

2015-2016 Fishing Proclamation

Southern Ute Indian Reservation



Includes information on:

- What's New for 2015-16
- Fishing permit prices and vendors
- Stream access policy
- Tribal fishing regulations
- Game fish identification and bag limits
- Maps of Tribal waters open to fishing

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Division of Wildlife Resource Management
P.O. Box 737
116 Memorial Drive, Annex Building
Ignacio, Colorado 81137
Phone: (970) 563-0130

www.southernute-nsn.gov/WRMweb/

Southern Ute Law Enforcement: (970) 563-4401



SOUTHERN UTE FISHING PERMIT VENDORS

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City, State, Zip</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Hours of Operation</u>
Southern Ute Indian Tribe Division of Wildlife Resource Management	116 Memorial Drive, Annex Building P.O. Box 737	Ignacio, CO 81137	(970) 563-0130	M-F: 8 am – 12 noon 1 – 5 pm
Sky Ute Casino – Gift Shop	14324 Highway 172	Ignacio, CO 81137	(970) 563-6269	7 days: 7 am – 11 pm
Thriftway	15051 Highway 172	Ignacio, CO 81137	(970) 563-9456	7 days: 6 am – 10 pm
Duranglers	923 Main Avenue	Durango, CO 81301	(970) 385-4081	M-Sat: 8 am – 7 pm Sun: 9 am – 5 pm
Float'N Fish	#4 County Rd 4251	Navajo Dam, NM 87419	(505) 632-5385	7 days: 7 am – 5 pm
Lake Capote	389 Highway 151	Pagosa Springs, CO 81147	(970) 883-2273	7 days: 8 am – 6 pm (mid-May – mid-Sept) <i>Call for other times</i>

Table of Contents

Stream Fishing Permit Vendors.....	Inside Front Cover
What’s New for 2015-2016.....	Page 2
Season Dates.....	3
Stream Fishing Permits	3
Southern Ute Tribal Members	
Southern Ute Member – Senior Fishing Permit	
Non-Tribal Members	
Stream Access	4
Fishing Regulations	5
Bag and Possession Limits.....	5
Protected Species.....	7
Permitted Angling Methods	7
Legal Hours of Take	7
Salmon Snagging	7
General Restrictions	8
Animas River Special Waters	9
Designated Tribal Waters	9
Lake Capote Recreation Area.....	10
Catch and Release.....	11
Aquatic Nuisance Species.....	11
Authority	12
Southern Ute Fishing Violations	12
Designated Tribal Waters / Access Point Maps.....	13
Southern Ute Indian Reservation	
Animas River	
Los Piños River	
Piedra River	
San Juan River	



WHAT'S NEW FOR 2015-2016

Animas Special Waters

Non-Tribal Members - All Trout must be returned within the "Animas Special Waters" between the *northern Reservation boundary* and *Weasleskin Bridge*. Use of artificial flies and lures only, with barbless hooks.



SEASON DATES

Southern Ute Tribal streams are open to fishing year-round. Season fishing permits are valid from **January 1st through December 31st**, each year.

STREAM FISHING PERMITS

Southern Ute Tribal Members

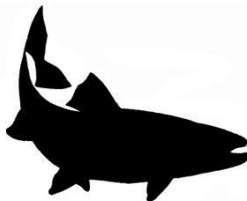
Enrolled Southern Ute Tribal members, both juveniles and adults, must have in their possession a Southern Ute Fishing Permit when fishing on the Southern Ute Reservation. No State fishing permit is required, and a Tribal permit allows a Tribal member to take game fish from *all* waters within the exterior Reservation boundary. See *Stream Access* for specific restrictions regarding access on Tribal assignments, allotments and private property. A Tribal member stream fishing permit is issued free of charge and is valid for the calendar year in which it is issued. A Tribal member must show proof of enrollment by presenting his or her Tribal census card.

Southern Ute Member – Senior Fishing Permit

Southern Ute Tribal members age 55 or over may receive a lifetime stream fishing permit through the Wildlife Division. A Tribal member Senior Fishing Permit is issued free of charge and is a lifetime permit. A Tribal member must show proof of enrollment and age by presenting his or her Tribal census card.

Non-Tribal Members

All non-Tribal members must obtain a Tribal stream fishing permit to fish on designated Tribal waters. A Colorado State fishing license is *not* required to fish on Tribal waters but *is* required to fish on private property and public waters (i.e., Navajo and Pastorius Reservoir) within the Reservation boundaries. Please see *Stream Access* for the list of designated waters and specific restrictions regarding access on Tribal assignments, allotments and private property.



