



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



Ice fishing for perch was fair to good when using Rapala Jigging Rap lures tipped with meal worms last week at Eagle Nest Lake.

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

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

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: Fishing for smallmouth bass and walleye was fair when using clown-pattern crankbaits.

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 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 white and chartreuse tube jigs. 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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 44 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 497 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 CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Tingley Beach: Jason May of Albuquerque caught and released an 18-inch rainbow trout using a burgundy-colored, worm-pattern fly in the Catch and Release Pond on Feb. 25.

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 182 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: Fishing for bass was fair when using crankbaits.

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 fair when using worms and peach PowerBait. 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. [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 25 cfs. Fishing for trout was slow.

Laguna del Campo: Closed until May 1.

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 trout was fair when using black, leech-pattern flies and homemade dough bait.

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

Navajo Lake: Fishing for brown trout was slow to fair when trolling using large lures. Fishing for pike was fair to good when using large streamer flies.

Rio Chama: Streamflow below El Vado Lake Monday morning was 99 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 50 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Riverside Park Pond (Aztec Pond #1): Fishing for trout was good when using rainbow-colored Garlic PowerBait.

San Gregorio Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

San Juan River: Streamflow near Archuleta Monday morning was 372 cfs. Fishing for trout in the quality waters was fair when using red midge-pattern flies and silver-and-black, midge-pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was good when using egg-pattern flies and worms.

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 burgundy-colored, worm-pattern flies in the Catch and Release Pond.

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

SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Elephant Butte Lake: Kim Foster of Silver City caught and released a 15-pound blue catfish using cut shad bait on Feb. 19.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut shad bait.

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

Estancia Park Lake: The Department is addressing a reported fish die-off at the lake.

Gila River: Streamflow near Gila Monday morning was 209 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: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using pink-colored PowerBait Power Eggs and Power Worms. 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 most of the lake was open water.

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

Rio Grande: Streamflow below Elephant Butte Dam on Monday morning was 938 cfs. Fishing for walleye was fair when using 3-inch swimbaits with a jig head.

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 nightcrawler worms.

SOUTHEAST

SOUTHEAST CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Oasis Park Lake: Mario and Monica Velasco with their lab Zeke of Portales caught their limits of rainbow trout using a variety of PowerBait on Feb. 23.

SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was very good when using Salmon Peach PowerBait.

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 8 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 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 when using homemade dough bait.

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

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

Grindstone Reservoir: Fishing for trout was very good when using Garlic PowerBait, Rainbow PowerBait, and red, zebra midge-pattern flies.

Harry McAdams Park Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

Lake Van: Fishing for trout was fair when using Kastmaster lures and Yellow Garlic PowerBait.

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

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing for trout was good when using a variety of different PowerBait.

Pecos River: Streamflow below Sumner Lake Monday morning was 97 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 13 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 – Homemade Trout Dough Bait

Whether you want to try something different than the traditional baits you will find at the local fishing tackle store, or you want to create your own fish-catching concoction—making your own homemade dough bait is both rewarding and sometimes an extremely successful fishing bait. Many anglers are already hip to this technique and have refined their creations and given them their own names. A quick Google search for “homemade trout dough bait” will open your eyes to a variety of different mixtures that people have come up with. Some of the most popular ingredients include: a variety of different dough base options, garlic, salt, anise, tuna, bait-curing products, Kool-Aid and corn. As a beginner homemade dough bait maker, I was interested figuring out a simple recipe that I could start with and then add to in my pursuit of bait perfection. Here is the homemade dough bait recipe that I used, and it worked!



Using $\frac{1}{2}$ can of tuna, 1 teaspoon garlic salt and $\frac{3}{4}$ cup Bisquick pancake baking mix; knead all the ingredients together by hand until you have a well-mixed dough ball. (I included about half of the water in the tuna can).



Mixing all of these ingredients together into a single ball of dough with the ingredients mixed consistently throughout only took me about 10 minutes, or maybe even less.

It makes sense that these ingredients would work well for catching trout because they have all been used at one time or another to help me catch fish over the years—just not in a single homemade concoction of my own. For instance, I've had good success soaking corn in tuna juice and then placing the corn onto the treble hook of a spinner I'm using to fish for kokanee salmon, or a number of different bass plastic lures and traditional trout baits that I've used to catch fish will advertise that they are garlic- and salt-scented. If you read through the fishing reports, you will notice many anglers have success catching trout using garlic-scented PowerBait. Heck, I've caught bass, trout, catfish and carp by simply balling up a piece of bread and putting it on a hook. So, it makes sense that these ingredients together should do pretty well. And, what do you know, it did work!



Andres Martinez with a 13-inch rainbow trout he caught using homemade dough bait.

It would be fun to add color to this concoction using food coloring or Kool-Aid. I've heard Kool-Aid is a good ingredient to use. The options and combinations of ingredients to play with are large part of what making your own dough bait fun.

Any anglers interested in sharing, testing or creating new baits please feel free to [contact me](#) - Dustin

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.

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www.wildlife.state.nm.us/ais

