

DORSEY RESERVOIR

ANGLER AND FISH SURVEY INFORMATION
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General information: Dorsey Reservoir was created in 1952, with a dam reconstruction in 1999. It is used primarily as an irrigation reservoir, and typically experiences large seasonal drawdowns. The reservoir lies entirely on private property, but public access is allowed. Tiger Trout are stocked annually, and a small population of self-reproducing Rainbow Trout are occasionally caught. Fish sizes typically range from 9-to-12 inches when stocked and can grow up to 16 inches. Angler catch rates typically average one to two fish an hour, with limits of five fish not being uncommon. The best fishing is in May and June, before water levels begin to drop and trout carryover is dependent on water year. The reservoir is accessible most of the year, although road conditions can get precarious when wet.

Location: Elko County, 16 miles north of Elko, via Hwy 225. From Interstate 80 exit 301, it is 20 miles to the right-hand turn onto the dirt road, which heads east for another 3 miles before reaching the reservoir. Use our FishNV tool at <https://fish.wildlifenv.com/>.

Size: 20 surface acres with a maximum depth of 24 feet.

Management: Dorsey Reservoir is managed as a Put-and-Take Coldwater Fishery, which is directed towards providing fishing opportunity for hatchery stocked trout with limited carryover.

Fishing/Boating Regulations*

- Open year round, any time of day or night.
- Limit is 5 trout daily, 10 in possession.
- No special boating regulations

Previous stocking

Tiger Trout	2024	2023	2022
Number stocked	1,029	1,008	2,019
Average Size	9.5 in.	9.1 in.	9.2 in.

Amenities and General Info

- Please respect private property.
- No launching facilities.
- Float tube, canoe, or kayak.

Fishing notes

- Common baits include nightcrawlers, salmon eggs, and power bait.
- Small spinners, spoons and flies, both wet and dry, are common.
- Utilizing a kayak or float tube will increase your success rate and provide for a relaxing float.

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2025 FISHING FORECAST

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Water level

Snowpack conditions in February 2025 were at 93% of average snow water equivalent for the Dorsey Basin. As is normal, water levels will continue to drop throughout the summer, and water conditions could be low by July/August. Spring and summer weather conditions will strongly impact late summer water levels.

Fishing Forecast

Expect good fishing for 8-to-10-inch Tiger Trout shortly after stocking, with some carryover fish reaching up to 15 inches. Fishing is best the month or two following stocking (through June), but summer fishing will slow as water temperatures increase.

