

Fishing Report



Northeastern Region report

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This report can be found at:

http://wildlife.utah.gov/hotspots/reports_ne.php

Warnings: Several lakes in northeastern Utah may contain quagga and/or zebra mussels. [Learn more about these destructive mussels](#) and [how to decontaminate your boat](#).

Whirling disease was found in the northeastern region of the state. Please make sure you clean, dry and sterilize waders, livewells and other fishing gear before venturing to another water.

Cleaning fish: Biologists now believe the disposal of fish parts, especially the head and skeleton, is one of the primary reasons whirling disease has spread to new waters. To avoid moving whirling disease and other undesired organisms, you should clean fish at home and send the parts to a landfill. If that isn't possible, please clean the fish and bury the parts at least 100 yards away from the water's edge. Do not move fish or fish parts from one water to another.

We need your feedback. Would you like to see a Utah fishing regulation change? Have an idea for a new rule? Division of Wildlife Resources biologists are already working on possible fishing changes for 2012 and we want to hear from you. [Provide feedback on possible 2012 fishing changes.](#)

Waterbody	Report
Big Sandwash Reservoir 2011-07-20 Good	Anglers report fair to good fishing for trout and good to excellent fishing for bass. The water temperatures are still fairly cool, so the trout are accessible. Try brightly colored spoons and crayfish- or minnow-colored crank or stick baits. The bass are nearly done spawning, but you can still find them in the shallows. Try crayfish-colored jigs or top waters in the early morning. You can access the reservoir from the boat ramp and from a new public-access point on the northeast corner.

Brough Reservoir So far, reports have been good but sporadic. Water temperatures are cool in the mornings and evenings, and fish are still active near the surface. A recent survey caught several fish in the three- to four-pound range, and larger fish have been reported. Remember, no baits can be used at Brough. You may keep one trout over 22 inches, but all others must be released.
2011-07-20
Good

Browne Lake The roads to the lake are now open. Fishing should be fair to good. Watch out for storms — the weather can change very quickly in the Uinta Mountains.
2011-07-20
Good

Bullock Reservoir There haven't been any recent reports, but people have been fishing the reservoir. You'll likely find fair to good fishing for bass and rainbows.
2011-07-20
Fair

Calder Reservoir Anglers report fair to good fishing. This reservoir is managed for larger fish, so there are fewer of them and the catch rates will be slower. If you want faster fishing, try a water with more abundant, smaller fish. A recent survey caught many healthy fish in several age classes. A couple of fish weighed more than four pounds. Anglers have reported even larger fish. Bait is not allowed at Calder. You may keep one trout over 22 inches; all others must be released immediately. During this warm weather, please catch and release fish quickly and efficiently — they are under a lot of stress. For proper catch-and-release technique, please see the Flaming Gorge kokanee report.
2011-07-20
Good

Cottonwood Reservoir There haven't been any recent reports, although there are signs of anglers fishing. This is usually a good time to fish for black bullhead, which grows large enough at Cottonwood to provide a good fillet. You should find fair fishing for all species.
2011-07-20
Fair

Crouse Reservoir There haven't been any recent angler reports, although there are fresh signs of people using the reservoir. Biologists surveyed the reservoir and caught a few large fish that survived the winter. Crouse has been recently stocked with catchable-sized fish. The area did receive a good snowfall, and for the first time in many years, the reservoir is full and actually flowing over the spillway.
2011-07-20
Fair

Currant Creek Reservoir There have been several new reports of fair to good (but spotty) fishing for tiger, rainbow and cutthroat trout. Try using brightly colored spoons and fish imitations. Popular flies include black and brown leeches and woolly buggers with a splash of yellow, orange or red. Worms and marshmallows — and some of the commercial baits — are also working well. Access is open to the campground from the south. Roughly half of the road from the south was black-topped last year and provides easy access to the dam. Whether you can access the area beyond the gate depends on the most recent storms. Watch the weather carefully — the mountains can receive sudden storms and high winds.
2011-07-20
Good

