

Fishing Report



Friday September 23, 2022

News and Information

Fishing News and Upcoming Events

Know before you go - 2022 Kokanee Regulations

September 23rd, 2022 - With October just around the corner, Kokanee salmon are getting ready to show off their fall colors. If you are going to hit the water during the kokanee spawn, be sure to read the new [2022 Kokanee regulations and giveaways flyer](#). This document outlines the rules for each salmon fishery, as well as locations for Kokanee giveaways. Be sure to check it out before wetting your line!

CPW lifts final voluntary fishing closure in Northwest Region

September 16th, 2022 - Recent weather patterns combined with cooler overnight temperatures have led to improved conditions on the Yampa River, prompting Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) to lift the voluntary fishing closure. For more information, view the full article on the [CPW News Release page](#)!

Learn to Fish at Staunton State Park

September 25th, 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.

Ice Fishing Clinic on N. Michigan Reservoir!

January 14th, 2023 - Bundle up and learn how to ice fish at N. Michigan reservoir! Gear will be provided for the event. View the [event summary](#) on the [CPW Fishing News and Events](#) page!



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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/.



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

Stocking Report



The list below identifies where catchable trout (approximately 10") were recently stocked.

Horsetooth Reservoir	northeast	2022-09-23	Atlas
Taylor Park Reservoir	southwest	2022-09-23	Atlas
Turquoise Lake	southeast	2022-09-23	Atlas
Pericles Pond	southwest	2022-09-23	Atlas
Axial Basin Lake	northwest	2022-09-23	Atlas
Sleepy Cat Ponds	northwest	2022-09-23	Atlas
Sunset Lake	northwest	2022-09-23	Atlas
Mesa Lake	northwest	2022-09-23	Atlas
Jumbo Reservoir	northwest	2022-09-23	Atlas
Mack Mesa Lake	northwest	2022-09-23	Atlas
West Lake	northwest	2022-09-23	Atlas
Old Orchard	northwest	2022-09-23	Atlas
Roans Pothole	northwest	2022-09-23	Atlas

Big Meadows Reservoir	southwest	2022-09-16	Atlas
Huerfano River	southeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Manitou Park Lake	southeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Beaver Creek Reservoir	southwest	2022-09-16	Atlas
Monument Reservoir	southeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Daigre Reservoir	southeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Wahatoya Reservoir	southeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Lake Avery	northwest	2022-09-16	Atlas
Teal Lake	northeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Tiago Lake	northeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Walden Lions Park Pond	northeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Ranger Lake, Lower	northeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Ranger Lake, Upper	northeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Ruedi Reservoir	northwest	2022-09-16	Atlas
Izaak Walton Longmont Pond	northeast	2022-09-16	Atlas
Haviland Lake	southwest	2022-09-16	Atlas
Twin Spruce Ponds	southwest	2022-09-16	Atlas
Vallecito Reservoir	southwest	2022-09-16	Atlas

Dillon Reservoir	northeast	2022-09-09	Atlas
O'Haver Lake	southeast	2022-09-09	Atlas
Pine Valley Ranch Lake	northeast	2022-09-09	Atlas
Lake Isabel	southeast	2022-09-09	Atlas
Tarryall Reservoir	northeast	2022-09-09	Atlas
Rampart Reservoir	northeast	2022-09-09	Atlas
Skaguay Reservoir	southeast	2022-09-09	Atlas
South Platte River	northeast	2022-09-09	Atlas
Big Meadows Reservoir	southwest	2022-09-02	Atlas
Beaver Creek Reservoir	southwest	2022-09-02	Atlas
Blue Lake	southeast	2022-09-02	Atlas
DeWeese Reservoir	southeast	2022-09-02	Atlas
Monument Reservoir	southeast	2022-09-02	Atlas

Catch of the Week



Here's Nash Luman with a beast of a carp! Way to go Nash!

