# **JIGGS RESERVOIR**



# ANGLER AND FISH SURVEY INFORMATION Jeff Petersen - Fisheries Biologist, Elko Field Office 60 Youth Center Road. Elko, NV 89801 (775)-777-2331

**General information:** Jiggs Reservoir, also known as Zunino Reservoir, is an irrigation impoundment built in 1912. The reservoir was improved in 2015 by deepening to allow a stable low pool area and sealing this area to reduce leaking. The dam is located on private land, most of the shoreline is BLM, and the public can access the entire reservoir. Inflow water to the reservoir is provided by two inlet ditches that are directly associated with upstream irrigation needs and demands. Rainbow Trout and Bluegill Sunfish occur in the reservoir, and Largemouth Bass are scheduled to be stocked in 2024. Rainbow Trout are stocked yearly, and anglers typically report trout up to 16 inches. In 2023, 1,700 Bluegill Sunfish were stocked, with most fish being under four inches in length, and in 2024 there were 500 5-inch Largemouth Bass stocked. Water levels typically drop throughout the summer and some aquatic weed growth can occur, including algae. Under normal winter conditions, the reservoir is frozen from late December to early March, with conditions that allow for fair to good ice fishing for trout and the occasional Bluegill Sunfish.

**Location:** Elko County, 26 miles south of Elko, via state route 228. From Elko, use 12<sup>th</sup> Street to access Lamoille Highway (SR 227) and drive 5.5 miles before turning right at the Jiggs Highway (SR 228) and continue for another 24 miles to the reservoir. Use our FishNV tool at https://fish.wildlifenv.com/.

**Size:** 45 surface acres with a maximum depth of 15 feet.

**Management:** Jiggs Reservoir is managed primarily as a General Coldwater Fishery and secondarily as a General Warmwater Fishery.

#### Fishing/Boating Regulations\*

- Open year round, any time of day or night.
- Daily limit is 5 trout, 15
   warmwater gamefish with no
   more than 10 Largemouth
   Bass, possession limit is
   twice the daily limit.
- Vessels must operate at less than 5 mph and wakeless.

#### **Amenities and General Info**

- Nine developed camp sites and open camping.
- Tables and grills.
- \$5 BLM day use fee.
- Three vault toilets.
- No drinking water.
- Cement boat ramp when water levels are high enough.

## **Previous stocking**

Species	2024	2023	2022
Rainbow Trout	1,325	3,042	Dry
Largemouth Bass	500		
Bluegill Sunfish		1,756	

#### Fishing notes

- Common baits include nightcrawlers, salmon eggs, and power bait.
- Small spinners, spoons, plastics, 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

This small irrigation reservoir does experience complete drying events during drought years, but it can also maintain a productive fishery during consecutive good water years. Snowpack conditions in February 2025 were at 100% of average snow water equivalent for that portion of the Upper Humboldt River Basin. As is normal, water levels will continue to drop throughout the summer, but water conditions should remain good throughout the year and have few impacts on angling.

### Fishing Forecast

Expect good fishing for 10-to-16-inch Rainbow Trout and fair fishing for Bluegill Sunfish up to 6-inches. Largemouth Bass should be in the 7–8-inch range and angling may be slow due to their size. Utilizing float tubes or kayaks to fish the reservoir will increase success for all species. As is typical, the reservoir level will drop throughout the summer and some aquatic weeds may occur by the end of summer. Fishing, however, should continue to be good after multiple years of good snowpack.

