

Fishing Report



Friday August 12, 2022

News and Information

Upcoming Fishing Tournaments and Events

Colorado Parks and Wildlife announces new state record Brook Trout caught at Monarch Lake.

August 1, 2022 - Colorado Parks and Wildlife is excited to announce a new state record Brook Trout has been caught, breaking the longest-standing fish record in the state. The Brook Trout was caught on May 23 by Tim Daniel of Granby in Monarch Lake, in Grand County. Colorado Parks and Wildlife Aquatic Biologist Jon Ewert inspected the fish the day it was caught. It weighed 7.84 pounds, measured 23 1/4 inches in length, and had a girth of 15 3/8 inches. View the full article on the [Colorado Outdoors website](#) or on the [CPW News Releases](#) page! Congrats Tim!

State Forest Moose Festival, August 13th

August 13, 2022 - Join us for a day of fun at our [annual celebration of the moose](#)! Activities include a scavenger hunt, hay ride, craft activities for kids, prize giveaways and fishing pole casting lessons. Presentations throughout the day will offer information about moose biology, history of moose in North Park, and demonstrations on how biologists transplant and track moose.

Lady Anglers of Lincoln Hills - Fly Fishing 101

August 16, 2022 - Lady Anglers of Lincoln Hills Cares (LHC), in collaboration with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), are hosting FREE clinics for BIPOC Females (age 8+) who wish to learn fly- fishing. During their time at the majestic Lake Pactolus at 8100ft, they will also gain education and knowledge about environmental sustainability, ethical wildlife fishing techniques, and learn about the history of Lincoln Hills. For more information, check out the event on the [CPW Fishing News and Events Page!](#)

Learn to Fish at Staunton State Park

August 18, 2022 - [Enjoy a day of trout fishing](#) with CPW volunteers and staff! Instructors will provide equipment and instruction on bait and spin cast fishing in the Colorado high country. Free Event, but a valid fishing license is required for participants 16 years of age or older, state park fees also apply.

	<p>Now you can take the #ColoradoOutdoors anywhere. Follow us on @instagram @coparkswildlife! http://instagram.com/coparkswildlife</p>
	<p>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/.</p>
	<p>Fish with us on Twitter Colorado anglers can get updates directly from CPW on Twitter. Follow @COParksWildlife.</p>

Stocking Report



Mix Lake	southwest	2022-08-12	Atlas
Tucker Park Pond 1	southwest	2022-08-12	Atlas
Tucker Park Pond 2	southwest	2022-08-12	Atlas
Blue Lake	southeast	2022-08-12	Atlas
Deep Lake	northwest	2022-08-12	Atlas
Urad Mine Lake	northeast	2022-08-12	Atlas
Teal Lake	northeast	2022-08-12	Atlas
Lost Lake	northeast	2022-08-12	Atlas
Molas Lake, Big	southwest	2022-08-12	Atlas
San Juan River	southwest	2022-08-12	Atlas
Casey's Pond	northwest	2022-08-05	Atlas
Fetcher City Pond	northwest	2022-08-05	Atlas
Beaver Creek Reservoir	southwest	2022-08-05	Atlas
Big Meadows Reservoir	southwest	2022-08-05	Atlas
Monument Reservoir	southeast	2022-08-05	Atlas
Taylor Park Reservoir	southwest	2022-08-05	Atlas
Big Creek Lake, Lower	northeast	2022-08-05	Atlas

Trap Lake	northeast	2022-08-05	Atlas
Ridgway Reservoir	southwest	2022-08-05	Atlas
Lake San Cristobal	southwest	2022-08-05	Atlas
Kriley Pond	northeast	2022-08-05	Atlas
Slough Pond	northeast	2022-08-05	Atlas
Meadow Lake	northwest	2022-08-05	Atlas
Dillon Reservoir	northeast	2022-08-05	Atlas
Mix Lake	southwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Wetherill Pond	southwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Pothole Lake #2 (upper)	southwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Pothole Lake #1 (lower)	southwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Taylor Park Reservoir	southwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Mirror Lake	southwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Georgetown Lake	northeast	2022-07-29	Atlas
Muddy Pass Lake	northeast	2022-07-29	Atlas
Tiago Lake	northeast	2022-07-29	Atlas
Rifle Gap Reservoir	northwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Andrews Lake	southwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Fairplay Pond	northeast	2022-07-29	Atlas
South Platte River	northeast	2022-07-29	Atlas
Salida Hydro Pond #2	southeast	2022-07-29	Atlas
Tarryall Reservoir	southeast	2022-07-29	Atlas
Cottonwood Lake	southeast	2022-07-29	Atlas