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 9/18/22, City of Aurora Ranger Jones reports, "Trout fishing from shore has been slow to fair. The best area has been the east end of the dam. Boaters have reported fair to good success on trout trolling with crawlers. Anchoring in 30-45' of water and dropping down crawlers and power bait has been working well for some boaters for trout. Walleye fishing is slow to fair. Some reports using crawlers with bottom bouncers and trolling crankbaits. Most walleye being caught are undersize. Due to low water levels the public dock is not useable. For more information call 303-326-8425. Park Hours for September 6:00am-8:00pm. October Hours- 6:30am-7:30pm. Restricted to electric motors only."

[Aurora Reservoir](#)

Quincy Reservoir

As of 9/18/22 City of Aurora Ranger Jones reports, "Trout fishing is slow. Bass fishing is slow to fair. A few reports of bass being caught using soft plastics, chatter baits and top water lures in the early morning. Some yellow perch reports using jigs. 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. Park Hours September 6:00am-8:00pm. October Hours 6:30am-7:30pm. Closes for the season October 31st. For more information call 303-326-8424."

[Quincy Reservoir](#)

Conditions Report - Northeast Colorado

Antero Reservoir

As of 9/22/22, Angler's Covey reports "It's an interesting time on the stillwater fisheries in South Park. We are seeing some decent fishing days followed by extremely tough days. The lows over the last 2 days have been in the 30's. This will be beneficial and should kick the feeding into high gear. Until then, It's a waiting game. Stillwater fisheries tend to start to "turn on" a little more as we enter this time period. The callibaetis hatches are all but done, although there are still a few of them kicking around. We are in a transition period where the food sources will change a bit. Things should start to turn more towards leaches, chironomids, scuds and streamers. Shore fishing has turned on a bit and we are seeing increased success from the bank. Being in some kind of watercraft is still the most ideal method. Particularly so you can move around more easily. Both boat ramps are open and kayak/float tuber anglers can launch from anywhere on the lake. It will be interesting to see if this cold front is the kicker into some better fishing conditions. It certainly won't hurt. Temps will rebound Friday and through the weekend and we will have about seasonal averages for a week or so. Fish are feeding opportunistically all over the lake. Static nymphing and slow stripping chironomids (very early), wooly buggers, scuds and leeches have been effective.

Recommended Patterns:

Bubba's callebeatis, , #14-16, Gallops callebaetis, #14-16, Scuds, orange, pink, and green #12-18, Egg patterns #14-16, Mayers Radiant jig mini leach, black, brown, Wooly 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: Fall is a great time to throw streamers in stillwater. Look for light, white, or natural colored patterns to really start producing.

Pike Bunnies, Double Gonga's, and larger articulated flies are periodically taking tiger Muskie."

[Angler's Covey](#)

[Antero Reservoir](#)

Cheesman Canyon - South Platte River

As of 9/22/22, Angler's Covey reports, "The flows have been just shy of 200 cfs. for several weeks. These are excellent flows and the fishing has been great! These are prime flows for this fishery and have actually made some of the river a little more accessible. These flows are also really decent for dry fly fishing. Denver Water will be augmenting water demand flows 60/40 with the North Fork of the South Platte. If there is higher or lower water demand, we could see the flows increase or drop again. These flows still have larger food sources available, but more of the "hatch specific" bugs will be more in play. Cranefly larva, scuds, worms, etc. are all getting the attention of the fish, and midges, BWO's, some Tricos, and some PMD's are also taking fish. This is a great time to venture into the canyon with perfect flows. Keep in mind that the flows coming out of Cheesman reservoir are from the bottom release valve. This keeps the river colder than other locations on the South Platte. Its a bug factory right now and the fish are heavy on the feed. We are seeing some Trico, PMD, BWO, and midge activity. Fishing is technical as usual. Sight fishing is our preferred method. This week will be cool with more seasonal temperatures arriving over the weekend and into next week. Cheesman has been busy, but there is plenty of water to fish here. Especially those that hike in a little. 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:

NYMPSH - Buckskins, #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](#)

