



Southeast Colorado Hot Spots

Adobe Creek Reservoir: Good warmwater fishing is available to anglers willing to travel off the beaten path to this remote destination. Located about 15 miles north of Las Animas, Colorado, this lake features excellent fishing for crappie and catfish. Wiper and saugeye can be caught here as well. High and low water ramps are provided for boaters, making access available at all water levels. [Interactive Map](#)



Arkansas River: *Leadville to Canon City* - Offers nearly 80 miles of public access and boasts great catches of nice-sized brown trout and rainbows. Most average 12-13 inches with some reaching lengths over 20 inches. The Arkansas River has become a very popular fishery in recent years for both walk/wade and float anglers. Most anglers rate the quality of their fishing experience as good to excellent. The "blizzard" caddis fly hatch in late April/early May is well renowned but hatches throughout the year make this a very consistent fishery where anglers can usually enjoy lots of elbow room. Lure and bait angling also produce very well, particularly during higher water flows. [Interactive Map \(Leadville area\)](#) [Interactive Map \(Johnson Village\)](#) [Interactive Map \(Salida area\)](#) [Interactive Map \(Treat/Ogden SWA\)](#)

Arkansas River: *Within the City of Pueblo* - This is a must for all stream anglers looking for a place to go during the winter months. The mild winter climate and consistent flows out of Pueblo Dam makes for a great tailwater fishing experience for rainbow and brown trout. Good access is available for approximately 8 miles of river below the dam. Contact the Pueblo CPW office or the City of Pueblo for access information. [Interactive Map \(Lake Pueblo State Park - State Parks Pass required\)](#)

Clear Creek Reservoir: Clear Creek Reservoir is traditionally one of the most productive and dependable fishing reservoirs in the upper Arkansas River basin. This popular reservoir produces excellent year-round catches of nice-sized brown, rainbow and cutthroat trout with an occasional trophy tiger muskie being taken. Facilities are good with a boat ramp and camping nearby. Location: 13 miles west of Buena Vista on Highway 24. [Interactive Map](#)

DeWeese Reservoir: This 250 acre reservoir located north of Westcliffe provides excellent fishing for creel-sized and larger rainbow and cutthroat trout. The reservoir also provides some excellent smallmouth bass fishing and the opportunity to catch a tiger muskie. Ice fishing is very good from mid December through February. Contact the Pueblo CPW office for further details. [Interactive Map](#)

High Mountain Lakes: Numerous scenic small lakes above 10,000 feet in elevation provide excellent fishing for cutthroat, rainbow and brook trout. Trout in these pristine waters can be temperamental when feeding conditions are favorable. Most lakes require uphill hiking from 1-12 miles. Some better high mountain lakes are: Macey, Stout Creek, Lily, and Brush Creek lakes in the Sangre De Cristo Wilderness; and Ptarmigan and Pomeroy lakes in the Sawatch Range. Flies and small lures fished with light lines in the morning and evening is usually best. Location: San Isabel National Forest. Inquire at Colorado Parks and Wildlife or the Forest Service offices in Pueblo or Salida. [Interactive Map \(Macey Lakes\)](#) [Interactive Maps \(Stout Creek Lakes\)](#) [Interactive Maps \(Brush Creek Lakes\)](#) [Interactive Map \(Ptarmigan Lake\)](#) [Interactive Map \(Pomeroy Lakes\)](#)

John Martin Reservoir: Fine warm-water fishing and excellent state park facilities await anglers at this large plains reservoir. Start out the year with crappie fishing in April and May (try on the dam or at the railroad trestle), then move on to white bass, wiper and saugeye beginning in May and lasting throughout the summer and fall. Also enjoy some of the state's best fishing for large catfish (using worms, crawdads, shrimp) toward the shallow upper end of the lake. Fall (September and October) usually brings another period of great fishing. A State Parks Pass is required. Call the Lamar CPW office to check on water levels, access and best techniques. [Interactive Map](#)

Pikes Peak North Slope Reservoirs: Three reservoirs are found along the Pikes Peak Highway. Although just outside of Colorado Springs, these gorgeous waters boast rainbow and cutthroat trout and occasional brook trout. Exceptional lake trout can also be taken at Crystal Creek and North Catamount. Anglers can use carry-in boats propelled by hand or electric motor and float tubes. Open from May to October, check the Pikes Peak Highway Tollbooth for hours and access charges. Location: From Colorado Springs west of Highway 24 to Cascade, then follow signs for the Pikes Peak Toll Road. [Interactive Map \(North Catamount Reservoir\)](#) [Interactive Map \(South Catamount Reservoir\)](#) [Interactive Map \(Crystal Creek Reservoir\)](#)

Pikes Peak South Slope Reservoirs: McReynolds and Mason Reservoirs sit near timberline on the south slope of Pikes Peak. A permit from Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Services is **REQUIRED** ([Permit Information](#)). This area has some spectacular views including Pikes Peak just to the north of Mason Reservoir. Both reservoirs contain cutthroat trout up to 20 inches and several pounds. Anglers looking to catch a trophy cutthroat should try their luck in McReynolds. There are not the high numbers of fish that Mason boasts, but the size of the fish are amazing. Anglers looking for fast and furious action should make the one mile walk over to Mason where 50 fish days are not uncommon. [Interactive Map](#)

Pueblo Reservoir: This reservoir is one of the most popular destinations in southeast Colorado. High catch rates on largemouth and smallmouth bass provide an excellent fishery. Large numbers of walleye inhabit the reservoir, and fishing is good for walleye from 14-30 inches. The reservoir has special restrictions for walleye. The reservoir also has excellent fishing for wiper, catfish, bluegill and trout. A State Parks Pass is required. Location: West of Pueblo on Highway 50 to Pueblo Blvd., then south to Thatcher Ave., then west to entrance. [Interactive Map](#)

Skaguay Reservoir: This 114 acre reservoir located near Victor, Colorado offers scenic angling in a more remote setting. Catchable trout are stocked throughout the summer providing good action for anglers. They range in size from 10-14 inches. Though scarce, this reservoir supports a population of northern pike that average 24 inches with fish approaching 40 inches in length. Facilities are good including a concrete boat ramp, parking and restrooms. Beaver Creek below the reservoir offers good brown trout fishing for the stream fishing enthusiast. [Interactive Map](#)

Trinidad Reservoir: This 700 acre reservoir located immediately west of Trinidad offers up lots of amenities. A good boat ramp provides access to the reservoir at all water levels. Trinidad's warm-water fishery provides fishing for a wide range of species including yellow perch, channel catfish, saugeye, walleye, largemouth and smallmouth bass. Trinidad also provides an excellent trout fishery and is heavily stocked with creel sized rainbow and cuttbow trout. A State Parks Pass is required. Location: West of Trinidad on Highway 12. Anglers should take note of this [mercury warning](#) issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. [Interactive Map](#)

Twin Lakes Reservoirs: Twin Lakes have a combined surface area of 2700 acres and are located near Granite, Colorado. They offer good fishing in an exceptional mountain setting and are serviced by one concrete boat ramp in the lower lake and two campgrounds. Twin Lakes are known for trophy lake trout (some over 40 inches) and offer good catches of rainbow and Snake River cutthroat trout, averaging 12 inches with some reaching lengths of nearly 20 inches. [Interactive Map](#)