East Park Reservoir The roads are open to East Park and to the Red Cloud and White Cloud loops. Fishing has been fair to good.
2011-07-20
Fair

[Flaming Gorge](#)

2011-07-20

Hot

You'll find fair to excellent fishing for most species. Water temperatures are in the mid 60s to 70s, and there are some warmer temperatures in the shallower bays. High water levels are making life interesting for boaters. Waves have pulled logs and other floating debris off the banks and into the channels. There are also submerged rocks in unexpected places.

Rainbow trout: You'll find good fishing for rainbows on the shore or in a boat. Try casting jigs in crayfish colors, spoons (such as Kastmasters) or even crankbaits (e.g., Rapala Shad Raps). If you find a school, you can also vertically jig them using jiggging spoons tipped with a little bait (a worm or PowerBait). Shore anglers can also do well this time of year by dunking a worm-and-marshmallow combination around the launch areas.

Lake trout: Anglers report good to excellent lake trout fishing. It seems to be more consistent than in recent weeks. Finding schools of lake trout may take a little searching right now, because they can be anywhere and the lake is full. When you locate a school, try tube jigs, jiggging spoons and minnow jigs tipped with bait. An active school can quickly produce a lot of fish. Trolling covers more water and is another effective technique when schools are difficult to find. We've had reports of anglers doing well for medium to large lakere by trolling a deep-diving lure to 20–30 feet (at speeds of 2–4 miles per hour). Try fishing in the bays, along the cliff walls and over humps and other structures that are 30–60 feet down. Another effective technique is to slow troll or jig at depths of 50–70 feet. Anglers can continue to help the Flaming Gorge fishery by harvesting a limit of small lake trout, which are tasty and abundant in the reservoir.

Kokanee salmon: Kokanee fishing is good to excellent. The fish may be shallow, at around 15 feet, or down in the 40- to 60-foot range. Try using a selection of tackle and techniques, including a variety of flashers and other attractors, until you get the right combination. Use of planer boards and long lines will help spread the lines out away from the boat, which is often more important when the fish are shallow and can hear motors and boat noises. Also try varying the boat speeds. Anglers will likely catch many small kokanee in the 10- to 14-inch range this year. These two-year-old fish are the result of a good year class in 2009 (still good eating). If you're releasing fish, use extreme care — kokanee are highly sensitive to stress and handling. Kokanee descale easily, so a rubber net is essential and minimal handling makes a big difference. Decreasing their time out of the water and quickly removing hooks without damaging the fish's mouth is also very important. Also, turn off your engine — don't make the fish fight both you and the boat. The ideal method is to bring the fish in quickly and remove the hook without exposing the gills to the air. Although both Utah and Wyoming have stocked millions of kokanee over the last few years, the population remains low due to predation by lake trout and burbot. Anglers need to harvest small lake trout and burbot to reduce their impact on kokanee.

Smallmouth bass: Smallmouth bass have moved into the more-accessible shallow waters and can be reached by shore or boat. Fishing has been hot. Try using topwater lures on the surface when the water is calm or use jigs with crayfish colors fished into the rocks.

Burbot: For burbot, try adapting ice-fishing techniques to the shore or a boat. Try fishing for a few hours, starting an hour or so before sunset, and then continue for a couple hours after dark. Set up along the rocky points, underwater

slopes and cliffs near the main channel in shallower waters. The fish move into the shallows around sunset, so try fishing the bottom or just slightly above it in depths from 10–50 feet. Use just about anything that glows (e.g., spoons, tube jigs, curly-tailed jigs or minnow jigs) and tip your lure with some type of bait. A worm-and-marshmallow combination or floating PowerBait, fished 12 to 18 inches above the bottom, may also work and would be good to try if you're fishing from shore. Place your presentation close to the bottom and recharge the glow frequently. It is common to catch a fish immediately after re-glowing and dropping a lure. Strikes will likely be light and easy to miss. You'll help the Flaming Gorge fishery by harvesting as many burbot as possible. There is no limit on burbot.