Elevenmile Reservoir

As of 9/22/22, Anglers Covey Reports "11 mile has been fishing pretty decent and consistent lately. The west end and south shoreline of the lake has been particularly good. Target the west end of the lake, or the coves on the south shore for the best fly fishing activity. The cooler nights have turned fishing on a little more recently. 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. That said, this time of year we start to see more fish cruising the shorelines in search of an easy meal. Callebaetis are still around, but they are tapering off very quickly. Fishing leach patterns in various methods have been very effective. The pike bite has been great and this is THE TIME to target this fish. These fish are a lot more difficult to catch here in Colorado. Patience and persistence is key. Carp fishing has been good as well, Particularly on the west end of the lake in the flats. 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. The Witchers boat ramp is now closed for the season. The boat ramps on the North shore are open. Be cautious in any watercraft in South Park on windy days, but especially 11 mile. The weather will be getting warmer as we head into the weekend. 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:

NYMPHS - 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, Wooly buggers-black, brown, olive, yellow #6-12, Scuds- Green, pink and orange #10-16

DRIES - Amy's Ant #10-14, Chubby's #8-16, Candyshop callebaetis #16, Parachute callebaetis #16-18, Adult damsel #14

STREAMERS - Thin mints, Gongas, game changers, barely legals, and smaller articulated patterns.”

[Angler's Covey](#)

[Eleven Mile State Park](#)

The Dream Stream - South Platte River

As of 9/22/22, Anglers Covey reports, “The flows have been stable at about 164 cfs. for about 10 days now. These are great flows for the Dream, although we would love to them a little higher. Spinney is losing water at a rapid pace and it's only a matter of time before they drop even further. Fishing has been decent but the crowds are getting silly. Night time temps are getting down into the 30's and 40's and this has definitely helped cool off the water in this area. Please be sure to continue to monitor water temps though, especially on hot days. Fish are spread out all throughout the river and fish are feeding opportunistically. We have noticed less fish in the river over the last week. Not sure if a number of them went into 11 mile, but it's noticeably lower in numbers. There are a lot of bugs in the Dream right now. Tricos, BWO's, some PMD's, and midges are all very active. Fish will key on the specific hatches so be sure to have a wide variety of different patterns and sizes. Especially the Trico's. With these flows, don't discount worms, crane fly larva, scuds, and leeches. There are some small pods of Kokanee in the system and that will be sure to increase the crowds substantially. Cover ground as the flows have really spread the fish out. Anglers can expect decent dry fly activity in certain areas of the river. This is also a great time to blast the banks with terrestrials. The weather will be great going into the weekend and into next week. Expect to fish with a lot of other people. The river has been extremely busy. Be courteous and kind on the river!

Recommended Patterns:

NYMPHS - Barrs PMD emerger, #16-18, Barrs graphic caddis, green/tan #16, Barrs PMD emergers #16-18, Olive or Orange UV Scuds #14-16, Hunchback PMD-#16-18, Mayer's Mini leach in black or brown #18, Miracle midge #18-22, Black Beauties #20-24, Pale Ale Midge #18-20, Medallion Midge #20-22, Purple Haze #20-22, Blindside Midge #20-22, Money Midge #20-22, Buckskin Caddis #16-20, Red Midge Larva, Mercury Midge #20-24, Jujubee Midge 20-24, Juan's Sniper Baetis #20-24, Barr's BWO Emergers #20-24, Barrs PMD Emergers #16-18, Juan's Jedi Master #20-24, Pheasant Tail #18-22, RS2 grey and black #18-22, Cheesman Emergers #20-22, Stal cups Baetis sizes #20-24

DRIES - Juans 180 trico #22, trico spinner #22-26, Griffiths Gnat #20-24, Smokejumper Baetis #20-22, Trico Vis a dun #20-22, Matts Midge #22, Mole Fly #20-24, Comparaduns #20-22, EHC #14-18, Amys Ant-green or red \$14, Chubby's-all colors-#10-16, Matthew's Sparkle Dun (PMD and BWO) #16-20

STREAMERS - Slump busters in both dark and light colors or natural, Baby Gongas, and Mini Dungeons or similar patterns.”