O'Haver Lake	southeast	2022-07-29	Atlas
San Miguel River	southwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Quartz Creek	southwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Trout Lake	southwest	2022-07-29	Atlas
Beaver Creek Reservoir	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Big Meadows Reservoir	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Gunnison Pond	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Pac-Man Lake	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Deer Lakes	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Lake San Cristobal	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Taylor Park Reservoir	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Mosquito Lake	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Molas Lake, Big	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Animas River	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Tucker Park Pond 1	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Tucker Park Pond 2	southwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Hohnholz Lake #2, Little	northeast	2022-07-22	Atlas
Chalk Lake	southeast	2022-07-22	Atlas
Mt. Elbert Forebay	southeast	2022-07-22	Atlas
Wrights Lake	southeast	2022-07-22	Atlas
Clear Creek Reservoir	southeast	2022-07-22	Atlas
Grizzly Reservoir	northwest	2022-07-22	Atlas
Riverside Pond, South	southeast	2022-07-22	Atlas

Riverside Pond, North	southeast	2022-07-22	Atlas
Sands Lake	southeast	2022-07-22	Atlas
Lake Estes	northeast	2022-07-22	Atlas
Fooses Lake	southeast	2022-07-22	Atlas

Catch of the Week



Paul Warner caught this 26 pound channel cat at the gorgeous Lake Pueblo State Park last weekend. What a stud!

Have a fish you are proud of? Share your photo!
Email dnr_fish.reporter@state.co.us and put "Catch of the Week" in the subject line

Conditions Report - Metro

Aurora Reservoir

This 762-acre impoundment is located off E. Quincy Avenue, two miles east of E-470. Open to boating. As of 8/1/22, City of Aurora Ranger Jones reports, "Trout fishing from shore has been hit or miss. Some days the fishing has been good and other days slow. Trout are deeper now, so try casting out 40-50 yards with power bait on a slip rig. The dam is typically one of the better areas to fish for trout this time of the year because of the deeper water. Boaters have reported fair to good success on trout trolling with crawlers and fire tiger or perch-colored spoons. Walleye fishing is slow to fair with a few good reports using crawlers with bottom bouncers and trolling crankbaits. Most walleye being caught are undersized. For more information call 303-326-8425. Park Hours for August 5:30am-9:00pm. Restricted to electric motors only."

[Aurora Reservoir](#)

Chatfield Reservoir

This 1,356-acre impoundment is located in Chatfield State Park. As of 7/25/22, Anglers are reporting success for walleye, perch, largemouth and smallmouth bass in the lake. Jigs, worms, and lures in deeper water near structure tend to be successful. Trout fishing has been fair, as water temperatures rise. The best options to catch trout are to use worms and flashy lures. The water temperature is around 75 degrees with 3-4' of water clarity. The current lake level is 5429.53'

[Chatfield Reservoir](#)

Quincy Reservoir

As of 8/1/22 City of Aurora Ranger Jones reports, "Trout fishing is slow. Bass fishing is slow a few reports of bass being caught using soft plastics and top water lures. Best fishing is early morning and evenings. Restricted to artificial flies and lures only. Electric motors only and only hand launched watercraft permitted. Vehicles and trailers are not permitted in the water. July Park Hours: 5:00am-9:30pm. August 5:30am-9:00pm. For more information call 303-326-8424."

