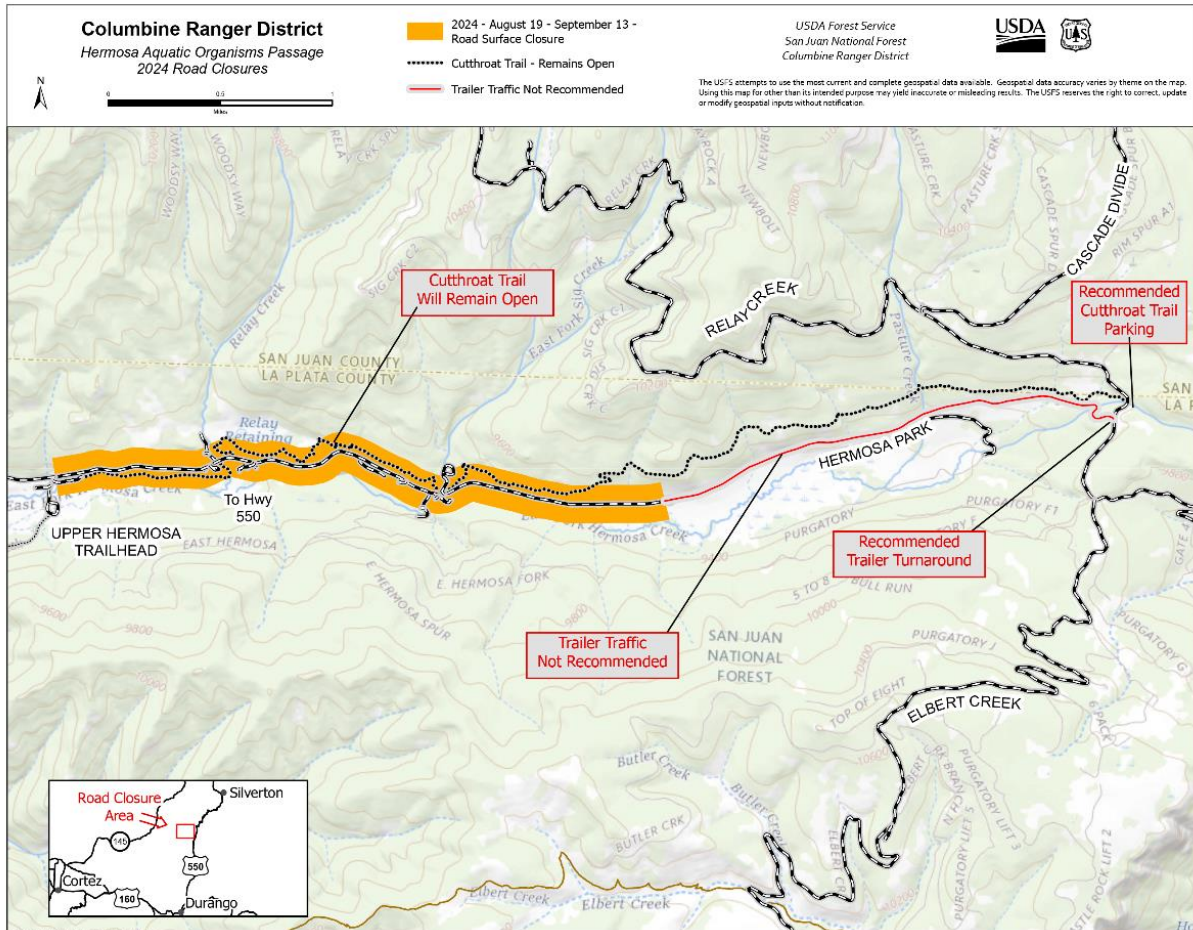


# COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE Fishing Report

Feb. 23, 2024



## News and Information



### Hermosa Park Road closures to impact anglers, GMU 74 hunters

The San Juan National Forest Columbine Ranger District will conduct road maintenance and construction on Hermosa Park Road (NFSR 578) this summer where the road crosses Sig and Relay creeks (see map). Construction work will require road closures beginning Aug. 19 through Sept. 13, 2024.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife acknowledges the construction project will have an impact on hunters and anglers. The road closure will affect access to a major portion of [Game Management Unit 74](#), and hunters should keep that in mind when applying for 2024 hunting licenses and when planning their trip.

[Learn more](https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/News-Release-Details.aspx?NewsID=4042) (<https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/News-Release-Details.aspx?NewsID=4042>)

# **Events**

## **[Ice Fishing 101 - Pagosa Springs](#)**

**Saturday, February 24, 9a-1p**

An Ice Fishing 101 clinic for novice anglers interested in learning about the basics to take place at Echo Canyon Reservoir SWA. This clinic will cover the topics of ice fishing safety, use of equipment, fishing techniques, rules and regulations, and fish behavior leaving plenty of time to fish. The clinic is open to all ages however, all participants 16 and older must have a valid Colorado fishing license. For those (16 and older) who are not attending the course but will be present on the property will need either a valid hunting or fishing license or a State Wildlife Area Pass.

## **[Ice Fishing 101 - Eleven Mile SP](#)**

**Sunday, February 25, 9a-1p**

Have you ever wanted to give ice fishing a try but didn't know where to start? Are you new to ice fishing and looking for some tips? Colorado Parks and Wildlife is offering an Ice Fishing 101 clinic for novice anglers interested in learning about the basics of ice fishing.

