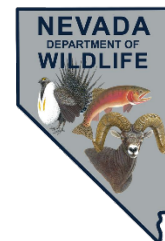


ECHO CANYON RESERVOIR



ANGLER AND FISH SURVEY INFORMATION

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General information: The sport fishery comprises stocked Rainbow Trout, Black Crappie, Largemouth Bass. Anglers catch Black Crappie averaging about 9 inches and Largemouth Bass about 10 inches. Unstable water levels and a short growing season led to fish being small, but large fish occasionally are caught. Anglers generally use Power Bait for trout, although lures and flies work equally well. Crappies take small worms, flies, and jigs. Largemouth can be caught with spinner baits, crank baits, and soft plastics.

Location: Lincoln County, Echo Canyon State Park, 20 miles east of Pioche. Use our FishNV tool (<https://fish.wildlifenv.com/>) to find waters near you, and buy your fishing license at ndowlicensing.com.

Size: The reservoir covers 70 surface acres to a maximum depth of 27 feet.

Management: Nevada Department of Wildlife manages the fishery as a put-and-take Cold Water Fishery as well as a general warm water fishery. Nevada Division of State Parks manages the campgrounds and amenities. Bureau of Land Management manages the surrounding land.

Amenities and General Info

- 2 state park campgrounds
- Restrooms
- Boat ramp
- Fish cleaning station
- Trailers and RV's hook ups
- Float tube and pontoon boats recommended

Fishing/Boating Regulations

- Season is year around any hour day or night
- Limit is 5 trout and 15 warmwater game fish of which not more than 10 may be Black Bass.
- Vessels must be operated at speeds that leave a flat wake

Previous stocking

2024

Rainbow 11,019 9.0 in

2023

Rainbow 15,274 9.1 in

2022

Rainbow 16,980 8.8 in

Fishing notes

- Best fishing typically occurs March-June, October, November.
- Striping wholly buggers, leach patterns, and bead head nymph patterns is usually successful.
- Power bait and night crawlers.
- Crank baits, soft plastics for bass and small jigs for crappie.
- Spoons, Rapalas, and spinners is a productive way to from a small boat. These lures can also be casted from shore with success while the water level is up.

ECHO CANYON RESERVOIR

FISHERY SURVEY DATA – 2018-2024
Mark Beckstrand – Fisheries Biologist
Pioche Field Office



Average size of fish in Echo Canyon Reservoir (inches)			
Year	Trout	Largemouth Bass	Black Crappie
2018	12.6	10.0	8.7
2019	11.6	9.7	9.2
2020	11.8		10.2
2021	12.3		9.7
2022	12.4	9.6	10.0
2024	12.1	9.5	8.7

ANGLER CATCH RATES Echo Canyon Reservoir		
Year	fish/hour	fish/angler
2024	1.1	3.1
2022	0.7	2.0
2018	0.8	2.8
Average	0.9	2.6

ECHO CANYON RESERVOIR



2025 Fishing Forecast Mark Beckstrand – Fisheries Biologist Pioche Field Office

Water level - The water level will be low in the spring due to construction on the outflow structure, and it will begin dropping even more in early summer and into fall because of ongoing drought. Fishing for trout will be slow most of the year, slowing more in the summer. Warmwater species generally spawn successfully every year; therefore, fishing should be fair, especially for pan-sized crappie in May. Anglers can also expect to catch 8-to-10-inch Largemouth Bass.

Rainbow Trout

In 2024 a total of 11,019 Rainbow Trout were stocked in Echo Canyon Reservoir that averaged 9.0 inches. Rainbow Trout are the most abundant trout species in the reservoir. The most common size classes of rainbow caught by anglers in 2024 were from 10-12 inches total length. Rainbow Trout catch rates are expected to be over 1.0 fish per hour in 2025 and the average length of a rainbow is expected to be 11-12 inches.

Black Crappie

Black Crappie in Echo Canyon Reservoir have a self-sustaining population. Black Crappie is the least sought after species in the reservoir and represented 20% of the angler catch in 2024. The most common size class of Black Crappie caught by anglers in 2024 was from 9"-11.9". Overall, the Black Crappie population numbers are stable with multiple size classes, but not as many larger size class fish. Black Crappie sampled in Echo Canyon Reservoir had a mean relative weight of 87.9. The relative weight indicates better health than the past, but fish are still underweight. Black Crappie catch rates in 2025 are expected to be below 1.0 fish per hour with the average fish measuring 9"-11.9" in length.

Largemouth Bass

Largemouth Bass in Echo Canyon Reservoir are plentiful but are mostly stunted. The most common size class are fish in the 8–10-inch range. Largemouth Bass catch rates are expected to be above the 1.0 fish per hour rate but not many will be above the 12 in range. Anglers are encouraged to harvest the 10 fish per angler limit no matter the size to help facilitate larger fish.