



New Mexico Fishing Rules & Information

Bass

Catfish

Crappie

Perch

Pike

Salmon

Sunfish

Trout

Walleye



2005 - 2006 LICENSE YEAR

Visit our web site www.wildlife.state.nm.us

Table of Contents and What's New



Providing New Mexico and its wildlife
Year-round Excellent Services

Table of Contents

2	What's New
3	License Fees and Definitions
4	General Regulations
5	Fishing Waters Map
6	Regulations For Specific Waters
8	Warm-Water Regulations
9	Boating Regulations
10	Warm-Water Game Fish
11	Cold-Water Game Fish
12	Special Trout Waters
14	Regular Trout, Winter Trout and Kokanee
15	Special Kokanee Snagging Season
16	Junior, Senior and Handicapped Waters
17	Habitat Stamp, Sportfish Restoration and Donation Certificate
18	Operation Game Thief
19	Form 3 - Licenses by Mail

Free Fishing Days!
Take your family fishing! You may fish without a license or Habitat Stamp on June 4, National Fishing Day and September 24, National Hunting and Fishing Day. All other fishing rules still apply.

Photo credits: Mark Gruber, Martin Frentzel, David Malis and Dan Williams

What's New

- Anglers and hunters must provide only the last four digits of their Social Security number when making application for a license. The Department uses the number to check for compliance with the Parental Responsibility Act.
- The bag limit on the Rio Grande below Elephant Butte Reservoir downstream through Caballo Lake is now 3 trout with no size limit.
- Power Dam lake near Santa Rosa is no longer stocked with trout. However Perch Lake will be stocked.
- The Riverwalk Pond in Grants is open to children less than 12 years of age for fishing
- Handicapped fishing is now allowed at Burns Canyon Lake near Parkview Hatchery.
- Tingley Beach has been temporarily closed by the City of Albuquerque for renovation. Projected reopening date is fall 2005. Contact the Northwest Area Office in Albuquerque for details.

Contact the Department of Game and Fish Main Office

Department of Game and Fish
PO Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504
1 Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, NM 87507

Area Offices

Northwest Area(505) 841-8881
3841 Midway Place NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109
Northeast Area(505) 445-2311
215 York Canyon Rd., Raton, NM 87740
Southwest Area(505) 532-2100
2715 Northrise Dr., Las Cruces, NM 88011
Southeast Area(505) 624-6135
1912 W. Second St., Roswell, NM 88201

Important Phone Numbers

To receive information in the mail.....(800) 862-9310
Operation Game Thief(800) 432-GAME
Public Information (general information)(505) 476-8000
TDD (hearing & speech impaired)(505) 476-8143
Fisheries Management(505) 476-8055
Wildlife Management(505) 476-8038
Law Enforcement(505) 476-8066
Conservation Services(505) 476-8101
Fax (licenses/procurement/payment)(505) 476-8137
Hunter Education(505) 841-8888
Ext.630

License Fees and Definitions

Licenses

Fishing and hunting licenses may be purchased at more than 230 license vendors state wide, all Department offices, on our web site at www.wildlife.state.nm.us or by mail using Form 3 on page 19. See page 16 for eligibility requirements for Junior, Senior and Handicapped licenses.

Licenses	Resident	Nonresident
Annual Fishing _____	\$17.50	\$39.00
One-day Fishing (midnight to midnight) —	8.00	8.00
Five-day Fishing _____	16.00	16.00
Junior Annual Fishing (age 12-14) —	5.00	18.50
Senior Annual Fishing (age 65-69) —	5.00	N/A
Annual Fishing 70 and Over* —	FREE	N/A
Handicapped Annual Fishing —	5.00	N/A
Annual Hunting/Fishing _____	40.50	N/A
Junior, Senior, or Handicapped Annual Hunting/Fishing _____	23.00	N/A
Duplicate License _____	6.00	6.00
Habitat Improvement Stamp —	5.00	5.00
Second Rod Validation _____	3.00	3.00

(Vendor fees are \$1 extra per document. All fishing licenses include trout stamp.)

*No Habitat Improvement Stamp or Second Rod Validation is required with this license. This free License, Stamp and Validation is available to Residents ONLY.

License Year

The fishing license year is April 1 - March 31. Annual licenses expire March 31. New licenses are needed each April 1.

License Requirements

ALL persons **12 years or older**, while fishing in New Mexico, must have on their person a current New Mexico fishing license. Anglers 11 years of age and younger do not need a fishing license. New Mexico fishing licenses are not required on Native American Reservations and private Class A Lakes.

Second Rod Validation

A validation that allows anglers to use two fishing rods in all waters. A Second Rod Validation must be purchased by anglers ages 12 to 69 prior to fishing with two rods. A Second Rod Stamp is free only to residents 70 and older. Bag and Possession Limits remain the same.

Habitat Stamp

A Habitat Improvement Stamp is required by all anglers from age 12 through 69 to fish on US Forest Service and BLM lands in New Mexico and must be purchased separately. Only one stamp need be purchased in any license year and is required for 1-day, 5-day, or annual fishing license. Habitat Improvement funds are used for such projects as restoration of lakes and trout streams.

DO NOT Fish Without a License!

Fishing without a license is a crime. Anyone cited for fishing without a license may appear in court and could be fined up to \$75, plus court costs. The maximum jail term is 6 months. You also have the option of paying a penalty assessment by mail rather than appearing in court.

The assessment is \$98.50 for residents and \$120 for nonresidents. This includes a fine of \$75, plus the fees for a valid fishing license, a \$1 vendor fee and a \$5 habitat stamp. In addition, illegally taken fish are confiscated, and the Department assesses a minimum of \$5 for each fish. Fines are \$400 for the fraudulent purchase of a resident license and \$100 for using a fishing license issued to another.

Anyone cited for violating laws and regulations will be assessed points toward revoking ones hunting and fishing license privileges.

Definitions

Angling

Taking or attempting to take fish by hook and line, with the line held in the hand or attached to a pole or rod or other device that is held in the hand or closely attended.

Artificial Fly or Lure

Lure made of wood, metal, or hard plastic; a fly made from fur, feathers, or man-made materials resembling or simulating insects, bait fish, or other foods. Living or dead arthropods and annelids, or rubber or plastic moldings of these or other foods are not included. Soft plastic lures may be used on the Rio Grande Special Trout Water below Elephant Butte Reservoir.

Artificial Lights

Artificial lights may be used in taking all species of game fish. If you use lights, consider leaving firearms and bows at home. It is illegal to shine lights where big game or livestock may be nearby, if you also possess a sporting arm capable of killing animals. Convicted violators face loss of their license privileges and vehicles!

Bag Limit

What you may catch and keep in one day.

Barbless Hook

A single hook, from which any or all barbs are removed or bent completely closed, or manufactured without barbs.

continued

Definitions and General Regulations

Chumming

Chumming means attracting fish with organic materials that will not injure aquatic life. Chumming is allowed only in the following waters: The Gila River downstream from its junction with its East Fork; the Rio Grande downstream from its junction with the Chama River and all designated warm waters. It is unlawful in any Special Trout Water to disturb aquatic plants, sediment, or rocks to attract fish, or to angle in the immediate vicinity of the disturbance.

Fishing Waters

See map on page 5.

Game Fish

Game fish are bass, catfish, crappie, perch, pike, salmon, sunfish, tiger muskie, trout, walleye.

Ice Fishing

Ice fishing is allowed during open season and hours, except at Monastery, Santa Cruz and Springer lakes.

License Year

The license year is April 1–March 31.

Native American Lands

Permission must be obtained from the tribal government before going on any reservation to fish. A state fishing license is not required to fish on reservation waters (a state fishing license is required at Cochiti Lake). Fish or game taken on and from reservations must be accompanied by an official tribal document showing lawful possession.

Nongame Fish

Unregulated species include buffalo, carp, gar, shad, suckers.

Possession Limit

The total fish you have in your possession in your camp, your vehicle and in your home.