[Quincy Reservoir](#)

Conditions Report - Northeast Colorado

Antero Reservoir

As of 8/11/22, Angler's Covey reports "Antero has been on and off the last week. Cooler days seem to bring more action. Water temps are pretty high here and the fish get sluggish around noon. The afternoon storms have cooled things off a bit and that has helped the conditions. There are still pretty strong callebaetis hatches and damselflies are also in good numbers. Try fishing the earlier or way later parts of the day when water temps are not as hot. This warm water has also really exploded the weed growth in the lake. Fish between weed beds and "columns". Shore fishing is still doable, but float tubers, kayakers and boaters will benefit more now with the fish spreading out. The boat ramps are open and kayak/float tuber anglers can launch from anywhere on the lake. We will have a break in the monsoon pattern through the weekend with increased rain all through the week of 8/15. Keep an eye out to the west for storms. The wind looks to be fairly mild as well. As always, watch out for the wind in the afternoons. Fish are feeding opportunistically all over the lake. Static nymphing and slow stripping chironomids, callebaetis, damselflies, woolly buggers and leeches have been effective.

Recommended Patterns:

Candyshop callebaetis, #14-16, Damsel nymphs #12-16, Shroeders Callebaetis #14-16, Poxback Callebaetis #14-16, Gallops callebaetis, #14-16, Scuds, orange, pink, and green #12-18, Egg patterns #14-16, Mayers Radiant jig mini leach, black, brown, Woolly buggers-brown, black, purple, olive #6-12, #14-16, Squirrel leaches, black, brown, olive #14-16, Chironomids-red, black #14-20, Zebra midge-black & red, #16-20, Balanced leaches, red, black, purple, green #10-16.

Streamers: Stay to the rule of muted colors on bright days and flashier colors on cloudy days.

Pike Bunnies, Double Gongas, and larger articulated flies are periodically taking tiger Muskie."

[Angler's Covey](#)

[Antero Reservoir](#)

Cheesman Canyon - South Platte River

As of 8/11/22, Angler's Covey reports, "Cheesman reservoir is now 100% full. This will force the release of some water and we saw the flows increase to 250 cfs a couple of days ago. This is great news for the entire corridor. THIS is the time to hit Cheesman canyon. The flow increase will bring larger food sources into play as well as the hatch specific bugs. Don't be afraid to include larger food offerings such as leeches, scuds, caddis larva, worms, and crane fly larva. Keep in mind that the flows coming out of Cheesman reservoir are from the bottom release valve. This keeps the river pretty cold. The water temp is about 48-50 degrees on most mornings. This colder water will delay or stunt some of the regular hatches we should be seeing right now. Midges are the most important food source in the canyon. We are starting to see some PMD's become more active both subsurface and on top of the water. Fishing is technical as usual. Sight fishing is our preferred method. We will have a break from the monsoon moisture through the weekend. Rain chances increase significantly next week. Check the weather

and plan accordingly. We suggest either wet wading or hiking in without your waders it's been very hot in this area. Cheesman has been busy this summer. Getting busier in recent weeks. **Remember this:** If you arrive and there are no spots left in the parking lot, don't park on the road. You will get a ticket!

Recommended Patterns:

NYMPHS - Buckskins, #16-18, Sparkle pupa, #16-18, Caddis Candy-#14-16, Mayer's Mini leach in black or brown #14-18, Orange or olive UV Scuds #14-16, San Juan Worms all colors #12, Miracle Midge #18-24, Top Secret Midge #20-24, Flux Capacitors, Black Beauties #20-24, Blindside Midge black or grey, #20-22, Money Midge #20-22, Red Midge Larva #18-22, Mercury Midge #20-24, Rainbow Warriors #18-22 Jujubee Midge #18-26. Juan's Sniper Baetis #20-24, Juan's Jedi Master #20-24, Pheasant Tail #18-22, RS2 grey and black #18-22, Cheesman Emergers #20-22, Barr's PMD Emergers #16-18, Foam Back Emergers chocolate #20-22, Stalcups Baetis brown and olive #20-22

DRIES - Mole Fly #20-24, Neils BWO #20-22, Almost Dun #20, Juans 180 Trico #20, Griffiths Gnat #20-26, Matts Midge #22-24, Vis-a-dun black #20-22, Hoppers-#14-18

STREAMERS - This is great time of year to pack the ole meat rod into the canyon. Work the slower water and tailouts for the opportunistic feeding fish. Baby Gongas, Mini Dungeons, lazer legals, and Butt Monkeys have been good. It's always good to have some dark and light patterns. Mix up your presentation and color offerings."

