



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 Still Available Online!

The 2023-24 Fishing Rules and Information Booklets (RIBs) are still available in print and online in [English and Spanish for download](#). Licenses for the 2024-25 license year will be available for purchase beginning March 25.

[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



Rio Grande: *Cid Little Elk of Questa caught a 20-inch brown trout using a black, balanced, leech-pattern fly on Jan. 24.*

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Cabresto Lake: Ice fishing for trout was good when using small, glow ice jigs tipped with wax worms.

Charette Lakes: Closed until March 1.

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was not measured due to ice. Fishing for trout was slow.

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: Ice fishing for trout was fair when using red worms, small jigs tipped with Salmon Peach PowerBait and small jigs tipped with wax worms. Ice fishing for perch was fair to good when using Rapala Jigging Rap lures tipped with meal worms. Fishing for pike was fair when using tube jigs and hot dogs. The lake remains open to ice fishing; however, it is restricted to foot traffic only. Avoid ice fishing near feeder streams or known springs, brush, logs, plants, docks or areas with multiple cracks or ice that is popping or otherwise weak. 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: Ice fishing for trout was good when using small jigs tipped with worms.

Lake Alice: The lake surface is closed due to unsafe ice conditions.

Lake Maloya: Ice fishing for trout was fair to good when using Garlic 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: Closed until March 1.

Monastery Lake: The lake is closed 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 not measured due to ice. Fishing the lower portion of the river was good when using bait and spinners.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 35.1 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 435 cfs. Fishing for trout was fair when using black, leech-pattern flies and 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 not measured due to ice.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Closed for the season.

Shuree Ponds: Closed until July 1.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Ice fishing for trout was good last week at Fenton Lake when using gold Kastmaster lures, Joel-O Shotz fish bait, small jigs tipped with wax worms and silver Super Duper lures. (Photo courtesy of EMNRD)

NORTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing for all species was slow when using worms. 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 209 cfs.

Albuquerque Area Drains: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using salmon eggs and worms. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair when using lime-green jigs.

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

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: Ice fishing for trout was good when using gold Kastmaster lures, Joel-O Shotz fish bait, small jigs tipped with wax worms and silver Super Duper lures. The lake remains open to ice fishing. Chainsaws are not allowed to cut holes in the ice. Fires are not allowed on the ice. In areas around the shoreline, the ice is thin due to runoff—be aware of where you step onto the ice. As of Sunday, ice measurements are 3.5 inches of clear ice and 9 inches of white ice 6 feet from shore, and 6 inches of clear ice and 9 inches of white ice at 20 feet out. [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 13.1 cfs.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 98.8 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 52.7 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 to good when using off-white swim grubs downstream of the Albuquerque Riverside Drain and Rio Grande junction.

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 338 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was slow to fair when using Red Annelid flies.

Seven Springs Kids' Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Tingley Beach: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using white worms and leech-pattern flies.

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

SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Bear Canyon Lake was busy this week, but we didn't receive any reports from anglers! To let us know how the fishing is at your favorite spot, email us at funfishingnm@gmail.com.

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 trout was fair to good when trolling with spinner baits.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using cut bait.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair when using cut carp bait.

Escondida Lake: Fishing for trout was fair when using salmon eggs and live worms.

Estancia Park Lake: The Department is looking into reports of a fish die-off at the lake.

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 151 cfs.

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

Lake Roberts: Fishing for trout was good when using Natural Scent Glitter PowerBait.

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

Quemado Lake: The lake remains open; however, the Gila National Forest strongly advises against ice fishing or going on the ice for any reason because of dangerously thin ice conditions

caused by recently warming weather. Anglers reported multiple people have fallen through the ice and that it is extremely dangerous.

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 0.31 cfs. Fishing for walleye was slow to fair when using swimbaits near Caballo Lake.

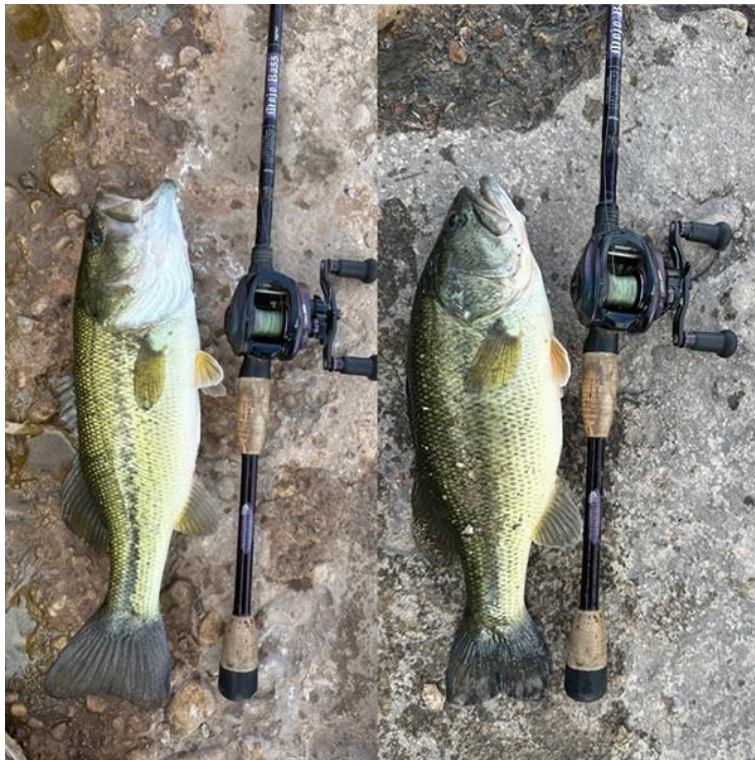
Snow Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