Non-Tribal member Permits and Fees are as follows:

Age	2-Day	5-Day	Season
Juvenile (12 years and under)	\$10.00	\$15.00	\$30.00
Adult (13 years and over)	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$50.00
2-day Access Permit (13 years and over) Required for any non-fishing adult wishing to accompany a non-member fisherman on designated Tribal waters.	\$5.00	n/a	n/a
Permit Replacement All non-Tribal fishermen needing to replace lost or damaged fishing permits can purchase duplicates at the Southern Ute Division of Wildlife Office.	\$5.00		

STREAM ACCESS



For purposes of stream access for fishing, lands within the Southern Ute Indian Reservation are divided into two categories: (1) Tribal trust lands, and (2) allotted and private lands. The Tribe has adopted a policy that allows for open fishing access on Tribal trust lands. Provisions for fishing on these lands are similar for Southern Ute Tribal members and permitted non-members, but not identical. These provisions are further explained below.

Allotted and private lands are private property, and permission to fish at these locations must always first be obtained from the landowner. It is the fisherman’s responsibility to know where allotted and private lands occur (see maps provided).

Access For Permitted Non-Tribal Members:

Fishing by permitted non-Tribal members is allowed on the Animas, Los Piños, Piedra and San Juan Rivers through designated access points (see *Designated Waters* and maps). Fishermen must use the access points identified on the maps to enter and exit stream corridors, which are located only on Tribal trust lands. Fishermen may move up or down the stream corridors without securing additional permission, but may not continue on to allotted or private lands unless authorized by the landowner. The stream corridor is bound by a 5-foot distance from the edge of the water on both sides of the stream, provided, however, fishermen may depart from this corridor only to the extent necessary

to avoid a barrier located within the corridor. *Use of designated access points and stream corridors is allowed for fishing only.*

Access For Southern Ute Tribal Members:

Fishing by Southern Ute Tribal members is allowed along all waters on all Tribal trust lands on the Reservation. For fishing on unassigned Tribal lands, Tribal member fishermen are not restricted to access points and stream corridors. *However, to fish on assigned Tribal lands, Tribal members must use the designated access points and stream corridors as described above for non-Tribal members.* Tribal member fishermen are responsible for knowing where Tribal land assignments occur, and fishing is the only activity allowed while accessing Tribal land assignments.

All fishermen are asked to respect Tribal land! Do not litter, cut fences, leave gates open, drive or park in undeveloped areas, or engage in any un-authorized, non-fishing activities. Always remain within the specified stream corridor unless there is an emergency, never trespass on private property and contact the appropriate authorities if you see violations being committed. Activities by non-Tribal members other than fishing are strictly prohibited and violators will be prosecuted.

Fishing on Tribal land is a special privilege granted by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Following the rules and showing respect for the land will ensure that this privilege continues.

FISHING REGULATIONS

All regulations in this section, unless otherwise specified, apply to *all* fishermen on the Southern Ute Reservation. Also, regulations generally apply to all waters of the reservation, but some exceptions apply specifically for Lake Capote. These regulations are strictly enforced and violators will be subject to fines, seizure of equipment, and/or loss of fishing privileges, per Southern Ute Tribal law. Individuals witnessing a violation are strongly encouraged to report the violation to the Southern Ute Division of Wildlife at (970) 563-0130 or Southern Ute law enforcement dispatch at (970) 563-4401.

Bag and Possession Limits

The daily bag limit is the maximum number of game fish you can take in one day. The possession limit is the maximum number of game fish you can have in possession at any one time, including in your creel, ice chest, vehicle or home. Game fish caught and not immediately returned to the water are counted in the daily bag and possession limit.

The following tables specify daily bag and possession limits for game fish found on the Southern Ute Reservation. See the *Animas River Special Waters* section for special bag and possession limits on a portion of the Animas River.

Game Fish	Daily Bag and Possession Limits for <u>Streams and Tributaries</u>	
	Juvenile (Under 13 yrs.)	Adult (13 yrs. and older)
Trout: rainbow, brown, cutthroat ¹	Tribal Members – 2 Non-Members – 2	Tribal Members – 4 Non-Members – 2
Kokanee salmon	5	10
All warm-water species ²	Unlimited	

¹ Limits on trout may consist of one species or a mix of more than one species.