[Angler's Covey](#)
[Cheesman Canyon](#)

Eleven Mile Reservoir

As of 8/11/22, Anglers Covey Reports "11 mile has been fishing very well as of late. The west end of the lake has been particularly good (For fly fishing). Water temps are decent in 11 mile and the best out of any lake in South Park right now. Target the west end of the lake for the best fly fishing activity. Success has been mixed and some days seem to be better than others. Success is increased for anglers in watercraft with the ability to move around the lake. Callebaetis are still hatching pretty strong. We are also seeing increased damselflies and caddisflies. Fishing leach patterns in various methods have been very effective. The pike bite has slowed a little, but you can still entice these toothy beasts with the right flies and strip sequence. The Carp fishing is also really good right now. Stop in the shop if you'd like some directions on where to go. While there is still some opportunity from the bank, right now, fishing will be best from some type of watercraft. Trout are cruising at various depths in search of food. The key is being mobile until you find them and fishing the proper depths. All boat ramps are open on 11 Mile. Be cautious in any watercraft in South Park on windy days, but especially 11 mile. The weather will be nice this weekend with increased rain chances especially on Sunday. Keep an eye out for incoming thunderstorms in the afternoons. 11 mile can be downright scary during a storm, especially if you are in watercraft. Plan to start early and leave early.

Recommended Patterns:

Fly Patterns: Poxback callebaetis #14-16, damsel nymphs #12-16, Balanced damsels-#12-16, mini leach damsel -#14, Squirrel leeches-black, brown #10-16, Radiant mini leeches-black, brown #12-18, Balanced leeches, rust, purple, black #8-12, Chironomids- black, red, brown #14-18, Woolly buggers-black, brown, olive, yellow #6-12, Scuds- Green, pink and orange #10-16

Streamers- Thin mlnts, Gongas, game changers, barely legals, and smaller articulated patterns."

[Angler's Covey](#)
[Eleven Mile State Park](#)

Tarryall Reservoir

As of 8/11/22, Anglers Covey reports, "Tarryall has been fishing pretty good the last few weeks. While this lake typically attracts more conventional anglers, it is a great fly fishing venue. Often overlooked amongst Spinney and Antero, this lake does have a good trout population. This is a great location to walk the shorelines tossing hoppers. Chironomids, Callebaetis, Damsels, leaches, scuds, and streamers should be effective. The fish have started to transition out further into the lake. Some type of watercraft is ideal right now to access a lot of different areas of the lake. The weather will be mellow through the weekend with increased rain chances next week. The river is currently at 36 cfs below the lake, and also 42 cfs above. If you can find public water these are OK flows for Tarryall.

Recommended Patterns:

Chironomids-red, black, brown, cream-#12-18, Mayers mini leech jig radiant. white, black, brown, #14-18, Squirrel leeches, green, rust, black #12-18, Scuds: Orange, green #10-16, Rickards stillwater nymph: green, orange #12-16, wooly buggers: white, black, brown, green. #8-16, worms patterns: brown, pink, red. #12-18.

DRIES - Hoppers!"

[Angler's Covey](#)
[Tarryall Reservoir](#)

Conditions Report - Southeast Colorado

Arkansas River - Leadville to Buena Vista

As of 8/7/22, Braden Baker with Ark Anglers writes, "This is an ideal wade fishing flow for the Meadows and offers easier access to areas like Granite and the rocky shoreline down through the Numbers and Railroad Bridge. Expect fish to move out of the fastest water into velocity shelters where they can hold/feed at a relaxed pace without expending much energy. Try to find areas with walking speed current along the banks, in pocket water, and in back eddies where deflection and friction slow the water down. Hayden Meadows will offer fish holding in much of the riffled water when food is available. Caddis hatches are in high gear alongside pale morning dun and golden stonefly emergences. Green drakes are winding down their hatches but can still be found from Granite on up into Hayden Meadows and give more opportunities to tease fish to the surface with a large dry fly. With the clear water, expect more realistic imitations to become more effective than we saw during high water. Dry-dropper fishing is extremely effective on the upper river from this point forward, as the conditions of early summer make for opportunistic, competitive, aggressive feeding from our resident trout post-runoff and many fish will respond to attractor and terrestrial dry flies even during non-hatch periods. Mayfly nymphs/emergers and caddis pupa in #16-18 are excellent droppers to try now in the upper basin."

