

Fishing Report



Friday June 8th, 2018

News and Information

Fly-Fishing 101

Saturday, June 9th, 10:00am to 12:30pm join volunteer naturalist Ken [to learn the ins and outs of fly-fishing](#), including tying flies, life cycle changes, and the art of casting with a fly fishing rod. There will be both an indoor and outdoor portion of this program.

Anglers to gather in Pueblo, Colorado Springs to discuss proposed changes to fishing regulations at Lake Pueblo

Sunday, June 3, Colorado Parks and Wildlife wants to [hear from fishing enthusiasts about proposed changes](#) to fishing regulations at Lake Pueblo. Angler Roundtables are scheduled for 6 p.m. June 19th at the Lake Pueblo State Park Visitor Center and another planned for 6 p.m. June 21, at the CPW Southeast Region Office in Colorado Springs.

Docks Removed at Navajo State Park marina due to Low Water

Due to low-water at Navajo Reservoir the docking and marina facilities at Navajo State Park are being removed this summer. [The boat ramp and courtesy dock, however, will remain open](#) and boaters will be able to launch their craft throughout the season. Starting June 6th there will be no fuel available at the park and there will be no pump-out services offered.

2018 Free Fishing Tournaments at Elkhead Reservoir State Park and Ridgway State Park

[Win big, no entrance fees for either tournament!](#) The Elkhead Reservoir Tournament will target Smallmouth Bass and Northern Pike with one of each being tagged, if a 2018 tagged fish is caught the angler will receive a cash prize of \$1,500! For the Ridgway tournament the target species is Smallmouth Bass with cash prizes for most Smallmouth Bass caught!



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Check out our CPW community on Facebook. Colorado anglers can “like” the CPW Facebook page to get tips, share stories and more. If you love the outdoors, this is the place to be. Before you head out, head for [facebook.com/ColoradoParksandWildlife/](https://www.facebook.com/ColoradoParksandWildlife/).



Fish with us on Twitter
Colorado anglers can get updates directly from CPW on Twitter. Follow [@COParksWildlife](#).

Stocking Report

Body of Water	Region	Report Date
Tarryall Reservoir	Northeast	5/29/2018
Barker Reservoir	Northeast	5/29/2018
Eaglewatch Lake	Northeast	5/29/2018
South Platte River	Northeast	5/29/2018
Chalk Creek Lake	Southeast	5/29/2018
Jefferson Lake	Southeast	5/29/2018
Riverside Ponds	Southeast	5/29/2018
Salida Hydro Pond #2	Southeast	5/29/2018
Wrights Lake	Southeast	5/29/2018
Turquoise Lake	Southeast	5/29/2018
Balman Reservoir	Southeast	5/29/2018
Rampart Reservoir	Southeast	5/29/2018
San Isabel Lake	Southeast	5/29/2018
Green Mountain Falls Lake	Southeast	5/29/2018
Continental Reservoir	Southwest	5/29/2018
Big Meadows Reservoir	Southwest	5/29/2018
Aurora Reservoir	Northeast	5/30/2018
Rodeo Pond	Northwest	5/30/2018
Beaver Lake	Northwest	5/30/2018
Ruedi Reservoir	Northwest	5/30/2018
San Juan River	Southwest	5/30/2018
West Fork Lakes	Southwest	5/30/2018
San Juan River, East Fork	Southwest	5/30/2018
Columbia Reservoir	Northeast	5/31/2018
Montgomery Reservoir	Northeast	5/31/2018
Pine Valley Ranch Lake	Northeast	5/31/2018
Evergreen Lake	Northeast	5/31/2018

