

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## 20,000 Fish Into the Butte

**Elephant Butte, NM** – Elephant Butte Lake State Park (EBLSP) will be home to 20,000 largemouth bass beginning Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m., thanks to a community donation effort that raised \$21,000 in two months to restock the lake.

“We are so excited to be a part of this community effort,” said EBLSP Superintendent Kay Dunlap. “Restocking the lake will make fishing here more fun for everyone this Memorial Day weekend and all summer long.”

Volunteers with boats and big coolers are needed to help distribute the fish to certain points around the lake and are asked to meet at the Marina del Sur courtesy docks.

The 4-inch fish, sometimes called black bass, are coming from the Dunn Fish Farm, located in Ada, Oklahoma, and have been approved by New Mexico’s Game and Fish Department.

The Elephant Butte Lake Fish Fund originated with an anonymous donation of \$10,000 and Ron Gilworth from Socorro has led the community effort to raise the rest. “Our plan is to continue with the Elephant Butte Lake Fish Fund to raise enough money for a second stocking,” he said.

New Mexico has 35 diverse state parks to explore, including many lakes, rivers, and streams—you’ll find great fishing opportunities at YOUR New Mexico State Parks. State Park officials remind anglers to boat safe and smart on the water, and always wear your lifejacket! The life you save may be your own!

For more information, call 888-NMPARKS or visit [nmparks.com](http://nmparks.com).

*Adventure is closer than you think at New Mexico State Parks!*

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*The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies*

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