[ArkAnglers](#)

[Arkansas River](#)

Arkansas River - Buena Vista to Salida

As of 8/10/22, Braden Baker with Ark Anglers writes, "The river has been fishing well as flows level into the mid 600 to low 700 cfs range in the middle basin. The river level will likely remain close to this flow for the next several weeks as river flows are augmented with the Twin Lakes release to the north. These flows are making for excellent float fishing conditions and more favorable wade/bank fishing opportunities. If you've been on the fence about fishing, the time is NOW. At these levels expect fish to move out of the fastest water into velocity shelters where they can hold/feed at a relaxed pace without expending much energy. Try to find areas with walking speed current along the banks, in pocket water, and in back eddies where deflection and friction slow the water down. The water you might want to stand in is probably where you need to be casting. Larger leader material is a good idea; anything smaller than 4x is unnecessary until flows drop. Golden stoneflies are now hatching and grasshoppers are making themselves known along the shoreline, giving us a great opportunity to fish dry-dropper rigs throughout the day. We are also seeing pale morning duns active throughout the corridor with red quill mayflies present further downstream. As a result, anglers will see good results on dropper nymphs like pheasant tails, two-bit hookers, and bullet/perdigon style nymphs. The larger stoneflies and grasshoppers can be imitated with dry flies in #10-12, and droppers are best in the #14-18 size range. Don't worry if you don't see fish rising; the higher flows usually allow us to tease fish to the surface on larger dry flies out of an opportunistic, competitive response even in non-hatch periods. Tributaries are clear and very approachable at current flows, making them very worthwhile as an alternative to the river for these seeking solitude."

[ArkAnglers](#)

[Arkansas River](#)

Arkansas River - Salida to Canon City

As of 8/9/22, Braden Baker with Ark Anglers writes, "The river is looking good again below Salida as impacts from recent rains have washed their way downstream, leaving behind good clarity and fish that haven't seen too much pressure in 4-5 days. If you've been on the fence about fishing, the time is NOW. Fishing has been excellent as flows hold around the 700 cfs mark at the Wellsville gauge below Salida. Monsoons have helped to temper afternoon heat and have provided some much needed moisture to the valley. Bring rain gear with you and know that in the off chance that rain causes the river to get murky where you are fishing, a simple move can often get you well above or below any discoloration and get you right back into good fishing. We expect to see the river stay around this level through mid August flows are augmented out of Twin Lakes to the north. At these levels expect fish to move out of the fastest water into velocity shelters where they can hold/feed at a relaxed pace without expending much energy. Try to find areas with walking speed current along the banks, in pocket water, and in back eddies where deflection and friction slow the water down. The water you might want to stand in is probably where you need to be casting. Larger leader material is a good idea; anything smaller than 4x is unnecessary. Golden stoneflies and grasshoppers are hatching and these flies are great dry options to prospect with in the higher summer flows. You may still encounter some yellow sally stoneflies, but we're seeing far more mayflies in the pale morning dun and red quill variety so use these insects to inform your selection of beadhead nymphs for droppers. Usually #16-18 patterns will cover both the nymph and dun phases of these mayfly hatches, but some of your red quills can be in the #12-14 range. The dry and dry-dropper fishing is excellent when you combine these hatches with the aggressive, competitive nature of our trout population. Tried and true attractor nymphs are very effective searching patterns in nymph and dry-dropper rigs; prince nymphs, pheasant tails, hare's ears, copper johns, etc. are the perfect, buggy, suggestive patterns to fish beneath a grasshopper or attractor dry fly right along the bank. Don't worry if you don't see fish rising; the higher flows usually allow us to tease fish to the surface on larger dry flies out of an opportunistic, competitive response even in non-hatch periods. Tributaries are clear and very worthwhile as alternatives to the river for these seeking solitude."