Body of Water	Region	Report Date
West Lake	Northeast	5/31/2018
Tarryall Reservoir	Northeast	5/31/2018
DeWeese Reservoir	Southeast	5/31/2018
Hale Ponds	Southeast	5/31/2018
Stratton Pond	Southeast	5/31/2018
Palmer Lake	Southeast	5/31/2018
Monument Lake	Southeast	5/31/2018
Prospect Lake	Southeast	5/31/2018
Pac-Man Lake	Southwest	5/31/2018
Riverway Pond	Southwest	5/31/2018
Gunnison Pond	Southwest	5/31/2018
Applebaugh Pond	Southwest	5/31/2018
Billy Creek Lake	Southwest	5/31/2018
Andrews Lake	Southwest	5/31/2018
Mineral Creek, South	Southwest	5/31/2018
Big Molas Lake	Southwest	5/31/2018
Chambers Lake	Northeast	6/1/2018
North Lake Park Pond	Northeast	6/1/2018
Fruita Reservoir #1	Northwest	6/1/2018
Fruita Reservoir #3	Northwest	6/1/2018
Enochs Lake	Northwest	6/1/2018
Gypsum Ponds	Northwest	6/1/2018
Casey Pond	Northwest	6/1/2018
Haviland Lake	Southwest	6/1/2018
Twin Spruce Ponds	Southwest	6/1/2018
Brown Lake Upper	Southwest	6/1/2018
Brown Lake Lower	Southwest	6/1/2018

Catch of the Week



Wyatt, caught this 27 inch Northern Pike at Elkhead Reservoir using a Silver Spoon.

Have a fish you're proud of? [Share your photo](#)

Conditions Report - Metro

Aurora Reservoir

This 762-acre impoundment is located off of E. Quincy Avenue, two miles east of E-470. As of **6/5/2018** Trout fishing from shore is good with the lake recently being stocked. Some reports of trout being caught using PowerBait from the dam and open areas along the shoreline. Boaters also reporting slow to fair conditions on trout. Boaters have reported anywhere from slow to good reports on walleye using jigs, bottom bouncers and jerk baits. A few reports of smallmouth bass and largemouth being caught using jigs and jerk baits in the coves and off the points. Restricted to electric motors only. For more information call 303-326-8425. Park hours May 5:30am-9:00pm.

[Aurora Reservoir](#)

Chatfield Reservoir

This 1,356 impoundment is located in Chatfield State Park, as of **6/7/2018** water temperature is in the high 60's and increasing. Walleye fishing has been good, swimbaits and crankbaits have been reported to be catching fish. Anglers are also reporting walleye being caught using bottom bouncers and live bait. Pitching jigs with artificial tails in shallow water has also been catching fish. Trout have recently been stocked and are being caught using a variety of baits from shore. Smallmouth Bass have also been active along rocky shores in the lake with fish being caught on various presentations. Swim baits in the 3-4 inch range and scented plastics have been good producers for smallmouth bass. **Please note that due to the Chatfield Reallocation construction fishing access from the west side of the park (Eagle Cove - Kingfisher) is closed. Please access the lake from the east side of the reservoir.**

[Chatfield State Park](#)

Cherry Creek

This 881-acre impoundment is located in Cherry Creek State Park, in Aurora. There are two entrances to the park, the east entrance off S. Dayton St. and the west entrance off S. Parker Rd. As of **6/6/2018** walleye fishing is continuing to be good as the fish are starting to be more concentrated in schools on the shallow structures of the lake. Walleye are being caught all over the lake, trolling crankbaits or bottom bouncers with crawler harnesses has been producing. Expect to catch walleye in the 16-17 inch range with the occasional larger fish. Fishing for trout has been productive both from shore or boat using many different techniques.

[Cherry Creek State Park](#)

Quincy Reservoir

As of **6/5/2018** The water level is good. Bass fishing is fair to good! Reports from boaters and shore anglers using jigs, jerk baits and soft plastics. Also reports of top water action on bass using frogs in the shallow parts of the lake. Trout fishing is slow to fair using spinners and flies. Fly fishermen have been reporting success in the early morning and evening. Park Hours for May 5:30am-9:00pm. Restricted to artificial flies and lures only. Electric motors only and hand launched watercraft only-trailers and vehicles prohibited in the water. For more information call 303-326-8424.

