



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 CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Morphy Lake: Adam Gonzales of Las Vegas caught and released a 19-inch cutthroat trout using a self-tied, olive Guide's-Choice Hare's Ear fly on March 1.



Pecos River: Elijah Rodriguez, age 10, of Santa Fe caught and released a 12-inch brown trout using a worm on Feb. 25.



Rio Grande: Cid Little Elk of Questa caught and released a Rio Grande cutthroat trout, brown trout and rainbow trout using a Woolly Bugger fly near the John Dunn Bridge on Feb. 29.

NORTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Cabresto Lake: Fishing for trout was very good when ice fishing using small jigs tipped with worms.

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

Cimarron River: Streamflow near Cimarron Monday morning was not measured due to ice.

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

Conchas Lake: Fishing for smallmouth bass and walleye was fair to good when using clown-pattern crankbaits and nightcrawler worms.

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 and the lake edges are starting to thaw. The northern portion of the lake has water exposed from the shore to the main portion of the ice. Proceed with extreme caution when entering the ice. 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Monastery Lake: The lake will be freshly stocked with trout and reopen for fishing at 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 5. It 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 olive Hare's Ear flies.

Pecos River: Streamflow near Pecos Monday morning was not measured due to ice. Fishing for trout was very good when using Streamer flies; black, white and olive Woolly Bugger flies; black-and-chartreuse, tungsten bead-head nymph flies and small, egg-pattern flies.

Red River: Streamflow below the Red River Hatchery on Monday morning was 41 cubic feet per second (cfs).

Rio Grande: Streamflow below the Taos Junction Bridge on Monday morning was 441 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using Woolly Bugger flies near the John Dunn Bridge.

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: Fishing for trout was slow to fair when trolling using crawfish-pattern crankbaits from boats and when using PowerBait and silver Panther Martin spinners from shore.

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: Fishing for bass was fair to good when using nightcrawler worms.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST CATCH OF THE WEEK



Liam Knight Pond: Mikayla Randall, age 16, of Rio Rancho caught and released a 13-inch rainbow trout using a fire-tiger-colored Rooster Tail spinner 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 195 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: Fishing for trout was good when using worms and salmon eggs.

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

Jemez Waters: Streamflow near Jemez Monday morning was 46 cfs. Fishing for trout was good when using gold bead-head nymph flies.

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 fire-tiger-colored Rooster Tail spinners.

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 96 cfs; streamflow below Abiquiu Lake Monday morning was 69 cfs. Fishing for trout below Abiquiu Lake was fair when using Panther Martin 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: 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, yellow egg-pattern flies and red annelid-pattern flies. Fishing for trout in the bait waters was very good when using egg-pattern flies, bead-head mayfly -pattern flies and nightcrawler 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 CATCHES OF THE WEEK



Bear Canyon Lake: Sylvia Medrano of Silver City caught a 12-inch rainbow trout using Yellow PowerBait on March 1.



Bill Evans Lake: Pedro Camacho and his family (five people total) from Deming caught their limits of rainbow trout using White and Garlic PowerBait on Feb. 24.



Rio Grande: Luke Silva of Belen caught a 12-inch largemouth bass using a worm in the ditches near Los Lunas on March 2.

SOUTHWEST FISHING REPORT

Alumni Pond: Closed for repairs until further notice.

Bear Canyon Lake: Fishing for trout was fair to good when using Yellow PowerBait.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing for trout was very good when using White and Garlic PowerBait.

Caballo Lake: Fishing for catfish was slow to fair when using cut bait. Fishing for white bass was slow to fair when using crankbaits.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing for catfish was fair to good when using cut shad 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 350 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 967 cfs. Fishing for bass in the ditches near Los Lunas was fair when using worms. 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 CATCH OF THE WEEK



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

SOUTHEAST FISHING REPORT

Alto Lake: Fishing for trout was very good when using Yellow and Chartreuse 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 6 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 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 99 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 – Pecos and Santa Cruz Reservoir Updates

By Alex Morton from Santa Fe

I wanted to give you a quick update. The Pecos River is fishing really good right now. The water is clear and a little low, but having fished it four times in the past week, it's apparent that all the upper reaches still freeze overnight and thaw during the day. The water level will rise 2-5 inches throughout the afternoon.

My wife and I caught more than 80 fish in the Pecos during these four trips last week—mostly rainbows, about a dozen browns and one giant white sucker.



Alex with a nice rainbow trout that he caught from the Pecos River last week.



Alex with a big white sucker he caught from the Pecos River.

Cowles Ponds are still iced over, while Monastery Lake opened to the public Tuesday morning. The gates are still down for the roads to Jack's Creek, Winsor Creek and Holy Ghost Creek, but park rangers say they'll all be open by spring break. The Pecos River itself is entirely fishable all the way to Cowles Ponds. Fish were aggressively hitting Streamer flies, as well as Woolly Bugger flies in black, white and olive. Drifting tungsten nymphs in black and chartreuse and small, salmon-egg flies all worked well under an indicator. Fishing was best underneath and directly downstream from bridges.

Santa Cruz Lake opened Friday with a huge turnout for boaters and kayakers. There were probably 20-plus bank fishermen as well. There was no evidence of ice or freezing anywhere. The water was 1-2 feet lower than I'm used to seeing, but it was crystal clear and you could see the bottom from every spot. We did not catch anything from the bank using flies. We saw boaters catch rainbows while trolling small crawfish crankbaits. One bank fisherman caught his limit with PowerBait fished on the bottom and with silver Panther Martin spinners.

Thanks for your hard work and can't wait for the spring season!

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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