Resident

A resident is anyone who has lived in New Mexico for at least 90 days immediately before buying the license and has not claimed residency anywhere else for any purpose. A temporary resident who maintains a home outside of New Mexico may not buy a resident license. A student at a New Mexico educational institution for at least one full term and members of US Armed Forces permanently stationed in New Mexico or a New Mexico resident stationed outside New Mexico, may purchase resident licenses if they submit a verifying certificate from their School Dean or Commanding Officer.

Second Rod Validation

A validation that allows anglers to use two fishing rods in all waters. Bag and Possession Limits remain the same. See page 3 for fees.

Single Hook

A hook with only one point.

Spearfishing

The spearfishing season is April 1 - March 31 during legal fishing hours. The same bag limits apply as angling. The legal means of taking are spears, gigs and arrows with barbs discharged under the surface of the water. Scuba divers may fish in all waters open to fishing except Special Trout Waters.

It Is Illegal:

- For persons 12 years of age or older to fish without a license on their person;
- To use someone else's license;
- For anglers 12-69 or nonresidents 70 and older to fish with more than one pole in any water without a Second Rod Validation;
- To fish with more than two poles in any waters;
- To release bait fish into fishing waters;
- To litter or pollute any waters or the banks of any waters;
- To leave a campfire burning and unattended;
- To sell, offer for sale, or purchase game fish or parts taken in New Mexico;
- To stock fish or spawn in any waters without a permit from the Department of Game and Fish;
- To import live fish into New Mexico without a permit from the Department of Game and Fish;
- To take fish or other animals that are protected by law as endangered or threatened species;
- To catch game fish by net, seine, trap, grappling, or other means not allowed in the New Mexico fishing regulations;
- To use any mechanical or electrical device capable of catching or killing game fish, except as permitted by regulation;
- To catch game fish by snagging except Kokanee salmon during the Special Kokanee Snagging Season;
- To fish in any Class A Lake without consent from the owner.

Remember:

- All game fish taken by methods other than angling or spearfishing must be immediately returned to the water.
- Bows and arrows may NOT be used to catch game fish.
- It is the angler's responsibility to release any endangered species of fish immediately to the water.

No Trespassing on Private Lands

You must obtain permission before entering into or onto private lands, including streambeds.

Criminal trespass consists of:

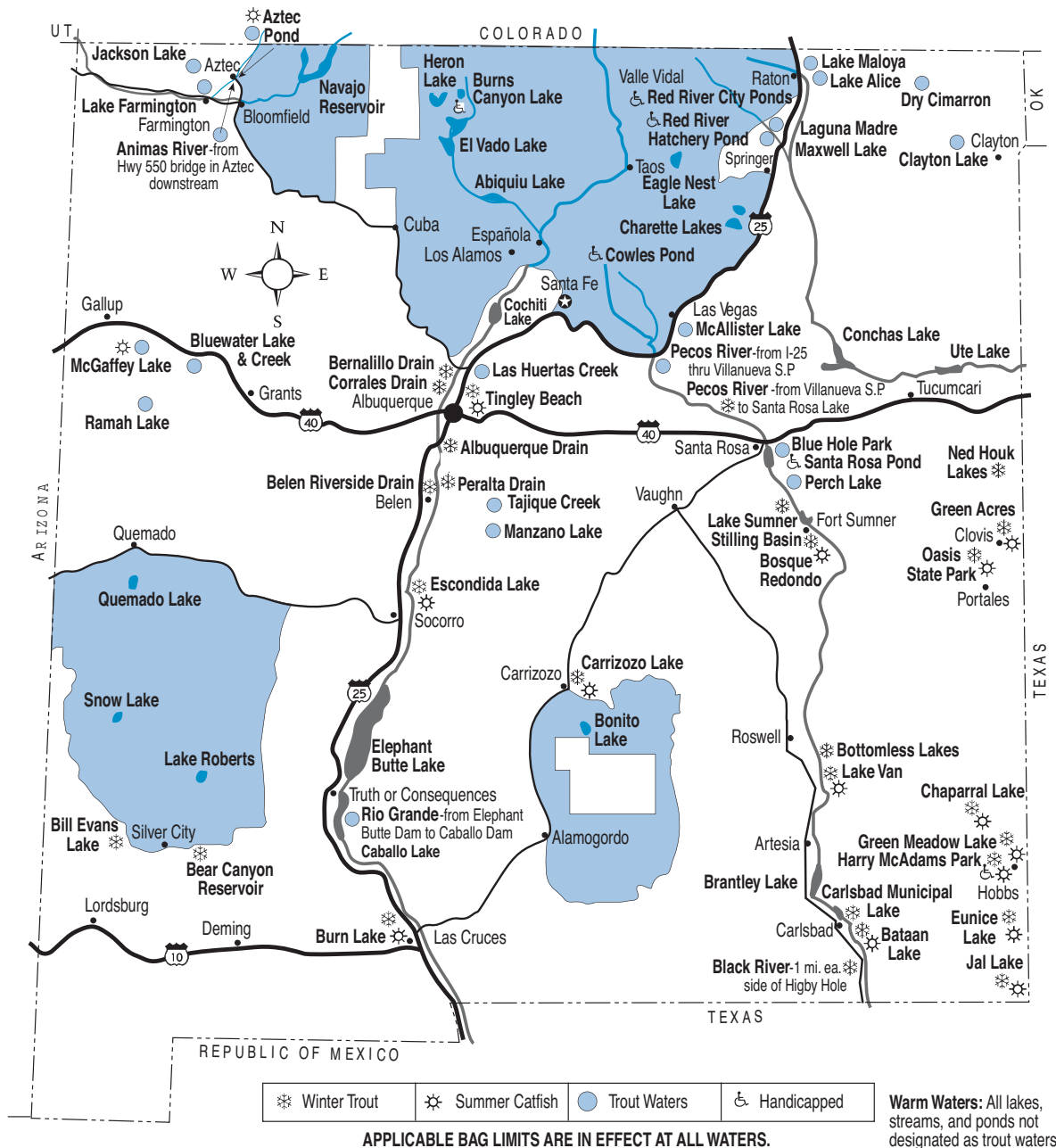
1. Unlawfully entering or remaining upon posted private property, without possessing written permission of the owner or person in control of the land.
2. Entering or remaining on private unposted lands knowing that consent to enter or remain is denied or withdrawn.

It is illegal to destroy no-trespassing signs. If convicted of trespass you will lose hunting and fishing privileges for three years, and fines are severe.

Much of New Mexico's public land is intermingled with privately owned land. The landowner's rights include control of access across private land unless access is by public road. If private land blocks access to public land, the angler must seek another access or receive landowner permission to cross.

New Mexico Fishing Waters

A free Fishing Waters Map is available at any Department of Game and Fish Office.



General Information

Public fishing waters may be subject to additional regulations not specifically mentioned in the current Fishing Rules and Information Booklet. It is the angler's responsibility to know and respect all such regulations, which are usually posted conspicuously at entry points.

Daylight hours are from 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

Department of Game and Fish personnel and others authorized by the director may use gasoline-powered boats while on official duties on all lakes where this use is otherwise prohibited.

Waters Closed to Fishing

Gila Trout Waters in Catron, Sierra, and Grant Counties including: **Big Dry Creek** from Golden Link Cabin upstream, **Iron Creek** from the barrier upstream, **Black Canyon Creek** from the barrier upstream, **Little Creek** from the barrier upstream, **Main Diamond Creek** above the confluence of its East Fork, **South Diamond Creek Drainage**, **Mogollon Creek**, **South Fork** of Mogollon Creek, **Woodrow Canyon** and the East Fork upstream of the falls near FS Trail 153 including **Trail Canyon Creek**, **McKenna Creek**, **McKnight Creek**, **Sacaton Creek**, **Sheep Corral Creek**, **Spruce Creek**, **White Creek** from the waterfall near White Creek Cabin upstream.

Lakes with posted portions near dams or outlets: **Alto**, **Bonito**, **Stubblefield** and **Laguna Madre** at Maxwell Lakes.

Hatcheries The fish rearing portions of state and federal hatcheries are closed to fishing.

Regulations For Specific Waters

- A -

Abiquiu Lake: Special Kokanee Salmon Snagging Season Oct. 1-Dec. 31, page 15.