[Quincy Reservoir](#)

Conditions Report - Northeast Colorado

Barr Lake

As of 6/6/2018 weed beds are more prevalent, water temps are consistently in the mid 70's, and water clarity is slightly stained. Boaters are reporting that wipers are becoming more active, and walleye are still biting. Carp have started to move away from the shoreline, but are still feeding close to the surface throughout the lake. Please remember fishing is not allowed in the canals surrounding the lake.

[Barr Lake State Park](#)

Bear Creek Reservoir

As of 6/4/2018 water levels are full and the temperature is nearing 65 degrees. Recent stockings have made the trout fishing very good using many different baits, lures, and flies. Fishing for saugeye and smallmouth bass is good as well from shore and from boat. Try swimbaits along the dam face for both smallmouth and saugeye. *Reminder, this is a city of Lakewood Park, a state parks pass is not valid at this park.*

[Bear Creek Reservoir](#)

Boyd Lake

Aquatic Nuisance Species Inspection hours for the month of May are 6:00 am-10:00 pm daily. As of 6/5/2018 water temperatures are in the mid to high 60's fishing has been good for trout using traditional baits all over the lake. White Bass fishing has started to pick up with quite a few fish being caught. Anglers are starting to report success with crappie fishing as well. Bass fishing is getting better, jerk baits for Smallmouth and lipless crankbaits or spinnerbaits for Largemouth. Walleye have been caught throughout the lake mainly on live bait close to the bottom. *Reminder - No fishing from marina slips or docks (next to is okay but can't use them in any way.* PLEASE NOTE: Any live fish collected for use as bait may only be used in the same body of water from which they were collected. All live bait/fish from a commercial source and transported by anglers must at all times be accompanied by a receipt for the source. See the Colorado Fishing Regulations for further clarification and information.

[Boyd Lake](#)

Cache la Poudre River

As of 6/8/2018 the runoff season has begun with flows around 1600 cfs, although fishing can be tough with high flows, anglers can still find success on the edges of the river using large stonefly nymphs as well as worm patterns. It is important to remember that wading is very dangerous during runoff.

[Cache la Poudre River](#)

Eleven Mile Reservoir

As of 6/5/2018 the trout fishing is fantastic with fish being caught in various areas of the lake, it seems most baits are working this time of year. Anglers are reporting many catches in the 3 to 6 pound range. Anglers are also reporting some success with Kokanee Salmon fishing deeper, pink has been a color mentioned as catching salmon lately. There have also been a few pike reported in the shallower sections of the reservoir. The pike fishing is expected to get better later into the year as the weed beds become larger providing good ambush hunting for the pike.

[Eleven Mile State Park](#)

Horsetooth Reservoir

As of 6/6/2018 the Inlet Bay and South Bay ramps are open to boating 6:00 am- 10:00 pm seven days a week. With water temperatures nearing 60 degrees fishing for walleyes and smallmouth bass has been getting better, expect to find the smallmouth along rock faces with jerk baits being a good bait. White seems to be the color this time of year for the smallmouth. Fishing from shore can also be successful from the many rocky points along the reservoir.

[Horsetooth Reservoir](#)

Jackson Reservoir

This 2,967 acre reservoir is located approximately 32 miles east of Greeley and 10 miles north of Wiggins. As of 5/31/2018 lake level is full. Surface water temperature is approximately 64 degrees. We are open to boating. Fishing has been fair to good for crappie, wiper and walleye. For up-to-date fishing conditions contact the park directly at 970-645-2551.

[Jackson Lake State Parks](#)

North Sterling

As of 5/28/2018, water temperature is about 63 with some warmer temps in the shallow coves. Fishing is Good/Great for Walleye, Crappie and Wiper, with several limits of Crappie being caught and numerous 28-31 inch Wiper coming out. Both shore fishermen and boaters are having good luck. Many reports of nice crappie above 12 inches as well.