² The following fish species are **unlimited** for bag and possession within streams and tributaries: channel catfish, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike, walleye, green sunfish, bluegill, bullhead, common carp, yellow perch, crappie and white sucker. If you are uncertain about a species of fish you have caught, it should be released unharmed where it was caught.

Game Fish	Daily Bag and Possession Limits for <u>Navajo and Pastorius Reservoirs</u> <i>(Tribal Member Anglers Only)</i> <i>(Non-members must follow State Limits)</i>	
	Juvenile (Under 13 yrs.)	Adult (13 yrs. and older)
Trout: rainbow, brown, cutthroat ¹	2	4
Smallmouth bass	5	5
Kokanee salmon	5	10
Channel catfish	5	10
Largemouth bass	5	10
Bluegill	5	10
White crappie	10	20
Northern pike, Black bullhead, Yellow perch, Green sunfish	Unlimited	

Protected Species



Roundtail Chub
Gila robusta



Flannelmouth Sucker
Catostomus latipinnis



Bluehead Sucker
Catostomus discobolus

Roundtail chub, flannelmouth sucker and bluehead sucker are rare native fish of the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, and are protected from take. If caught while fishing, these species must be immediately returned to the water unharmed. It is unlawful to have these species in your possession.

Permitted Angling Methods

Game fish may be taken by hook and line only. For bait fishing, one line may be used with up to two single baited hooks attached. For lure fishing, one line may be used with one artificial lure attached. Artificial lures may have up to two hooks (single, double or treble) attached. For fly fishing, one line may be used with up to two flies attached.

Legal Hours of Take

With the exception of Lake Capote, fishing may occur 24 hours a day. Fishing hours for Lake Capote will be posted on site.

Salmon Snagging

Snagging, or using hooked devices to snag fish in parts of their bodies other than the mouth, is only allowed for Kokanee salmon on the Los Piños, Piedra and San Juan Rivers during the months of October, November and December. Standard salmon bag limits and gear restrictions for lure fishing apply to snagging. Southern Ute Tribal Members are further allowed to snag salmon in tributaries of the Los Piños River during the same period.

General Restrictions

Fishing Duration. All fishermen must discontinue fishing when the legal bag or possession limit is met.

Fishing Pole Attendance. Fishermen must attend their fishing pole (be within 50 feet) at all times.

Bait. Use of any live, dead or parts of fish or amphibians as bait is prohibited in all Reservation waters. Non-fish and non-amphibian baits such as worms, insects, crayfish, vegetable matter, artificial salmon eggs and Power Bait are permitted except where special regulations are in place.

Minnows. Unless authorized by the Southern Ute Division of Wildlife, it is unlawful to take, possess, transport or sell minnows on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation.

Chumming. Chumming, or placing in the water any type of fish attractant for the purpose of catching fish, is prohibited in all Tribal waters. Chumming does not include the use of bait, lures and flies as specified in the *Permitted Angling Methods* section.

Planting Fish. Unless authorized by the Southern Ute Division of Wildlife, it is unlawful to release or move into Tribal waters any fish from aquariums, fish ponds, bait buckets or any other external fish source.

Illegal Fishing Gear / Methods. Use of the following gear or methods to catch fish is prohibited on all Tribal waters: all net types (except for hand-held nets used to land hooked fish), trotlines, traps, explosives, poisons, guns or any other gear or method not specified in the *Permitted Angling Methods* section.

Private Property. It is unlawful to fish on private property without first obtaining permission from the property owner. Private property includes Tribal allotments, but not Tribal land assignments. Not all private property is posted, and it is the fisherman's responsibility to know when and where access permission is needed.

Boating. Recreational boaters (private and commercial) are allowed to float through Tribal portions of navigable rivers that traverse the Southern Ute Reservation, including the Animas River and San Juan River above Navajo Reservoir. *However, unless specifically authorized by the Tribe, launching, loading and taking out boats is not allowed on any Tribal lands.* The *only exception* to this rule is that fishermen who have a valid Tribal fishing permit and who are engaged in fishing may put-in or take-out small, portable craft on Tribal lands. Portable craft are those that can be carried by hand to and from the river, but do not include boats that must be trailered into or out of the river.

Guiding and Outfitting. Guiding and outfitting by non-Tribal members is not permitted on any Tribal waters. Only specially permitted Tribal member guides and outfitters may offer this service. For more information on available guides and outfitters, or permitting for Tribal members, contact the Southern Ute Division of Wildlife.

