.

SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using spinners and flies, and slow when using bait.

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 9 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 0 cfs.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Tips, Tricks and Stories – Fishing creates memories, understanding and skills that last a lifetime



The author on a fishing trip with family. Pictured with him is his nephew James (Photo credit: Storm Usrey)

By Storm W. Usrey

As time marches on and I think back to my childhood, some of the first outdoor memories I have are taking trips to the Zuni Mountains on picnics, swimming trips to pools of water we could find in rock canyons (and playing with tadpoles) and short hiking trips, which all made for excellent story times to hear about family members and dear friends who were no longer with us. These stories allowed me to paint a vivid picture in my mind of these unknown relatives and friends of the family, from the words of others.

When I think of these memories, I am thankful for the time I got to spend with family and friends. I also remember going fishing at a handful of lakes on a fairly regular basis. It did not matter if I was bait fishing, trolling from a small boat or casting a lure from the shore; it all was so much fun!

Spending time with your family in the outdoors offers bonding experiences and educational moments that will last a lifetime. Watching a child catch their first fish; showing a loved one or friend how to gut and prepare their catch of the day in tinfoil with butter, seasoning and lemon; and cooking the catch over an open fire or on a grill help forge positive interactions, important bonds and relationships.



Charleen Turk shows off a fine stringer of fish on a summer catfishing trip (Photo credit: Storm Usrey)

If you have an opportunity to plan a family outing in the future, try to pass on your outdoor knowledge to others. Fishing can become an avenue that family members teach one another, an important skill such as gutting a fish, baiting a hook, casting, reading the rules and regulations, how to purchase a fishing license (and why this is important), fire building, cooking, safety in the outdoors, safe operation of a boat and the list goes on. Many life lessons and skills can be taught and should be taught while in the outdoors and fishing.

Let's face it—we only have so much time to spend with each other and making the most of our time together is of great importance and especially in a positive manner. Don't let your outdoor and fishing knowledge stop with you! Ensure others carry on your knowledge and that it can be passed on to future generations.



James Gonzales is learning correctly, from his family, on enjoying the great outdoors (Photo credit: Joe Gonzales Family)

Lastly, ethics and morals can be taught to others while out fishing, such as picking up your trash—including the discarded fishing line from past recreationists that did not take it out with them--“Pack it in, Pack it out.” When we are enjoying nature, we also should remember to give other outdoor recreationists their space and privacy (no need to stand shoulder to shoulder while camping or fishing). Make sure all permits and licenses are secured and that everyone in your fishing group understands the rules and regulations. We must also give respect to the public servants we might encounter such as conservation officers or rangers. Other things that come to mind: avoid having a fire when there is a burn ban, not driving off of the road and not consuming alcohol while out boating or driving a vehicle or off-highway vehicle.

Be the best role model you can be to friends and family and pass on your fishing skills and knowledge. Know that your loved ones will be better off because of what you taught them or shared. Be safe and enjoy fishing in the future on your next adventure to the great outdoors.

And remember: it's not the catching of the fish that matters, but the time with family and friends, which is the real trophy of the trip!

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!