[ArkAnglers](#)

[Arkansas River](#)

Trinidad Lake

As of 8/7/22, Ranger Olson reports, "The lake is at 709 surface acres with a surface elevation of 6182.79. The water level has increased slightly. Islands have appeared and some hazards may not be marked. Shore fishermen were doing well catching trout on dough-bait worms. Catfish have started to pick up, people have been using chicken livers for bait. We have also had an increase in people catching yellow perch from shore on worms. Smallmouth Bass have been caught on the South Shore near the dam with tail grub soft bait lures. Boaters have reported good conditions for Walleye and Yellow Perch. They are being caught on bottom bouncers and worm harnesses. Trout are also common on the boats with worms and dough-baits. The water temperatures are around 72-75 degrees."

[Trinidad Lake](#)

Conditions Report - Northwest Colorado

Blue River - Below Green Mountain

As of 8/2/22, Cutthroat Anglers reports, "Flows finally bumped up to 450. This is a good flow for wading but we have been seeing crowds here. In the deeper pieces of water, imitations of caddis, golden stonefly nymphs and leeches could work well as attractor flies. However, smaller Baetis and midge imitations will be productive as your second or third fly. Also keep an eye out for risers, dry fly fishing can be good here when its on and we have been seeing some drakes and caddis flying around.

NYMPHS: TDJ Golden Stone size 14 -18 | Pat's Rubber Legs Olive and Brown size 10-12 | K's Latex Caddis size 16-18 | Darth Baetis grey size 18-22 | Split Case BWO 16-18 | Tungsten Juju Baetis size 18-22 | Grey Dun RS2 size 18-22 | UV Midge black size 18-22 | Pegged Eggs

DRIES: | Parachute Adams size 12-22 | Peacock Caddis 18 | Parachute Extended Body BWO size 18-22 | Matthew's Sparkle Dun BWO size 16-22 | I-Wan-E Dun BWO size 18-20 | CDC Morgan's Midge 18-22 | Umpqua Adult Midge Dark size 18-24 | Solitude midge Olive size 20-22 |

STREAMERS: Baby Gonga tan, rainbow, and black | Big Gulp Sculpin black size 4 | Mini Loop Sculpin natural | Slump Buster black or natural size 4-6 | Pop's Bugger pearl/grizzly size 8 | Ishiwata's Articulated Snitch olive size 6 | Crystal Bugger white size 12 | Leeches in wine or black"

[Cutthroat Anglers](#)

[Blue River](#)

Colorado River - Parshall Area

As of 8/2/22, Cutthroat Anglers report, "The Parshall area on the Colorado is fishing well. Dry droppers have been the most productive method to catch fish. You will find fish in the fast riffles and rock gardens. Still target deep pools and runs as fish will always hold in these places. Caddis, PMD, and Stonefly patterns have been producing for us. Pat's Rubber Legs, Pheasant Tails, Perdigon Jigs, and small mayfly emergers.

NYMPHS: Pat's Rubber Leg's black, brown, or olive size 10 - 12 | San Juan Worm #12 | TDJ Golden Stone 12-16 | Tungsten Flashback CDC Pheasant Tail size 14-20 | Tungsten Hare's Ear size 16-18 | Egan's Jig Frenchie | Sparkle Wing RS2 grey or olive size 18-22 | Mercury Black Beauty size 18-22 | Zebra midge black or olive size 18-22 |

DRIES: | Parachute Adam's size 12-22 | Black Foam Caddis size 16-18 | Quigley's Film Critic BWO size 18-20 | Extended Body PMD size 16 | Extended Body parachute BWO size 18-22 | Matthew's Sparkle Dun BWO size 16-22 | Thorax BWO size 20-22 | Griffith's Gnat 18-22 | Morgan's CDC Midge size 20-22 |

STREAMERS: Sculpzilla sunrise, olive, or black size 4-8 | Thin Mint size 2 - 6 | Articulated Goldie size 2 - 6 | Sparkle Minnow White or craw | Slump Busters olive or black size 4-6 | Bead Head Mini Leech olive/black, or wine size 8

CURRENT FOOD SOURCES: | stonefly nymphs | Eggs | Baetis | caddis | midges | small fish, leeches, worms etc."