Alto Lake: Hours are 5 a.m.-10 p.m. The posted portion near the outlet is closed to fishing.

Animas River (San Juan Co.): No bag or possession limit for channel catfish or striped bass, page 8.

Aztec Pond: Summer Catfish Waters, page 8. No trotlines allowed.

- B -

Bataan Lake: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

Bernardo Waterfowl Area: Boat use is restricted to boats without motors. No trotlines. Access is as posted.

Bear Canyon Lake: Winter Trout Water, page 14. No trotlines. Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motor.

Big Dry Creek (Catron Co.): Closed to fishing from Golden Link Cabin upstream through its headwaters.

Bill Evans Lake: Winter Trout Water, page 14. No trotlines. Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors.

Bitter Lake: No fishing with bait fish.

Black Canyon Creek (Grant Co.): Closed to fishing from barrier upstream to headwaters, including Aspen Canyon and Fall Canyon Creeks.

Bluewater Reservoir: Catch and release only fishing for tiger muskie.

Bonito Lake: Season is April 1-Nov. 30. Hours are 5 a.m.-10 p.m. No boats or floating devices are allowed. The posted portion near the outlet is closed to fishing.

Bosque del Apache NWR: Special regulations apply; get information from the refuge office.

Bosque Redondo: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

Bottomless Lakes State Park: No trotlines. No fishing with bait fish.

Burn Lake: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

Burns Canyon Lake: Season is May 1-Oct. 31. Open daylight hours. Open to persons 14 years or younger, 65 and over, handicapped anglers or up to two parents/guardians in direct supervision of a child or children 14 years or younger who is fishing.

Butler Street Reservoir: Hours are 5 a.m.-10 p.m.

- C -

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Winter Trout Water, page 14. No trotlines.

Carrizozo Lake: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

Chaparral Lake: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

Charette Lakes, upper and lower: Season is noon March 1-Oct. 31. Boats may be used only during fishing seasons and are restricted to trolling speeds.

Chama River: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13. Special Kokanee Salmon Snagging Season from El Vado Lake to west boundary of Rio Chama WLA, Oct. 1-Dec. 31, page 15.

Cimarron River: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Clayton Lake: Season is noon March 1-Oct. 31. Boats may be used only during fishing seasons and restricted to trolling speeds.

Cochiti Lake: Boats restricted to trolling speeds. Spillway closed to fishing.

Cowles Pond (smaller of two ponds): Open only to children under 12 and handicapped anglers.

- D -

Doctor Creek: Special Trout Water, page 13.

- E -

Eagle Nest Lake: Hours are 5 a.m.-10 p.m. Special Kokanee Salmon Snagging Season Oct. 1-Dec. 31, page 15. Day use only, no overnight camping allowed.

El Vado Lake: Special Kokanee Salmon Snagging Season Oct. 1-Dec. 31, page 15.

Escondida Lake: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

Estancia Park Lake: Open only to children under 12, over 65 and handicapped anglers

Eunice Lake: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

- F -

Fall Canyon Creek (Grant Co.): Closed to fishing.

Fenton Lake: Boat use is restricted to boats with oars or electric motors. The parking area is open to vehicles 6 a.m.-9 p.m. only.

Folsom Falls (Dry Cimarron Creek): No camping, no fires.

- G -

Gilita Creek: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Glenwood Hatchery Brood Pond: Open daylight hours.

Grants Riverwalk Pond: Open only to children under 12.

Green Acres Lake: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

Green Meadow Lake: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines. Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors.

- H -

Harris Pond (Las Vegas): Open only to children under 12.

Harry McAdams Park Ponds (Hobbs): Open to children under 12, 65 and over and handicapped anglers.

Heron Lake: Boat use restricted to trolling speeds. Special Kokanee Salmon Snagging Season Nov. 15-Dec. 31, page 15.

Hopewell Lake: Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors.

- I -

Iron Creek (Catron Co.): Closed to fishing from the barrier upstream to its headwater in Gila Wilderness.

- J -

Jack's Creek: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Jackson Lake: Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors.

Jal Lake: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

- L -

Laguna Madre (Maxwell Lakes): The posted portion within 150 feet of the outlet is closed to fishing.

La Joya Waterfowl Area: Boat use is restricted to those without motors. No trotlines. Access is as posted.

Lake Maloya (Sugarite State Park): Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors.

Lake Roberts: Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors.

Lake Van: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

Little Creek (in Catron Co.): Closed to fishing from the barrier upstream through all tributaries.

- M -

Maddox Lake: Open daylight hours. Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors. No trotlines.

Main Diamond Creek: Closed to fishing above confluence with the East Fork of Diamond Creek and South Diamond Creek drainage.

Regulations For Specific Waters

- M -

Maxwell Lakes 13 and 14: Season begins noon March 1-Oct. 31.

McAllister Lake: Season is noon March 1-Oct. 31. Boats may be used only during fishing season and restricted to trolling speeds; no anchors. No campfires are allowed.

McGaffey Lake: Boat use is restricted to those without motors. Summer catfish water. See page 8. No trotlines allowed.

McKenna Creek (Catron Co.): Closed to fishing.

McKnight Creek (Grant Co.): Closed to fishing.

Mogollon Creek, East Fork (Grant Co.): Closed to fishing upstream of waterfalls near FS Trail 153 including Trail Canyon Creek, South Fork of the Mogollon and Woodrow Canyon Creeks.

Mogollon Creek, South Fork (Grant Co.): Closed to fishing upstream from confluence with Trail Canyon Creek.

Monastery Lake: Open daylight hours. No boats or floating devices are permitted. Closed to ice fishing.

Morphy Lake: Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors.

- N -

Nabor Creek, Nabor Lake: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

National Wildlife Refuges: Obtain regulations from refuge offices.

Navajo Lake: Special Kokanee Salmon Snagging Season Oct. 1-Dec. 31, page 15.

Ned Houk: Winter Trout Water, page 14. No trotlines.

- O -

Oasis State Park: Summer Catfish and Winter Trout waters, pages 8 and 14. No trotlines.

- P -

Pecos River: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Pine River: Special Kokanee Salmon Snagging Season Nov. 15-Dec. 31, page 15.

- Q -

Quemado Lake: Catch and release only fishing for tiger muskie. Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors.

- R -

Ramah Lake: Boats are restricted to trolling speeds. The north shoreline is private property, closed to the public.

Red River: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Red River City Ponds: Open only to anglers under 12 and handicapped.

Red River Hatchery Pond: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13. Reserved for anglers under age 12, 65 and over and the handicapped. No boats or floating devices are allowed. Open daylight hours. Daily bag and possession limits are 3 trout.

Rio Cebolla: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Rio Costilla: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13. Camping is allowed only in designated areas.

Rio de los Pinos: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Rio Grande: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Rio Guadalupe: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Rio Las Animas: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Rio Pueblo: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Rio Ruidoso: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Rio Valdez: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

- S -

Sacaton Creek (Catron Co.): Closed to fishing.

San Antonio River: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

San Gregorio Lake: Boat use is restricted to those without motors.

San Juan River below Navajo Dam: No bag or possession limit for channel catfish or striped bass, page 9. Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Santa Cruz Lake: Hours are 6 a.m.-10 p.m. Closed to ice fishing.

Santa Rosa Pond at Blue Hole: Open only to anglers under age 12, 65 and over and the handicapped.

Sargent Wildlife Area: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13.

Sheep Corral Creek (Grant Co.): Closed to fishing.

Seven Springs Hatchery Brood Pond: Open only to children under 12.

Shuree Ponds: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13. Season is July 1-Dec. 31, during daylight hours. One pond is reserved for anglers under 12. Boat use is restricted to those without motors.

Snow Lake: Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors.

South Diamond Creek and tributaries (Catron and Sierra Co.): Closed to fishing.

South Fork of Mogollon Creek (Grant Co.): Closed to fishing.

Spring River Park (Roswell): Open only to children under 12.

Springer Lake: Boats are restricted to trolling speeds only when water storage is less than 1,000 acre feet. Ice fishing is not allowed.