[Angler's Covey](#)

[South Platte River](#)

Conditions Report - Southeast Colorado

Arkansas River - Leadville to Buena Vista

As of 9/21/22, Braden Baker with Ark Anglers writes, “The upper river is clear this morning and has been very productive this week. This is an ideal wade fishing flow for Hayden Meadows and offers much easier access to areas like Granite and the rocky shoreline down through the Numbers and Railroad Bridge. Today's cloudy forecast should offer great fishing opportunities through midafternoon before a serious front rolls in and drops rain through tomorrow evening. This cloudy, precipitous outlook could prompt some stellar hatches of fall blue winged olives in the upper basin, so be prepared with mayfly emergers and duns in #20-22. Expect fish to still move out of the fastest water into velocity shelters where they can hold/feed at a relaxed pace without expending much energy. On sunny days they are very focused near structure, where they can find cover in the low and clear flows. Hayden Meadows will offer fish holding in much of the riffled water when

food is available but count on cut banks and obvious shelter to give fish good holding water. Caddis hatches are still strong here but grasshoppers and other terrestrials like ants and beetles are making for good dry fly fishing with smaller attractor patterns. Golden stoneflies will continue hatch well into September so don't abandon large flies just yet. Some of the largest golden stoneflies of the year are hatching at night in the upper basin (look for fresh shucks on the rocks above the water's edge in the morning!). As we proceed into fall, expect streamer fishing to become more and more effective, especially with the cloud cover we've experienced recently."

[ArkAnglers](#)
[Arkansas River](#)

Arkansas River - Buena Vista to Salida

As of 9/21/22, Braden Baker with Ark Anglers writes, "The middle basin looks outstanding this week. Wade fishing access is prime at current levels as the river is much more approachable on foot than during the high flows of early summer. Today's cloudy forecast is supposed to yield a pretty significant rainstorm this evening through tomorrow, but until then conditions are prime for fall fishing. We expect very productive dry-dropper fishing on days like this, with the added potential of blue winged olive hatches in the afternoon bringing more fish to the surface to intercept emerging mayflies. Streamer fishing is also a great tactic on days like this, particularly in the fall when brown trout are aggressive and territorial as they sense their pending spawn in the near future. 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 eddys where deflection and friction slow the water down. Now you can find water like this from bank to bank, in comparison to the limited holding water we encounter at higher flows. You can still get away with pretty modest leader material; anything smaller than 5x is unnecessary. Golden stoneflies are now hatching, primarily at night, and grasshoppers are making themselves known along the shoreline giving us a great opportunity to fish dry-dropper rigs throughout the day. Smaller terrestrials like ants, beetles, and moths have also given us great opportunities to prospect with smaller attractor patterns. Red quill mayflies are still hatching down near Salida and the recent cloud cover is beginning to prompt afternoon hatches of smaller fall blue winged olives. Expect fall Baetis to be #18-22. 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; late summer and fall conditions often 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 9/21/22, Braden Baker with Ark Anglers writes, "The morning greets us with a warm, cloudy day and potential for excellent fishing at least until mid-afternoon when a serious front is projected to drop rain throughout the valley. The rain is forecasted for late afternoon through tomorrow evening. Time will tell how this will impact water clarity, but for now the river looks excellent and anglers on the water today should expect good dry-dropper action throughout the day. Streamer fishing under cloudy fall conditions can also be very exciting and productive, as prespawn brown trout get more territorial and aggressive and strike with confidence in the lower light conditions. It would be reasonable to anticipate significant hatches of blue winged olive mayflies today and tomorrow with the cloudy, precipitous forecast. These could be anywhere on the river from Leadville to Parkdale. Expect these mayflies to present in sizes #18-22 in the fall. Red Quill mayflies tend to be most active on sunny days but nymphs are still present in the system and are best imitated with reddish-tan beadhead mayfly nymphs in #16-18. The Arkansas is not experiencing any of the water temperature issues that other rivers are facing at the moment and our trout population is happy, healthy, and active. 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 eddys where deflection and friction slow the water down. Fish can really spread out throughout the river at current flows as more structure becomes usable, so don't expect every fish to be close to the bank like we see earlier in the summer. 3x-5x leader/tippet is what you'll want to pack. Golden stoneflies and grasshoppers are hatching and these flies are great dry options to prospect with in the higher summer flows. We're seeing sporadic tricos in #22-24, but thankfully fish don't seem to get as focused in on these mayflies as they do in other rivers. Smaller terrestrial patterns are also producing including ants, beetles, crickets, and moths. 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 character of the river and the aggressive, predatory nature of resident brown trout 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 9/11/22, Ranger Olson reports, "The lake is at 677 surface acres with a surface elevation of 6180.78. The water level is decreasing slightly. Islands have appeared and some hazards may not be marked. Shore fishermen have reported slower conditions. They were doing good catching trout on doughbait and worms. Yellow Perch have been seen caught from shore with worms. Catfish are fair as well, they are catching them on chicken livers. 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 doughbaits. The water temperatures are around 70-71 degrees."