[Cutthroat Anglers](#)

[Colorado River](#)

Conditions Report - Southwest Colorado

Animas River at Durango

As of 8/11/22, Duranglers reports, "It seems mornings and evenings are making for the best fishing. Watch for hatches of Tricos and other small mayflies. Terrestrial season has started, so dry dropper rigs are a good idea. Water temps midday is hot and if they rise above 67 or so, call it quits to protect the fish. Rain events will require you to throw big nymphs or streamers if the water raises and discolors.

Dries: Glitter Ant Flag 16-18, Elk hair Caddis 14-18, Parachute Adams 12-16, PMD Rocky Mountain Mint 16-18, PMD Pink Hackle Stacker, Chubbies 12-16. Pat's Rubberlegs 8-12, Prince nymphs and variants 14-18, Barr's Graphic Caddis 14-16, Czechmate Caddis 14, Split Back PMD 16-18, RS-2 18-20.

Streamers: GD Sculpin Snack, Kreelex, Mini-Dungeon, Sculpzilla, Sculpinator."

[Duranglers](#)
[Animas River](#)

Gunnison (Black Canyon)

As of 8/11/22, Duranglers reports, "It's hopper/dropper time. Tie on your favorite hopper, and drop a mayfly or stonefly nymph off and give er a rip!

Dries: Stimulators 10-16, Lil Hopper Juan 12-14, Chubbies 8-16, Morrish Hopper 8-12,

Nymphs: Two-Bit Hooker 16-18, Frenchie 14-16, 20 Incher stone 10-12, Pats Rubberlegs 8-12, Prince nymphs 10-16, Flashback Pheasant Tail 14-18, Duracell Jig 12-16.

Streamers: Buggers, Sculpzilla, Sparkle Minnow, Mini-Dungeon, Peanut Envy."

[Duranglers](#)
[Gunnison](#)

Rio Grande

As of 8/11/22, Duranglers reports, "The little river that could! Flows are holding steady and the water is clearing. With more rain, it could blow out again. Late summer is terrestrial time with hoppers, ants, beetles, and MOTHS! Small Trico and pseudo Mayflies, caddis, and terrestrials are good dries to have on hand.

Chubbies 14-16, Stimulators 12-16, Tan Elk hair Caddis 10-14, Parachute Adams 16-24, Trico Spinners 20-22, Glitter Ant Flag 16-18, Mr. Miller 12-14, Grey Elk Hair Caddis 10-14, Spruce Moth 12-14. Lil Hopper Juan 12-14, Morrish Hopper 8-12, Pat's Rubberlegs 8-12, Prince nymphs and variants 14-18, Barr's Graphic Caddis 14-16, Czechmate Caddis 14-16."

[Duranglers](#)
[Rio Grande](#)

Tip of the Week

Browns after Dark

Fishing for big browns at night is a tradition, if not an addiction, for many savvy anglers.

Brown trout are often referred to as nocturnal, but this is not the case; rather, they are more of a nocturnal feeder. During the day, browns will stay hidden under brush, along cutbacks and under logjams.

Brown Trout will take a variety of flies, bait and lures during the day, but the big boys, come out to play at night.

Traditional fly fishing at night can be very productive for big browns, providing you have a fairly good knowledge of fly casting techniques. Fly fishing in near dark, or total darkness, can be an adventure, complete with tangled line and potential traps, wherever you step.

Some of the largest browns are caught during the summer, at night. The dark of the moon is especially productive. During the dark of the moon phase, you truly have trouble seeing your hand, in front of your face. The use of a flashlight or headlamp with a red lens is a necessity; avoid white light, as this will spook the fish.

Short casts or roll casts will help to keep your line from ending up tangled. Use a very slow retrieve (stripping in the line). Many times, you will hear the fish, as it is engulfing your fly, a split second before you feel the hit.

It is recommended that you use a shorter, heavier weight leader, 5-7 feet in length.

Wooly Buggers, Zonkers and Leeches are very productive streamers; recommended sizes are #4's in black, dark purple, brown, and dark blue.

Have a suggestion or request?

Email us at dnr_fish.reporter@state.co.us

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DNR Fish Reporter