Stubblefield Lake: The posted portion within 150 feet of outlet is closed to fishing.

Spruce Creek (Catron Co.): Closed to fishing.

- T -

Tingley Beach: Closed temporarily by City of Albuquerque for renovation. Projected opening date is fall 2005. Call Northwest Area Office for more details.

Trail Canyon Creek (Grant Co.): Closed to fishing.

Tucumcari Wildlife Area: Boat use is restricted to oars or electric motors.

- V -

Valle Vidal: Special Trout Water, pages 12-13. Season is July 1-Dec. 31, during daylight hours.

Valles Caldera National Preserve: Open by reservation only. Visit www.vallescaldera.gov for more information.

Valley Improvement Association Ponds (Belen): Open only to children under 12.

- W -

White Creek (Catron Co.): Closed to fishing from waterfall near White Creek Cabin upstream to headwaters.

Willow Creek: Special Kokanee Salmon Snagging Season Nov. 15-Dec. 31, page 15.

- Y -

Young Pond: Open only to children under 12.

Warm Water Regulations

General Information

Warm waters are all streams, lakes, and ponds except those designated as trout waters (refer to map on page 5). **ALL** persons 12 years or older, while fishing in New Mexico, must have on their person a current New Mexico fishing license. You may use two poles in any warm-water streams or lakes if you purchase a Second Rod Validation, see page 3.

Warm Water Bag and Possession Limits

Black bass _____ **5 per day**
Largemouth and spotted bass- 14-inch minimum size limit.
Smallmouth- 12-inch minimum size limit.

Catfish (all species except bullheads) _____ **15 per day**
In the Animas and San Juan Rivers in San Juan County, there is no bag or possession limit.

Special Summer Catfish Waters _____ **2 per day**
Special catfish limit applies to Aztec Pond, Bataan Lake, Bosque Redondo, Burn Lake, Carrizozo Lake, Chaparral, Escondida Lake, Eunice Lake, Green Acres Lake, Green Meadow Lake, Jal Lake, Lake Van, McGaffey Lake, Oasis State Park, Tingley Beach.

Crappie _____ **20 per day**

Striped bass _____ **2 per day**
In the Animas and San Juan Rivers in San Juan County, there is no bag or possession limit.

Northern pike _____ **10 per day**

Tiger muskie _____ **0 per day**

Walleye _____ **5 per day**
Walleye- 14-inch minimum size limit

White bass _____ **25 per day**

White bass/striped bass hybrids _____ **25 per day**

All other warm-water game fish _____ **20 per day**
(bluegill, sunfish, bullheads, yellow perch)

Possession Limits: Twice the daily bag limit

Mercury Contamination

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, the New Mexico Environment Department, and the New Mexico Department of Health have jointly issued fish consumption guidelines due to the presence of mercury or other contaminants in some fish.

Please don't panic. The majority of fish caught in New Mexico waters are safe to eat. However, some fish from some waters may contain contaminants in amounts that call for caution. For more information call (505) 827-2470 or toll free (866) 885-2997. Visit the Environment Department's web site at: www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swq/b/mercury.pdf

Bait

It is illegal to release baitfish into fishing waters that contain game fish.

Fish of the genus *Lepomis*, commonly known as bluegills or sunfish, may be used as bait for angling or trotline fishing, provided they are caught by angling. Roe, viscera and eyes of legally taken gamefish may be used as bait. Other fish, bullfrogs, or bullfrog parts may not be used as bait.

Goldfish may not be used as bait in any waters.

Minnows (all nongame fish) may be used as bait in all warm waters, except the Pecos drainage, Bitter Lake NWR and Bottomless Lakes State Park. Only red shiners and fathead minnows may be used as bait in waters of the Pecos drainage. Carp, carpsuckers, buffalo, and shad may not be used as bait in any Regular Trout Waters at any time (except Caballo Reservoir). Red shiners may not be used as bait within the drainages of the Gila and San Francisco rivers.

Taking Minnows

Minnows, which are all nongame fish, may be taken for personal use only as bait by licensed anglers and children under age 12. Angling, dip nets, cast nets, traps, and seines are permitted for taking minnows. Seines can be no longer than 20 feet and mesh size can be no more than 3/8 inches square. All protected species of fish, including endangered and threatened species, taken in seines, nets and traps, must be immediately returned to the water.

Trotlines Or Set Lines

A trotline (throw line or set line) is a line without a rod or reel attached. It need not be held in the hand or closely attended. Trotlines are limited to 25 hooks. Joining or tying together lines of two or more people is illegal.

An identification tag that is visible above the waterline must be attached to the trotline. The tag must include: name, address, fishing license number, and date when the line was set. Unlicensed anglers under 12 years old must include their age on the tag. Only one person's name is permitted on each trotline. You may not fish with more than one trotline. You may not operate another's trotline. Every person using a trotline must personally visit it every 24 hours. Trotlines may be used in taking fish in most warm waters.

Trotlines may not be used in the following waters:

Aztec Pond, Bataan, Bear Canyon, Bernardo Waterfowl Area, Bill Evans, Bottomless Lakes, Burn, Carlsbad Municipal, Carrizozo, Chaparral, Escondida, Eunice, Green Acres, Green Meadow, Jal, Lake Van, La Joya Waterfowl Area, Maddox, McGaffey, Ned Houk, Oasis State Park, and Tingley Beach.

Trotlines may not be used in any trout waters except:

Abiquiu Lake, the Chama River down stream from the northern boundary of the Monastery of Christ in the Desert, the Gila River down stream from its junction with the East Fork, Navajo Lake and the Rio Grande downstream from its junction with the Chama River.

Boating Regulations

Basic Boating Regulations

For boat registration/title contact your local Motor Vehicle Division office or call 1-888-MVD-INFO or go to the web at: www.state.nm.us/tax/mvd

1. A boat title is required for all new boats, transfer of ownership and boats not previously titled that are powered by sail or motor and more than 10 feet in length. Boat registration and title may be obtained through the New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division.
2. A boat's registration number must be printed on each side of the vessel. The registration certificate must be on board when the vessel is in operation. All vessels are subject to inspection.
3. All vessels must carry proper safety equipment while in operation, including personal flotation devices for each person on board, a paddle, a bailing bucket, rope, signaling device, fire extinguisher, and lights (if operated at night).

For boating info call State Parks at 1-888-667-2757 or visit: www.emnrd.state.nm.us/nmparks

Remember!

A red flag displayed above a stopped boat indicates a water skier is down in that area—USE CAUTION.

Special Boating Restricted Waters

Waters Restricted To Boats Without Motors

Bernardo Waterfowl Area
La Joya Waterfowl Area
McGaffey Lake
San Gregorio Lake
Shuree Ponds

Waters Restricted To Boats With Oars Or Electric Motors

Bear Canyon Lake
Bill Evans Lake
Fenton Lake
Green Meadow Lake
Hopewell Lake
Jackson Lake
Lake Roberts
Maddox Lake
Morphy Lake
Quemado Lake
Snow Lake
Tucumcari Wildlife Area

Waters Where No Boats Or Floating Devices Are Allowed

Bonito Lake
Burns Canyon Lake
Monastery Lake
Power Dam Lake
Red River Hatchery Pond

Waters Restricted To Boats During Fishing Season At Trolling Speeds Only

Charette Lakes, upper & lower
Clayton Lake
Cochiti Lake
Heron Lake
McAllister Lake
Ramah Lake
Springer Lake, when less than 1,000 acre feet

Department of Game and Fish Personnel

Department of Game and Fish personnel and others authorized by the Director may use motor boats while on official duties on all lakes where this use is otherwise prohibited.



New Mexico Outdoor Expo

May 14 and 15, 2005 • 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
City of Albuquerque Shooting Range

-Demos and Exhibits-

Hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation

-Events-

Archery range, .22 caliber rifle range, muzzleloader range, shotgun range, rock climbing, casting

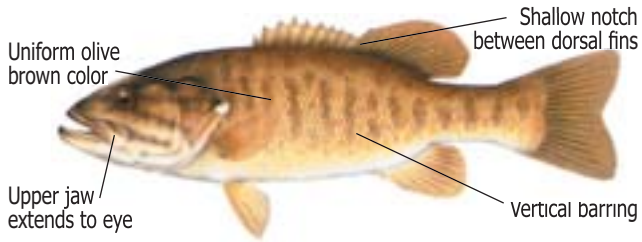
- This EXPO is a free family event, open to the public.
- All firearms, ammunition, fishing equipment, and archery equipment are provided.
- Volunteer Hunter Education Instructors run all the ranges, providing one-on-one expert instruction.