## **[Learn to Ice Fish at Staunton State Park](#)**

**Tuesday, February 27, 10a-2p**

Learn to ice fish at Staunton State Park with CPW staff and volunteers. All equipment will be provided if you don't have your own. Clinic will be held at the Davis Ponds, no registration necessary, just drop by and give ice fishing a try anytime between 10am and 2pm. Park pass fees apply and fishing licenses are required for anyone 16 or older.

## **[Ice Fishing 101](#)**

**Saturday, March 9, 9a-1p**

Have you ever wanted to give ice fishing a try but didn't know where to start? Are you new to ice fishing and looking for some tips? Colorado Parks and Wildlife is offering an Ice Fishing 101 clinic at Staunton State Park for novice anglers interested in learning about the basics of ice fishing.

## **[Ice Fishing 101](#)**

**Sunday, March 10, 9a-1p**

Have you ever wanted to give ice fishing a try but didn't know where to start? Are you new to ice fishing and looking for some tips? Colorado Parks and Wildlife is offering an Ice Fishing 101 clinic at Staunton State Park for novice anglers interested in learning about the basics of ice fishing.

## Stocking Report

Body of Water	Region	Report Date	Link
Centennial Park Lake	northeast	2024-02-22	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Sloans Lake	northeast	2024-02-22	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Trinidad Reservoir	southeast	2024-02-21	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Trinidad Central Park Lake	southeast	2024-02-21	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Quail Lake	southeast	2024-02-15	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Prospect Lake	southeast	2024-02-15	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Milavec Reservoir	northeast	2024-02-15	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Harvey Gap Reservoir	northwest	2024-02-15	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Rifle Gap Reservoir	northwest	2024-02-15	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Confluence Lake	northwest	2024-02-14	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Ridgway Reservoir	northwest	2024-02-14	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Chatfield Reservoir	northeast	2024-02-13	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Carter Lake	northeast	2024-02-13	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Snooks Bottom Lake	northwest	2024-02-13	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Mack Mesa Lake	northwest	2024-02-13	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Ruedi Reservoir	northwest	2024-02-13	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
South Rifle Pond	northwest	2024-02-13	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Arkansas River	southeast	2024-02-12	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Anticline Pond	southeast	2024-02-12	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Lon Hagler Reservoir	northeast	2024-02-12	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Boyd Lake	northeast	2024-02-12	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Pueblo Reservoir	southeast	2024-02-08	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Martin Lake	southeast	2024-02-01	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Horseshoe Reservoir	southeast	2024-02-01	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Fruita Red Rocks Lake	northwest	2024-01-30	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Roans Pothole	northwest	2024-01-30	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Old Orchard	northwest	2024-01-30	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Corn Lake	northwest	2024-01-30	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Elevenmile Reservoir	northeast	2024-01-25	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Elevenmile Reservoir	northeast	2024-01-24	<a href="#">Atlas</a>
Runyon Lake	southeast	2024-01-23	<a href="#">Atlas</a>

For the most up-to-date stocking information, click [here](#).

## Catch of the Week



The Catch of the Week goes to Porter Sutherland who reeled in this 43-inch, 21-pound pike.

Well done!

*Have a fish you're proud of? Share a photo!*  
Send an email to [dnr\\_fish.reporter@state.co.us](mailto:dnr_fish.reporter@state.co.us) with subject line: Catch of the Week

## **Tip of the Week – History of Leadhead Jigs**

Leadhead jigs have enjoyed enduring popularity among anglers since their inception. The H and D Folsom Arms Company, a sporting goods retailer, began distributing jigheads for fishing in the 1800s.

John Butwinski, a Chicago native with a deep passion for fishing, hailed from a family that had immigrated to the United States from Poland in the early 1900s. During the Great Depression of the 1930s, when many families turned to fishing to put food on the table, money was scarce for purchasing live bait. Traditional options like worms or leeches proved ineffective in the harbors of Lake Michigan.

Drafted into the Army during World War II, John was deployed overseas where he encountered a saltwater jig adorned with animal hair. Upon returning home after the war, he began crafting his own jigs, drawing inspiration from those he had seen abroad. Tying white animal hair to jigheads, John experienced remarkable success in catching fish, prompting other anglers to seek out his creations. Innovatively, he painted some of his jigheads pink, which swiftly became a favorite among anglers. Thus, he coined his creation the Pinkie®, and in 1950, he established the Little Atom Lure Company.

Today, leadhead jigs stand as one of the most versatile tools in an angler's arsenal, with applications spanning virtually every fish species. They come in an array of sizes, shapes, and colors:

- Sizes range from 3/32 oz to 2.0 oz.
- Colors vary from unpainted to multi-colored, including two-toned options.
- Shapes include round, football, fish head, and tube designs.
- Weedless options feature stiff nylon strands covering the hook bend to prevent snagging in weed beds.
- Hooks are available in different weights and sizes, with varying shank lengths tailored to different bait applications. For instance, when fishing for walleye with a 4" twister tail and jighead combination, a jighead with a long shank hook is recommended. The hook should penetrate at least 1/3 of the bait's length before reaching the jighead.

When fishing in deeper waters, anglers may opt to increase the weight of the jighead. Moreover, anglers can customize jigheads by painting them using Powder-Based Epoxy Paint to suit their specific needs.

## **Comments or Questions?**

Email us at [dnr\\_fish.reporter@state.co.us](mailto: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. Good luck out there!

- DNR Fish Reporter



**COLORADO**  
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