[Green River below Flaming Gorge dam](#)

2011-07-20
Hot

Fishing has been excellent at all water levels. Some anglers claim it is the best fishing they have seen in the last 10 years. Higher water has made the fish easier to find. The fish are stacking up in the eddies and slower waters. Successful anglers are either going deep or staying right on the surface with a large attractor. Cicadas have been popular. As the hatches decline, try a grasshopper. Another option is to use a two-fly combination. (This is usually used during the winter months.) Try a fly presentation where a scud or shrimp is fished as a trailer below a streamer or another larger presentation (like a grasshopper). Often, the fish are attracted to the larger presentation and then hit the smaller scud. The flows have been variable and could be either high or low, depending on the flood potential in combination with the Yampa. There will be corresponding adjustments in the Green's flows. On windy days, anglers who use lures have been more successful because lures are easier to cast. Try Rapalas (floating, countdown and husky jerk); spinners; spoons; black, brown or olive marabou jigs; and plastic jigs. Use deep-diving lures in pools and shallow runners in riffles.

[Long Park Reservoir](#)

2011-07-20
Fair

The reservoir is full, and you'll find fair to good fishing for rainbows. The roads are open but please be careful, especially near stream crossings. High water and mudslides have damaged other roads in the area.

[Matt Warner](#)

2011-07-20
Good

There have been reports of good fishing for two or three age classes of rainbows. Night temperatures have been cool. Access is good, and the reservoir water level is high. All three Diamond Mountain reservoirs flowed over their spillways this year.

[Moose Pond](#)

2011-07-20
Good

Anglers report good fishing for stocked rainbows.

[Pelican Lake](#)

2011-07-20
Hot

Anglers are doing well from boats and along the banks. A worm fished under a bobber and small lures have both been hot for bluegill. Others are doing well with a sinking fly or a well-placed jig. Anglers are catching both bass and bluegill.

[Red Fleet Reservoir](#)

2011-07-20
Good

Anglers are enjoying the warm weather and good fishing. The bass and bluegill moved into the shallows as the temperatures increased, and the fishing has been good to excellent. The water is still cool enough that the trout are active, and fishing has been fair for rainbows and a few browns. Walleye are elusive, but we have received several new reports of anglers catching them in the shallows or along the rocky points. Try jigs and bottom bouncers in the backs of the bays and crankbaits during the cooler hours. We have also had reports of anglers catching walleye using a slow troll. They stayed close to the bottom in the deep waters and were using fish imitations.

Sheep Creek Lake

2011-07-20
Fair

According to the latest report, the road is open; however, crews were working on the canal and other roads in the area, so road access is not a guarantee. There haven't been any recent reports from anglers, although fishing should be fair to good.

Spirit Lake

2011-07-20
Good

The access roads are open, and anglers report good fishing with brightly colored lures and topwater flies.

Starvation Reservoir

2011-07-20
Good

Anglers report good fishing for everything, including rainbows, walleye, bass and perch. (Basically, it's June fishing, just a month late.) For browns, rainbows and walleye, try casting or trolling close to the shoreline with an imitation minnow or a brightly colored lure. The early morning and evening hours are your best bet. Fish into shorelines along the rock walls and rocky points for bass and walleye. The perch are more likely to be in the shallower bays and in the vegetation.

Steinaker Reservoir

2011-07-20
Good

Anglers are catching bass and bluegill, which are now in the shallows. The reservoir is full, so try fishing in the holes in the flooded vegetation. For trout, try casting or trolling close to the shoreline with an imitation minnow or a brightly colored lure. Browns and other trout will often cruise along the shoreline and the edges of the vegetation looking for minnows or other food.