For more information call NM Game and Fish Dept. at: (505) 841-8881.

Warm-Water Gamefish

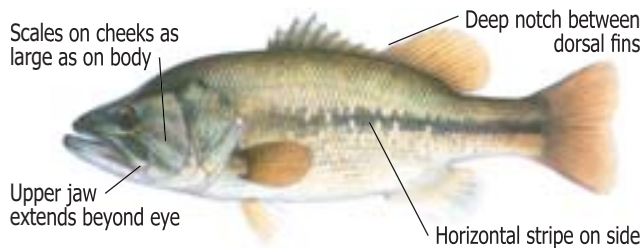
Smallmouth Bass

NM Record: 5-15-99 Navajo Lake
Weight: 6 lb., 14.4 oz. **Length:** 22" **Girth:** 16-1/4"



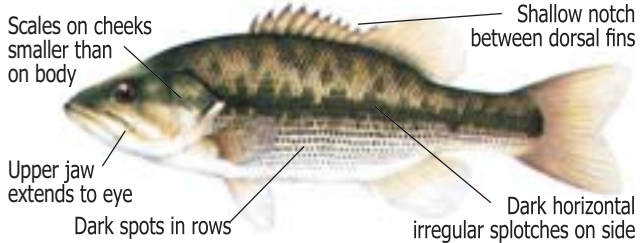
Largemouth Bass

NM Record: 3-24-95 Bill Evans Lake
Weight: 15 lb., 13 oz. **Length:** 26-1/2" **Girth:** 24-3/4"



Spotted Bass

NM Record: 3-26-88 Cochiti Lake
Weight: 4 lb., 8 oz. **Length:** 18" **Girth:** 16"



Channel Catfish (Illustrated Below)

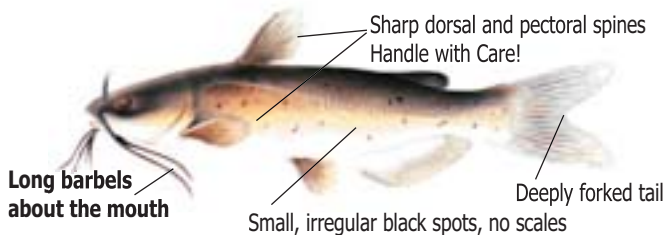
NM Record: 4-12-99 Stubblefield Lake
Weight: 36 lb., 8 oz. **Length:** 38" **Girth:** 26"

Blue Catfish

NM Record: 6-13-99 Elephant Butte
Weight: 33 lb., 8 oz. **Length:** 39-1/2" **Girth:** 27"

Flathead Catfish

NM Record: 6-7-79 Ash Canyon/Elephant Butte
Weight: 78 lb., 0 oz. **Length:** 47-1/2" **Girth:** 31-1/2"



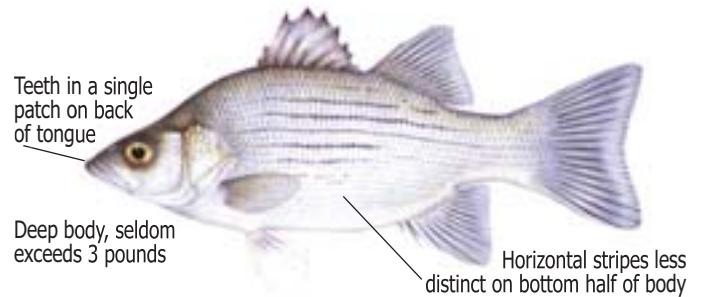
Striped Bass

NM Record: 4-1-92 Elephant Butte
Weight: 54 lb., 8 oz. **Length:** 45" **Girth:** 34"



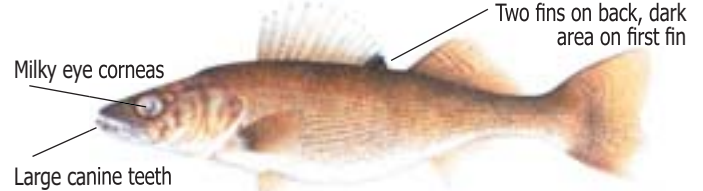
White Bass

NM Record: 6-8-83 Bill Evans Lake
Weight: 4 lb., 13 oz. **Length:** 19-1/2" **Girth:** 18-1/4"



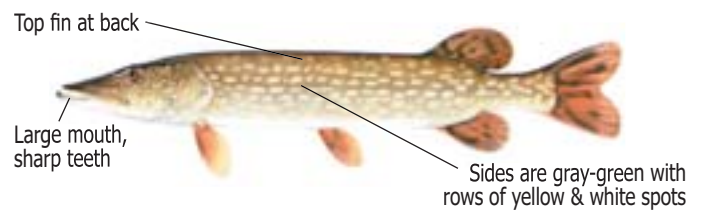
Walleye

NM Record: 9-19-89 Clayton Lake
Weight: 16 lb., 9 oz. **Length:** 32" **Girth:** 21"



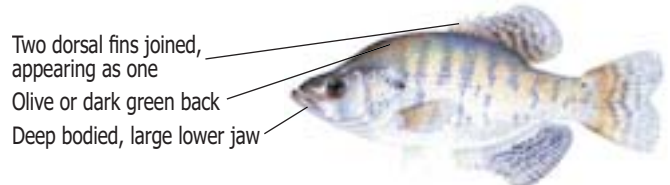
Northern Pike

NM Record: 11-21-74 Miami Lake & 3-7-78 Springer Lake
Weight: 36 lb., 0 oz. **Length:** 53" **Girth:** 29"



Crappie

NM Record: 3-2-83 Black River
Weight: 4 lb., 9 oz. **Length:** 16" **Girth:** 13-1/2"



Illustrations: Joseph R. Tomelleri

Cold-Water Gamefish

Rainbow Trout

NM Record: 3-13-99 Santa Cruz Lake

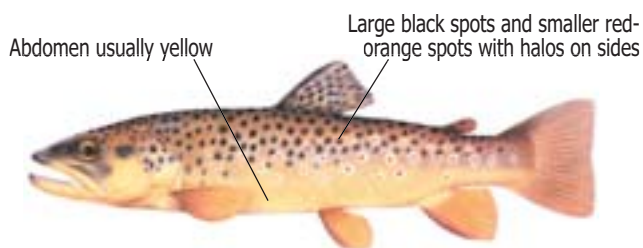
Weight: 31 lb., 12.5 oz. **Length:** 33-1/2" **Girth:** 24-1/4"



Brown Trout

NM Record: 7-9-46 Chama River

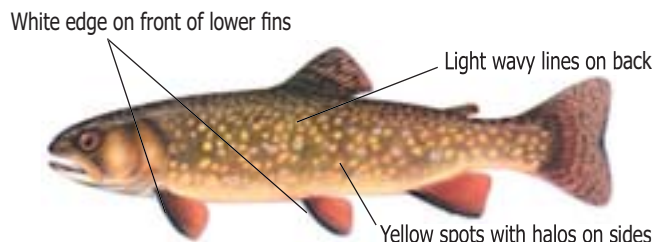
Weight: 20 lb., 4 oz. **Length:** 34-1/2" **Girth:** 21"



Brook Trout

NM Record: 9-23-96 Hidden Lake/Simms

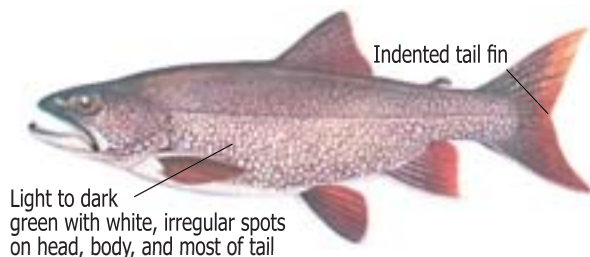
Weight: 5 lb., 0 oz. **Length:** 21" **Girth:** 14-1/2"



Lake Trout

NM Record: 2-24-99 Heron Lake

Weight: 31 lb., 6 oz. **Length:** 41-1/2" **Girth:** 26"



Cutthroat Trout

NM Record: 6-27-81 Latir Lakes

Weight: 10 lb., 2 oz. **Length:** 24-5/8" **Girth:** 18-1/2"

Snake River Cutthroat Trout

Orange-red slash mark below jaw

Red-orange lower fins

Small, profuse spots

Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout (Native) State Fish

Large, dark irregular spots

Red slash mark below jaw

Gila Trout (Native) Protected

It is unlawful to possess Gila trout!