[Trinidad Lake](#)

Conditions Report - Northwest Colorado

Blue River - At Silverthorne

As of 9/21/22, Trouts Fly Fishing reports, "Flows are 57.4 CFS in Silverthorne. Flows are low and cold. Our approach has been sight fishing with nymphs and dries. Often times we won't make a cast until a target is found- stay on the move until you find that "happy" eating fish. A size #18-24 midge, baetis, or mayfly trailed behind #14-16 attractor such as a stone, leech, egg, or worm has been the rig of choice for nymphing lately. Parachute adams or small Griffiths gnats in #18-22 are finding fish on top. Terrestrials (Chubbies, Amy's ants #14-16) will work too."

[Trouts Fly Fishing](#)

[Blue River](#)

Colorado River - Kremmling to Catamount

As of 9/21/22, Trouts Fly Fishing reports, "Colorado at Kremmling is at 727 CFS. The main success will come from nymphing this section. Nymphing rigs will be a good tactic. Dropping both traditional stonefly imitations as well as golden stones size #8-14 and Caddis/PMD nymphs size #16-14 beneath a hopper. Recently we've had a lot of action on streamers!

Fly Patterns include: Leeches #12-16, Caddis imitations #14-18, Smaller stoneflies #10-14, midges/Baetis #18-22. You can also fish streamers sticking to darker profiles in low light conditions and brighter flashy patterns on sunny days. Hopper dropper rigs are also a good choice through this section. Hoppers size #6-12."

[Trouts Fly Fishing](#)

[Colorado River](#)

Fryingpan River - Below Reudi Reservoir

As of 9/21/22, Trouts Fly Fishing reports, "The tailwater is currently at 263 CFS. Fish will be concentrated in deep holes below the dam. Try a Mysis Shrimp #16-18 trailed by a midge or baetis nymph size #18-24. Make sure you're getting your flies down to the fish! Light tippets will also be a key factor in producing fish - we'd recommend 5-6x, at least! Bigger attractor patterns such as leeches and eggs #12-16 have been working well too. Don't be afraid to throw some streamers in this section! Before you head up, make sure you stop by our Denver location to browse our expansive tailwater selection! Look for BWOs and midges in the latter part of the day for dry fly opportunities."

[Trouts Fly Fishing](#)

[Fryingpan River](#)

Conditions Report - Southwest Colorado

Rio Grande

As of 9/22/22, Duranglers reports, "Wade fishing has been good with BWOs, streamers, and nymph rigs. With rain and bumps in flows, the streamer fishing can be lights out...and even a little floating may be in order.

Parachute Adams 16-24, Para Extended Body BWO 18-22, BWO Film Critics 18-20.