[North Sterling State Park](#)

Spinney Mountain Reservoir

As of 6/2/2018, water temperatures are slowly rising and the fishing is continuing to pick up. Reports from anglers are that the pike fishing is good with many nice fish being caught. Pike are being caught on a wide variety of reaction style baits. Fishing from shore has also been good for fly fishers targeting the large trout this reservoir is known for. Fly fisherman have had success using scud flies and other fisherman have been successful using casting spoons. Expect to see many large hatches in the coming weeks which can make dry fly fishing more and more productive.

[Spinney Mountain State Park](#)

Conditions Report - Southeast Colorado

Arkansas River

June 7th - Upper River: The upper Arkansas river is in excellent shape, with the best clarity in the afternoon. Fishing along the edges has been extremely productive, and this is by far the easiest section of the Arkansas to wade fish at current flows. Below the confluence with Lake Creek, the river picks up 325 cfs from the reservoir outflow (clear water!) which helps to stabilize clarity through Granite. From now on, focus with stonefly and caddis patterns along the edges, where fish can find respite from the faster water. It won't be long until we see Drakes up at Hayden Meadows! Large attractor dry/dropper (stoneflies and caddis) set-ups along with streamers should produce fish and make for a fun day.

June 7th - Middle River: The river is still slightly stained but looks excellent today, as tributary flows drop and the release from Twin Lakes is cut back a bit. Conditions are very similar to what we find in early summer: fish holding in the slow, sheltered lies where they can ambush vulnerable food as it drifts by in the faster water. Much of this holding water is right up on the bank, or near it where both float fishermen and wade fishermen can easily reach it.

Fish large attractors patterns along the banks wherever slower water can be found. Though most fish seem to be focused subsurface, we're seeing an increasing amount of surface interest, as more and more fish begin to eat Chernobyl Ants and stimulators. Streamers are also a good option as the brown trout fry emerge and are vulnerable as they acclimate to the changing river conditions. Advice to wade fishermen is to stay on the bank if possible, as the swift current can make for challenging wading. The fish are likely in the water you want to stand in!

June 7th - Below Salida: With tributary flows dropping and a decrease in the release from Twin Lakes, flows have dropped and clarity is great on the river this morning. We've had really good reports the past couple of days from anglers fishing along the edges with attractor dry/droppers or shallow nymph rigs. Think summertime tactics, with fish tight to the banks waiting opportunistically for food to come their way. Although the flows are still relatively high, the pockets and edges provide a break from the current and holding water for the trout. Stonefly nymphs and caddis pupa fished under an attractor dry will move fish along the edges, and the presence of immature brown trout fry in the river make for excellent streamer fishing.

[Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area](#)

Lake Pueblo

As of 6/7/2018 Surface temperature is ranging from the high 60's to low 70's at various locations on the lake. Walleye are all the talk at this time of year. Fishermen are having success using a variety of methods. Jerk baits and crankbaits will yield success, as well as jigs tipped with nightcrawlers. Bass fishing is nearing a peak with bass being caught on jerk baits and crankbaits as well as plastics. Anglers have also been reporting success catching wiper and crappie throughout many parts of the lake. Look to the early daylight hours for wiper chasing baitfish to the surface. Both boat ramps are open at this time. Summer hours are in effect, ramps open at 5 AM and close at 11 PM.

[Lake Pueblo](#)

Lathrop

As of 5/26/2018 the surface temperature on Martin Lake is around 61.3 degrees. Visitors have been fishing from shore and on boats. With warming weather, Martin Lake has seen increased boat traffic on the weekends. Trout are not as active and will move to deeper water during the heat of the day. However, fishermen still have success using PowerBait and similar products. One visitor reported catching a 14 inch trout near the Martin inlet. Warm water fish, like bass and sunfish are active in the mornings and may be found guarding spawning beds near the shore this time of year. Several northern pike have been reported. Visitors are using a variety of bait to catch pike including stick bait lures, such as Rapala lures. The surface temperature of Horseshoe Lake is about 58.6 degrees. Visitors are having some success fishing from the dam for smallmouth. The smallmouth bass start to move around in the morning as the water heats up and have been seen feeding from the surface. Small rubber spider or other top water bait could produce exciting catches during those times.