Small black spots

Yellow slash mark below jaw

Dark olive-green along back, shading to golden-yellow belly

Kokanee Salmon

NM Record: 10-13-00 Navajo Lake

Weight: 4 lb., 0 oz. **Length:** 24" **Girth:** 13-1/2"

Female and non-spawning male: blue-green along back, silvery sides, few spots

Spawning Male: long snout, arched back, sides turn pink-red to orange

Life size reproductions of all New Mexico's record game fish are on display at the Santa Fe office, 1 Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, New Mexico. For more information on record fish, contact the Public Information and Outreach Division at (505) 476-8000.

Special Trout Water Regulations

General Information

Special Trout Waters (STW) have reduced bag limits or are catch and release only. These regulations give anglers a chance for high-quality fishing. Most Special Trout Waters require artificial flies and lures that have single, barbless hooks. See page 3-4 for definitions. Disturbing rocks, plants, or sediment in order to attract fish is illegal in STW.

License Information

ALL persons 12 years or older, while fishing in New Mexico, must have on their person a current New Mexico fishing license. You may use two poles in Special Trout Waters if you purchase a Second Rod Validation, see page 3. Resident anglers 70 and older do not need to purchase a fishing license, Habitat Stamp or Second Rod Validation.

General Bag and Possession Limit Restrictions

Anglers must stop fishing in STW when they have taken their daily bag limit. Anglers may continue fishing in Regular Trout Waters, but **MUST** count those STW fish toward their daily bag limit. Possession limits are same as daily bag limit in all STW.

Catch & Release Tips

Many of our game fish have restricted bag limits and/or restricted size limits which require releasing live fish back into the water. Follow these tips to ensure a healthy release:

1. Try to land the fish quickly; don't play it to exhaustion.
2. Use a landing net whenever possible.
3. Keep the fish in the water.
4. Do not squeeze or grab any part of the fish. Wet your hands first if you must handle the fish.
5. Gently remove the hook (barbless hooks are easier).
6. If the hook is deeply swallowed, cut the leader. A fish's body fluids will dissolve the hook in a matter of days.
7. Let a tired fish recover. Hold it by the tail in the water with one hand. Gently support it from below and just behind the head. Move it back and forth until it swims off.
8. Never toss a fish back into the water.

Whirling Disease Continues to Pose a Serious Threat to New Mexico's Trout Population

What's Whirling Disease?

This disease of trout is caused by a tiny parasite, *Myxobolus cerebralis*. It starts as an extremely durable spore that can remain dormant in sediment at the bottom of lakes and streams for up to 30 years. The parasite consumes the cartilage of young fish. Damage continues until the spinal column deforms into a curve, the fish's brain becomes inflamed and eventually the fish dies.

12

Once disease-positive fish are released into a body of water, there is virtually nothing that can be done to entirely eliminate the disease. Whirling disease is already established in several streams in New Mexico including the Pecos, San Juan and Red River. The impact of the disease on the future of our fisheries is difficult to predict. Because the spores of *Myxobolus cerebralis* remain viable for so long, there is little that can be done to eradicate the parasite once it is established in a watershed.

While we remain optimistic about our ability to produce whirling disease-free trout from hatcheries, our primary concern is preventing the spread of the disease to our native trout. Please visit our web site to learn more about whirling disease in New Mexico: www.wildlife.state.nm.us

What Can Anglers Do?

The most important thing anglers can do to prevent contaminating additional trout waters is to take the following steps:

- Wash off all mud and weeds from your boat, trailer, waders and wading boots.
- Drain all the water from your boat, coolers and livewells before you leave your fishing site.
- Never use trout or trout parts as bait.
- Always dispose of fish heads and entrails in a solid waste facility and not in our streams, lakes or even your sink drain.
- Do not transfer fish from one stream or lake to another body of water. It's against the law and can spread whirling disease.
- If you plan to stock your own private water with fish, you **MUST** obtain a permit from the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Call (505) 476-8055 for more information.

Get More Information

Great sources of current whirling disease information can be found on the internet. Please visit these web sites:

- **The Whirling Disease Foundation**
www.whirling-disease.org
- **Montana Whirling Disease Task Force**
www.whirlingdisease.org
- **Trout Unlimited**
www.tu.org

Special Trout Water Regulations

Special Trout Waters-Artificial Fly or Lure, Single Barbless Hook

<p>Catch-and-Release Only.</p> <p>ALL trout must be immediately returned to the water</p>	<p>Doctor Creek from .25 mile above its confluence with Holy Ghost Creek upstream to its headwaters.</p> <p>Jack's Creek from the waterfalls located .25 mile downstream of NM 63 crossing upstream to its headwaters.</p> <p>Nabor Creek, Nabor Lake, on the Sargent Wildlife Area.</p> <p>Pecos River in the Pecos Wilderness above Pecos Falls.</p> <p>Rio Cebolla from the Seven Springs Day Use Area upstream to its headwaters.</p> <p>Rio Costilla from Valle Vidal boundary 2.4 miles downstream to Latir Creek.</p> <p>Rio Guadalupe from Porter Landing Bridge 1.3 miles downstream to Llano Loco Spring.</p> <p>Rio Las Animas within Gila National Forest, Black Range District.</p> <p>Rio Valdez in the Pecos Wilderness from .25 mile below Smith Cabin upstream to its headwaters.</p> <p>San Antonio River from Valles Caldera Preserve boundary downstream 2.0 miles.</p> <p>San Juan River from Navajo Dam downstream .25 mile as posted.</p> <p>Valle Vidal all streams.</p>
---	--

1 trout only, at least 20" long **San Juan River** for 3.5 miles downstream from catch-and-release section to east side of Section 16.

<p>1 trout only, at least 16" long</p>	<p>Cimarron River from east end of Tolby Campground downstream 1.4 miles to first US 64 bridge.</p>
---	--

2 trout only, at least 15" long **Shuree Ponds** on Valle Vidal.

<p>2 trout only, at least 12" long</p>	<p>Pecos River the box canyon .5 mile above the confluence of the Mora-Pecos upstream 1.5 miles to .25 mile above Cowles bridge.</p> <p>Red River from the confluence of Goose Creek for 1.0 mile upstream as posted.</p>
---	---

2 trout only, any length

Chama River 2.9 miles within Rio Chama Wildlife and Fishing Area.

Gilita Creek from the Gila Wilderness downstream 5.0 miles to Snow Creek.

Rio De Los Pinos from USFS Roads 284 & 87A, 2.5 miles upstream to private land.

Rio Pueblo between the bridge at Mile Marker 55 on NM 518 upstream 1.0 mile to the Canon Tio Maes Trail head as posted.

Sargent Wildlife Area all waters within the Area (except: Nabor Creek, Nabor Lake), including Rio Chama, Rio Chamita, and Sexton Creek.