Nymphs: Killer Mayflies 18-22, Brown Baetis Nymph 18-22, Pheasant Tails 14-20.

Pat's Rubberlegs 8-12, Prince nymphs and variants 14-18, Barr's Graphic Caddis 14-16, Czechmate Caddis 14-16.

79 CFS (30 Mile), 256 CFS (Wagon Wheel)"

[Duranglers](#)

[Rio Grande](#)

Uncompaghe River

As of 9/22/22, Duranglers reports, "Fishing is good these days. Small bugs are still your friend, but larger attractor nymphs like SJ Worms or Leeches followed by a mayfly or midge nymph have been good. Watch for hatching PMDs and other mayflies.

Midges 18-24: Sidewinder Midge Pupa, Tav's Big Mac, Jujubee Midge. Midge Dries: Duranglers Adult Midge, CDC Biot Midge, Midge Dry. San Juan Worms, Red, Wine, Orange. Red and Orange Annelids, and Chamois leeches. Thread Baetis, Jujubaetis, Split Back PMD. PMD Nymphs: Split Back PMD 16-20, Killer Mayfly 18, Brown Baetis Nymph 18-20. Napoleon Jig 18, PMD dries: Pink Hackle stacker 16-18. Parachute Adams 14-18.

69.3 CFS Below Ridgway Reservoir”

[Duranglers](#)

[Uncompaghere River](#)

Animas River at Durango

As of 9/22/22, Duranglers reports, “Rain events will require you to throw big or flashy nymphs or streamers if the water raises and discolors. Fall brings about some predatory browns, so it’s always worth having a big streamer or two on hand. Midday from 11-2 may have good hatches of Baetis, so be prepared with a few dries. Otherwise, nymph rigs with caddis or small mayflies are in order.

Dries: Barr’s Baetis Vis-A-Dun 18-20, Baetis CDC Comparadun 18-22, Juan’s Smoke Jumper Baetis 18-22.

Brown Baetis Nymphs 18-24, Killer Mayfly 18-22, Prince nymphs and variants 14-18, Barr’s Graphic Caddis 14-16, Rainbow Warrior 18-22, Pheasant Tails 16-18, RS-2 18-20, Orange Crush 12-16,

Streamers: GD Sculpin Snack, Kreelex, Cheech Leech, Autumn Splendor, Sparkle Minnow.

770 CFS at Durango”

[Duranglers](#)

[Animas River](#)

Tip of the Week

Fall for Pike

Sight fishing for pike can be very productive, with fish over 30 inches not being uncommon. Unlike many species of fish, pike do not school up; but typically, where you find one, there are several more in the general area.

Equipment

- A medium to heavy action rod.
- 10 to 12 # mono or braided line is recommended.
- Large baits such as, Jointed Rapalas, gold or silver hammered spoons, Zara Spooks, Mepps spinners with a pork trailer, Flatfish, and crankbaits are all good choices.

Sight fishing for pike requires accurate casting and a varied retrieve. Once the pike are located, the angler should cast the bait 8-10 feet past the fish, being careful not to spook them. Depending on the bait that is being used the retrieve will vary.

When using floating type baits such as a Zara Spook, Flatfish or Jointed Rapalas, the bait should be allowed to set a few seconds before beginning the retrieve; a figure 8 or a zigzag motion works to help trigger a strike.

For baits like hammer spoons, Mepps spinners with a pork trailer or any bait that sinks, the countdown method is preferred. Baits that sink will do so at a different rate. A good way to determine how fast the bait will sink to the desired depth; is for the angler to drop the bait straight down into a known depth of water and count the seconds the bait takes to sink.

TIP: If you are seeing fish but are not getting strikes, speed up your retrieve; generally, faster is better.

Have a suggestion or request?

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

We would love to hear back from our subscribers regarding fishing reports, tips, and requests of material you would like to start seeing more of. Any useful feedback helps us make our fishing reports a “go to” resource for anglers fishing Colorado’s waters.

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