[Lathrop State Park](#)

John Martin Reservoir

John Martin Reservoir offers many types of warm-water fish. As of **6/2/2018** now that we are in the prime fishing time of the year for this reservoir fishing has been good for crappie, saugeye and wiper. Anglers from all over the country come to John Martin Reservoir mid-summer to fish for bass and wiper. Late-night anglers will find channel catfish and walleye all summer long. Bluegill and drum are found throughout the seasons as well. Fall usually brings another run of crappie and wiper.

[John Martin Reservoir State Park](#)

Trinidad Reservoir

As of **6/2/2018** the lake is at 872 surface acres with a surface elevation of 6196.42. Surface water temps around 63 degrees. Shore fishermen are catching trout on homemade dough bait, PowerBait (green color) and worms all along south shore. Reilly Canyon has slowed down to a trickle with off color water and sandbars starting to emerge. Boaters have done very well targeting walleye, 10-14in fish are being caught. Lots of smallmouth being caught early in the morning and late evening. Trout are caught during all hours

[Trinidad Lake State Park](#)

Conditions Report - Northwest Colorado

Delaney Buttes Lakes

As of **5/28/2018** The Delaney's have been fishing well with many active fish and anglers reporting success. South Delaney reporting sizable rainbows and North Delaney reporting great action on the browns. Anglers are reporting success on small in-line spinners and flies.

[Delaney Buttes Lakes SWA](#)

Elkhead Reservoir

As of **6/6/2018** fishing at Elkhead is increasing with anglers reporting catching bass and pike, things will continue to pick-up as the water clears up. Pike have been reported to be caught on almost anything that resembles a small bait fish. Keep in mind at the NORTH EAST ACCESS Pre inspection is required for all non-exempt hand launched vessels. You are required to have a seal and receipt to launch. Exempt vessels are: Kayaks, Canoes, Rafts, Belly Boats, Windsurfers (paddle boards), Sailboards, foldable plastic boats, float tubes and inner tubes.

[Elkhead Reservoir State Park](#)

Highline Lake/Mack Mesa Lake

As of **5/24/2018** Highline Lake and Mack Mesa Lake was stocked with rainbow trout very recently so fishing should be good. Highline Lake and Mack Mesa are both open for boating. Please stop at the Visitor Center at the East Entrance or call 970-858-7208 to request an ANS inspection before launching. Anglers may contact Highline State Park for updates on fishing conditions.

[Highline State Park](#)

Lake John

As of **5/28/2018** fishing is still active here at Lake John for many different sizes of fish. Still hearing about 16-21 inches very regularly. Nightcrawlers, garlic or shrimp PowerBait, Kastmasters, and needlefish with a piece of worm are doing well.

[Lake John SWA](#)

Rifle Gap Reservoir

As of **5/30/2018** Pike and trout are being caught throughout the lake. Bass fishing has been good near the Cedar Campground as well as near the dam. Special fishing regulations at Rifle Gap Reservoir include a bag and possession limit of 1 walleye 18 inches or greater; bag and possession limit for yellow perch is 20.

[Rifle Gap State Park](#)

Stagecoach Reservoir

As of **5/27/2018** Late Spring/early Summer fishing is on! Many anglers are having luck (or limiting out on rainbows) at the Inlet/Lot14/Lot16 area, Keystone Cove, and Morrison Cove. Successful anglers are reporting luck with PowerBait, PowerGrubs, nightcrawlers, mealworms, spoons, jigs, stick and crank baits.

[Stagecoach State Park](#)

Vega

As of **6/2/2018**, shore fishing is excellent at this time. PowerBait and spinners have been reported as the most successful bait at this time. The Island boat ramp is open. Don't forget to stop at the entrance and have your boat inspected prior to launching. The ANS inspection station is open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. 7 days a week.