Special Trout Waters-Any Legal Tackle or Bait

<p>3 trout only, any length</p>	<p>Burns Canyon Lake Anglers 14 years of age or younger and 65 and over.</p> <p>Chama River from Abiquiu Dam downstream 7.0 miles to the US 84 bridge at Abiquiu.</p> <p>Red River from .5 mile below walking bridge at Red River State Hatchery downstream to confluence with Rio Grande.</p> <p>Red River Hatchery Pond Anglers must be 12 years of age or younger, 65 and over, or handicapped.</p> <p>Rio Grande from Colorado line downstream to the Taos Junction bridge.</p> <p>Rio Grande from Elephant Butte Dam downstream to and including Caballo Lake.</p> <p>Rio Ruidoso from the Mescalero Reservation border downstream to Friedenbloom Drive.</p>
--	---

Possession limits are same as daily bag limit in all Special Trout Waters.

Regular Trout, Winter Trout and Kokanee

General Information

Catchable-sized, hatchery-reared trout are stocked in heavily fished waters. Smaller trout and salmon are stocked in waters that can support their growth. Some waters support fishing for native Rio Grande cutthroat. Other waters support naturally reproducing populations of non-native brown trout. Still other waters are too warm in summer, but in winter can be stocked with hatchery-raised rainbow trout.

License Information

ALL persons 12 years or older, while fishing in New Mexico, must have on their person a current New Mexico fishing license. You may use two poles in coldwater streams or lakes if you purchase a Second Rod Validation, see page 3. Resident anglers 70 and older do not need to purchase a fishing license, Habitat Stamp or Second Rod Validation.

Trotlines

Trotlines are not permitted in trout waters, except Abiquiu Lake, Caballo Lake, Chama River below the northern boundary of the Monastery of Christ in the Desert, Gila River downstream from its junction with its East Fork, Navajo Lake, Rio Grande downstream from its junction with the Chama River.

Baitfish

Minnows and nongame fish may not be used as bait in trout waters, except Winter Trout Waters, Animas River, Pecos River down stream of NM 63 bridge at Pecos, Rio Grande, Abiquiu Lake, Clayton Lake, Jackson Lake, Laguna Madre, Maxwell Lake 13, Navajo Lake, and Perch Lake.

Goldfish may not be used as bait in any waters.

It is illegal to release ANY baitfish into fishing waters that contain game fish.

Winter Trout Waters

Winter Trout Waters

Winter trout waters are stocked with hatchery-reared rainbow trout between Nov. 1 and March 31, when temperatures are cooler. Look for the snowflakes on the map on page 5 to identify these Winter Trout Waters.

Bag and Possession Limits

See above.

Streams

Black River

From 1 mile upstream to 1 mile downstream of Higby Hole.

Pecos River

From SE boundary of Villanueva State Park downstream to Santa Rosa Lake.

Regular Trout, Winter Trout and Kokanee Bag Limits

You **MUST STOP FISHING** when you keep your bag limit. No catch-and-release fishing allowed after obtaining your bag limit.

Brown trout, brook trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, lake trout, and Kokanee salmon — 5 per day
The 5 fish bag limit is any combination of trout and salmon, except cutthroat trout, listed above.

Only 2 cutthroat trout may be included in the limit. It is unlawful to possess Kokanee salmon at Heron Lake, Willow Creek, and Pine River during the closed season from Oct. 1 - Nov. 14.

Possession Limit for Above: Twice the daily bag limit

Cutthroat trout ————— 2 per day
2 in possession

Any trout with red slash marks below the jaw is considered a cutthroat.

Gila trout ————— 0 per day
0 in possession

It is unlawful to possess Gila trout. Most waters with pure-strain Gila trout are closed to fishing.



Lakes

Bataan
Bear Canyon
Bill Evans
Bosque Redondo
Bottomless
Burn
Green Meadow
Harry McAdams

Carlsbad Municipal
Carrizozo
Chaparral
Escondida
Eunice
Green Acres

Jal
Lake Van
Ned Houk
Oasis State Park
Tingley Beach
Sumner Lake Stilling Basin

Drains
Albuquerque
Belen Riverside
Bernalillo
Corrales
Peralta

Special Kokanee Snagging Season

General Information

Kokanee are land-locked sockeye salmon. Although not native to the Southwest, Kokanee do quite well in a few of our deep, cold, plankton-producing lakes. In late fall, four-year-old Kokanee form giant schools, spawn and then die.

Snagging is a technique for harvesting these soon-to-die salmon. Snagging is the intentional taking of fish with hooks where the fish is caught in a part of the body other than the mouth. Only Kokanee salmon can be legally caught by snagging during Kokanee snagging season. If other species are caught, they must be immediately returned to the water.

Each autumn, the Department of Game and Fish mounts a massive operation to obtain millions of Kokanee eggs and milt. The fertilized eggs soon hatch and the fry are restocked in Heron, Navajo, Abiquiu, El Vado, and Eagle Nest Lakes. This collection operation is the reason the snagging season at Heron Lake, Willow Creek, and Pine River is closed from Oct. 1 - Nov. 14.



Special Kokanee Salmon Snagging Season Dates

Oct. 1 - Dec. 31

Abiquiu Lake, Chama River from El Vado Lake to west boundary of Rio Chama Wildlife and Fishing Area, El Vado Lake, Navajo Lake, and Eagle Nest Lake.

Oct. 1 - Nov. 14

Snagging Season is **closed** at Heron Lake, Willow Creek, and Pine River.

Nov. 15 - Dec. 31

Snagging Season is **open** at Heron Lake, Willow Creek, and Pine River.

Special Kokanee Salmon Snagging Season Bag Limit

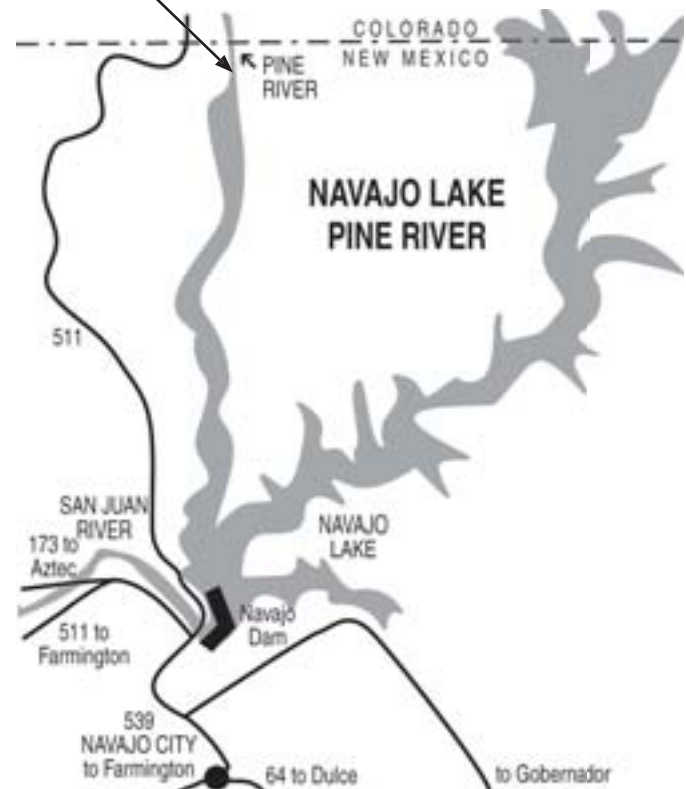
Kokanee salmon ————— 12 per day
24 in possession

Waters Closed from Oct. 1 - Nov. 14

Closed from Oct. 1 - Nov. 14



Closed from Oct. 1 - Nov. 14



Junior, Senior and Handicapped Waters

Definitions

Junior

To hold a Junior Fishing License, anglers must be between the ages of 12 and 15.

Senior

To hold a Senior Fishing License, anglers must be age 65 or older and a resident of New Mexico.

Handicapped

To hold a Handicapped Fishing License, anglers must be a resident of New Mexico and show proof of a severe disability because of one or more physical disabilities resulting from amputation, arthritis, blindness, burn injury, cancer, cerebral palsy, cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy, muscular skeletal disorders, neurological disorders, paraplegia, quadriplegia and other spinal cord conditions, sickle cell anemia, and end-stage renal disease, or you must have a combination of permanent disabilities which cause comparable substantial functional limitations.

No special application form is necessary to hold a handicapped fishing license but proof of disability is required.

Bag and Possession Limits

Statewide bag and possession limits are in effect for these waters.