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

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Pecos River: *Matt Castillo of Carlsbad caught 1.5- and 2.5-pound largemouth bass using a Z-Man Crawz lure near Carlsbad on Jan. 30.*

SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was slow when using Woolly Bugger flies.

Bataan Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using spinners.

Berrendo Creek: Please visit the [Open Gate webpage](#) for more information on this property.

Black River: Streamflow at Malaga Monday morning was 9.92 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.

Bosque Redondo Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

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

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using PowerBait.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Harry McAdams Park Pond: Fishing for crappie was fair when using plastic swimbaits.

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

Lake Van: Fishing for trout was good when using Kastmaster lures and Yellow Garlic 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 9.87 cfs. Fishing for bass was fair to good when using a Z-Man Crawz lure.

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 3.86 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 – Albuquerque Area Drains

We've had many anglers reach out with questions about where to fish the Albuquerque Area Drains, which the Department stocks with rainbow trout during the winter months. As an Albuquerque native who grew up hiking up and down the sandy banks of the Albuquerque Area Drains seeking trout, I thought I'd shed some light on the matter.

This past Saturday, I spent some time checking on my old fishing spots. I'll start with the Montano Bridge area of the Albuquerque Riverside Drain because that is close to where I grew up and could walk to before I was old enough to drive. On the southeast side of the Montano Bridge intersection with the Rio Grande, there is an irrigation ditch that runs east to west. This ditch leads to the Albuquerque Riverside Drain that runs parallel to the river on its east side. On the south side of the Montano Bridge at the Albuquerque Riverside Drain, there is a nice set of rocky ripples leading into a deep hole. The trout always seem to congregate in this hole. It looked great on Saturday, and I was surprised to find no one was fishing it. I used to catch trout here using salmon eggs and bead-head, golden Hare's Ear flies.

Hiking in either direction north or south along the Albuquerque Riverside Drain, I'd find small pockets of trout grouped together behind structures such as overhanging tree limbs. The trout aren't particularly hard to spot since the drain runs mostly clear during the winter months. These small groups of trout were often rising to feed on insects. I learned a great deal about fly fishing (especially casting) to these rising fish amongst the overhanging limbs. I remember fondly using a Blue Dunn dry fly to catch many a trout in this area.



Albuquerque Drain east of Rio Grande and south of Montano Bridge.

I know there are some fishing spots south of Tingley Beach, but I am not familiar with them because as far south as I went was to fish the Albuquerque Riverside Drain on the east side of Tingley Drive. Sometimes I'd be fishing Tingley Beach with little success and find the drain to the east (across Tingley Drive) to be uncrowded and home to a bounty of trout. On Saturday, I saw one angler catch a fish in the drain but was unable to ask him what he caught it with.



Albuquerque Riverside Drain east of Tingley Beach.

On the east side of where Rio Grande Boulevard goes over Paseo del Norte, there is a parking lot and trail that leads west towards the Rio Grande. Before you get to the river, you will reach the Albuquerque Riverside Drain east of the river and south of the Paseo del Norte Bridge. There is a theme—where there is a bridge crossing the river, there is a deep fishing hole in the drain. This stands true at what I call the “Paseo del Norte Bridge Spot.” There were several anglers fishing there on Saturday and they were catching a few trout using worms and salmon eggs.



Albuquerque Riverside Drain east of Rio Grande and south of Paseo del Norte Bridge.

At the Alameda Bridge, there are fishing spots on both sides of the river. On the east side of the river south of Alameda Bridge, there is a nice deep hole in the Albuquerque Riverside Drain that usually holds trout. I met an angler here last year who was catching fish using a red San Juan Worm fly. On the west side of the river north of Alameda Bridge, there is a parking area that allows you to access the Upper Corrales Riverside Drain. I used to keep a spinning rod in my truck and a couple of Panther Martin spinners because I could stop at this spot on my way home from work. If I saw fish there, most of the time I could catch a couple using a black Panther Martin spinner with a gold blade.



Albuquerque Riverside Drain east of Rio Grande and south of Alameda Bridge.



Upper Corrales Riverside Drain west of Rio Grande and North of Alameda Bridge.

One more bonus spot to try is the Bernalillo Riverside Drain, a short drive from Albuquerque. There have been a few people reporting having success there lately and it is worth a shot. On Saturday when I stopped by, there were several people fishing.



Bernalillo Riverside Drain east of Rio Grande and south of U.S. Highway 550 Bridge in Bernalillo.

The Department would like to remind anglers to always keep safety in mind when fishing, especially in area ditches and drains. Avoid areas with steep embankments and fast-moving water, and always fish with a partner.

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!



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