[Vega State Park](#)

Conditions Report - Southwest Colorado

Blue Mesa Reservoir

This 8,900 acre reservoir is located west of Gunnison. As of **6/5/2018**, Trout fishing has been decreasing as the water temperatures warm and the fish transition deeper into the water column. Kokanee Salmon fishing has been good 20 to 50 feet below the surface. The kokanee salmon fishing is expected to be fantastic once again throughout this summer. This time of year trolling is the ticket, figure out the depth and the color and you should be in for an exciting day of catching. Lake trout fishing continues getting better and better, some anglers are reporting large fish being caught and released. Smaller lake trout are being caught in large numbers at the deeper depths of the water column. Trolling seems to be the most productive currently for Kokanee and the few trout being caught. Anglers can check on current conditions and boat ramp inspection schedules by contacting Curecanti National Recreation Area at (970-641-2337).

[Blue Mesa Reservoir](#)

Crawford

As of **6/4/2018** Water temps are in the high 60's. We have had reports of perch, crappie, trout and catfish being caught recently. Perch are being caught in the shallow portions of the lake on smaller presentations. The catfish can be caught on a variety of baits along the bottom.

[Crawford State Park](#)

Mancos

As of **6/4/2018**, the lake is open water and has been stocked with thousands of rainbow trout this spring. Additional stockings will occur through the summer. Mancos is a great place for consistent action from trout and yellow perch. Most of the trout action is from 10-12 inch fish, but there's very good opportunity at an 18-20 inch trout and a few 12 inch-plus perch. Great opportunity for kids to catch fish. Most anglers are finding success with bait (PowerBait, eggs, and crawlers) fishing just off bottom or under a slip bobber. For a chance at the yellow perch and trout, a small jig fished under a bobber on a long leader and tipped with a piece of worm is a good bet. Casting or trolling typical in-line spinners (Panther Martins, Mepps) from boats is another approach at the trout. Hand-launchable boats (non-motorized kayaks, canoes, belly boats, etc) are a great way to fish the lake in this off-season.

[Mancos State Park](#)

Navajo Reservoir

As of **6/1/2018** Fishing at Navajo Lake is very good. The water temperature at the Two Rivers Marina is 63 degrees. Crappie fishing has been good with some 13-14 inch crappie being caught. Using jigs and fishing in water depths 6ft - 10ft. The smallmouth and largemouth bass fishing has been very good with some smallmouth up to 21 inches being caught, and several 7-8 pound largemouth. Pike fishing has been good fishing in the shallow water, using anything that looks like a bait fish.

[Navajo State Park](#)

Taylor Park Reservoir

As of **6/6/2018** fishing has been great for pike with many large fish being caught both from shore and boats. The lake has recently been stocked with trout. Trout fishing has been good using green PowerBait eggs from shore. Expect the trout to be found in the shallow water. Lake trout are slowly transitioning into the deeper parts of the lake where they will stay for the majority of the summer becoming tough to catch.

[Taylor Park Reservoir](#)

Conditions Report - Statewide

Rivers and Creeks

The runoff has begun and is increasing flows on the rivers and streams throughout the state. The extra flows will surely get the substrate stirred up which will flush some of the larger insects and worms into the flow and the trout will surely be feeding heavily. This means anglers must use a bit larger and flashier presentations when fishing these conditions. With the rivers and streams flowing much faster through most sections it is important to find the seams of slack water along fast current. This is where the fish will be feeding as it takes less energy to stay in the slack current and the food will be flushed to them. With the fish being concentrated in the slower moving water during the run-off it is important to make sure those flies drift directly in their path. Be sure not to use too much split shot though because the last thing you'll want to do is to have to retrieve a snag in those cold waters. Remember that the hatches are becoming more frequent in the spring, so keep an eye for surface activity and do not hesitate to switch to a dry fly presentation, especially during the warmest parts of the day. We are approaching some of the best dry fly hatches of the year and anglers should be excited for the prospect of surface feeding. Mayfly and caddis patterns should be consistent fish producers this time of year.

DNR Fish Reporter



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