Youth-Only Waters

Anglers must be 11 years of age or younger to fish in Youth-Only Waters. These anglers do not need a fishing license.

Riverwalk Pond in Grants

Harris Pond in Las Vegas

Seven Springs Hatchery Brood Pond in the Jemez Mountains

Spring River Park in Roswell

Valley Improvement Association Ponds in Belen

Young Pond in Las Cruces

Youth, Senior and Handicapped-Only Waters

Estancia Park Lake in Estancia

Harry McAdams Park Ponds in Hobbs

Red River Hatchery Pond in Red River

Santa Rosa Pond at Blue Hole Park in Santa Rosa

Youth and Handicapped-Only Waters

Cowles Pond north of Pecos (smaller of two ponds)

Red River City Ponds in Red River

Anglers Under Age 14, Senior and Handicapped-Only Waters

Burns Canyon Lake near Parkview Hatchery



Habitat Stamp and Sportfish Restoration



Habitat Stamp Program

Each time a Habitat Improvement Stamp is purchased, sportsmen and women reinforce their support and commitment to New Mexico's wildlife.

The stamp is required of all anglers age 12 through 69, fishing on Bureau of Land Management

and US Forest Service lands.

Last year the Habitat Stamp Program accumulated more than \$900,000. Expenditures included \$789,265 in HSP funds. Agency partners contributed an additional \$675,997 and sportsmen's groups provided \$56,876 for a total of \$1.5 million to complete 83 projects. This money funded:

- 21,893 acres of vegetative treatments,
- 1,050 acres of riparian enhancements,
- Silt removal at McGaffey Reservoir,
- 40 wildlife-watering sites,
- 73 wildlife population/habitat surveys,
- 153 signs,
- 861 hours of extra law enforcement effort,
- Maintenance of 288 existing habitat structures.



Sportfish Restoration Program

Anglers financially assist many fisheries programs in New Mexico every time they purchase a fishing rod, reel, tackle box, lure, bait, fishing line, electronic fish finder, boat

gasoline, or other sport fishing product.

Anglers' assistance comes through a federal 10% excise tax on fishing equipment that produces money for state fisheries programs. New Mexico's share is more than \$3 million annually.

Boaters also benefit from the purchase of equipment. States must spend 15 percent of the monies to develop and maintain boat facilities. Hatchery renovation, boat ramps, public fishing easements, walleye stocking, lake rehabilitation, kids' fishing clinics, research projects, bass and trout stocking, and more have come from these dollars. You pay! You benefit!



Donation Certificate

Fish may be legally donated to another person with a Donation Certificate that states the name and address of the donor, the name and address of the recipient, the kind and number of

fish donated, license number of the donor, date, and county where the fish were caught, and the date, and place of donation. Donated fish, given the same day they were caught, apply to the donor's daily bag limit.

I _____
 Address _____
 City and State _____
 Hereby convey to:
 Recipient's Name _____
 Address _____
 City and State _____
 The following game fish or parts:

 Taken by me under NM Fishing License #: _____
 On _____ Date _____ In _____ County _____
 Date of Transaction: _____
 Place of Transaction: _____
 Donor's Signature: _____
I affirm that the above information is true and correct. I understand it is unlawful to pre-date or otherwise falsify a certificate or donation.

Title VI Funding

Certain programs of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish receive federal funds from the US Department of the Interior. These programs are subject to requirements of the New Mexico Human Rights Act and Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which prohibit discrimination because of ancestry, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age or physical or mental handicap. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, or you desire further information on Title VI, write to:

Department of Game and Fish Office of Equal Opportunity
 ADA Coordinator U.S. Dept. of Interior
 PO Box 25112 Office of the Secretary
 Santa Fe, NM 87504 Washington, DC 20240

If you have a disability and need auxiliary aids or services to attend public meetings, call 476-8027 at least three working days prior to the meeting.

Operation Game Thief, Form 3

Turn In a Poacher, Earn a Reward!

Rewards for the arrest or charges against game violators are:

- \$750 for cases involving elk or bighorn sheep
- \$500 for deer or oryx
- \$350 for antelope
- \$250 for turkey, bear, cougar, javelina, ibex, Barbary sheep, endangered species, small game, fish, raptors and furbearers.



Call: **800-432-4263** to report poachers and remain anonymous.

Operation Game Thief

Operation Game Thief continues to be a successful deterrent to wildlife law violators. Operation Game Thief was established in 1977 as a way to report violations involving game and fish and allow the informant to remain anonymous. The reward fund does not use tax or license fees. It comes from clubs, organizations, businesses and from thousands of men and women who have contributed anywhere from a few dollars to hundreds of dollars each. Operation Game Thief needs your support. Please send a donation payable to Operation Game Thief to the Department of Game and Fish, PO Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504. Your donation is tax-deductible, and all the money is used to pay rewards in wildlife cases.

Department of Game and Fish officers investigated 173 Operation Game Thief reports for the year ending June 30, 2004. Most of the reported violations were allegations of poaching deer, elk antelope and oryx. Other reports involved criminal trespass, small game and fishing violations. While some investigations continue, these reports have resulted in 130 criminal charges and 12 warnings being issued to 82 individuals. Fines collected totaled \$20,318.

The State Game Commission revoked the license privileges of 365 individuals. Of those, 86 committed violations of hunting and fishing laws and 238 failed to pay penalty assessments. The other 41 were for failure to comply with the Parental Responsibility Act and eight for reciprocating revocation in another member state of the Wildlife Violators Compact.

Parental Responsibility Act

The New Mexico Parental Responsibility Act requires the State Game Commission to revoke the recreational and professional licenses of anyone who does not comply with a court-ordered child support obligation.

The purpose of the act is to eliminate child support arrearages. This will help reduce the number of children living at or near the poverty level and decrease the financial obligation that falls to the state when parents do not provide for their children.

There are currently 2,873 individuals who have their hunting and fishing privileges suspended because of the Parental Responsibility Act. For more information about this law, please contact the Law Enforcement Division at (505) 476-8066.

Instructions for Form 3

Over-the-Counter Licenses by Mail

All persons 12 years or older, while fishing in New Mexico, must have on their person a current New Mexico fishing license. Anyone who hunts protected game must have a license, regardless of age. All nonresidents must be licensed, even for hunting unprotected nongame species.

Do not use this form to apply for draw licenses or permits. Do not use this form to purchase a Deer OTC license until you know whether you were successful in the deer draw. Use Form 3 ONLY for the licenses listed. Over-the-Counter licenses, except ibex and nonresident furbearer, also are available from all license vendors in New Mexico.

- Print all answers legibly.
- Photocopies of Form 3 are acceptable but it must have an original signature.
- Check all applicable licenses.
- Submit fees listed on Form 3.
- Do not fax Form 3.
- Include a \$1 vendor fee with the total amount for all licenses.
- Mail orders for licenses should be received in our office at least 14 days before the license is needed.
- Pay only by credit card, check or money order made payable to Department of Game and Fish. Do not mail cash. Persons using any license purchased with a worthless check or credit card can be prosecuted for using a license unlawfully procured and are subject to a one-year revocation of all hunting and fishing privileges.
- You must sign Form 3.

Return Form 3 with your payment to any Department office or mail it to:
Special Hunts Office
Department of Game and Fish
PO Box 25125
Santa Fe, NM 87504

Helpful Fishing Information Online

Visit our web site at www.wildlife.state.nm.us

Click on **Fishing Information** and see:

Reports

- Weekly Fishing Report
- Fish Stocking Report
- Fish Species List
- Mercury Advisories

Cold-water Game Fish

- Species Information
- Certified Cold-water Fish Suppliers
- Whirling Disease Information

Warm-water Game Fish

- Species Information
- Warm-water Fish Suppliers
- Bait Dealers

Fishing FAQs

Fishing Waters Map

Buying A Fishing License Online

Wildlife Management Areas

- Northwest Area
- Northeast Area
- Southwest Area
- Southeast Area

Record Fish Information

- State Record Fish
- Qualifications
- Award Application

2005-2006 Fishing Rules & Information Booklet



Providing New Mexico
and its wildlife



Year-round
Excellent
Services