Restrictions While On Tribal Lands.

All Fishermen:

- No removing or disturbing artifacts
- No alcohol or illegal drug use
- No off-road vehicle use
- No firearms
- No littering

Additional Restrictions for

Non-Tribal Members:

- No camping
- No dogs

Animas River Special Waters (Catch and Release Only)

The Animas River between the *northern Reservation boundary* and *Weasleskin Bridge* is managed for trophy trout fishing. This stretch of water has special regulations as follows:

- Artificial flies and lures only with barbless hooks. Absolutely **NO** bait fishing allowed in this section.
- **Non-Tribal Members** - All trout must be returned to the water.
- **Southern Ute Tribal Members Only** - Two (2) trout bag and possession limit, with each fish measuring 16" or greater in total length. All trout under 16" must be immediately returned to the water.

Designated Tribal Waters

The following waters are designated as open to non-Tribal member fishing: the Tribal portions of the Animas, Los Piños, Piedra and San Juan Rivers. Also includes Scott's Pond adjacent Los Piños River. Please refer to the maps provided to help identify Tribal and non-Tribal portions of these rivers.

All waters except those listed above, including the La Plata, Navajo and Florida Rivers, all creeks and all irrigation canals, are closed to non-Tribal member fishing.

Lake Capote Recreation Area
398 Highway 151, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Phone: (970) 883-2273 Fax: (970) 883-2653
Email the Lake Manager at: capote_lake@southernute-nsn.gov

Lake Capote is a Tribally owned fishing lake open to the public from mid-April through the beginning of October (the schedule varies so please call for a current update). The lake is stocked with rainbow & brown trout, largemouth bass, and channel catfish. Lake Capote offers RV sites with electric and water hook-ups and camping sites equipped with fire rings and picnic tables. In addition, Lake Capote also offers food concessions, fishing supplies, boat rentals, a volleyball court, barbeque grills, shade structures, a bathhouse, and picnic tables situated around the lake.

Lake Capote Fishing Permits

Colorado State fishing permits and Southern Ute stream permits are **NOT** valid to fish at Lake Capote. Lake Capote daily fishing permits must be obtained at the bait & concessions store between the hours of 8:00 am – 6:00 pm. Anglers wanting to fish before or after these hours are required to self-permit and deposit fees at the self check-in station located on the front of the Bait Shop. Permits are only valid for the date of purchase.

- **Southern Ute Tribal Members:** Southern Ute Tribal Members between the ages of 14 and 53 must purchase a fishing permit at a discounted rate. Tribal Elders (54+ years) and Tribal youth (13 or younger) fish for free.
- **DERBY Permits:** Lake Capote is stocked with tagged fish redeemable for cash prizes totaling \$2,000 in prize money. Participation in the DERBY requires a separate daily DERBY permit.
- **Southern Ute Stream Permits:** SUIT stream permits are available for purchase at Lake Capote.

Lake Capote Fishing Regulations

- No fishing without a permit.
- Fishing is permitted from sunrise to sunset.
- One pole per angler.
- No live bait (worms & night crawlers allowed).
- Bag Limits per angler:

Trout; rainbow & brown:

Adults: Three (3) trout TOTAL under sixteen inches (16”).

Youth: Two (2) trout TOTAL under sixteen inches (16”).

All trout over sixteen inches are catch and release only.

Largemouth bass – One (1), any size.

Channel catfish – One (1), any size.

Watercraft

Privately owned boats, float-tubes, kayaks, etc. may be launched and may only use electric motors. Watercraft **MUST** be inspected by a Lake employee for Zebra & Quagga mussels before launch into the lake.

CATCH AND RELEASE

Catch and release is an important approach to fishing that many anglers voluntarily practice. Not all fish that you catch need to be kept. In fact, the more fish put back in the river, the more fishing time you'll have and the more fish will be available for others to enjoy. Most of the time if a fish is caught, handled properly, and then released, it will survive to be caught another day.

Here are some important things to remember when practicing catch and release:

- Do not play any hooked fish to total exhaustion.
- Keep the fish in the water as much as possible while handling it.
- Gently remove the hook without squeezing the fish or touching its gills. (Barbless hooks make hook removal much easier.)
- If the hook is deeply swallowed, do not pull it out. Instead, cut the line as short as possible so the hook may dissolve inside the fish.
- Allow an exhausted fish to recover before releasing it. Gently hold the fish in moving water, facing it upstream until it swims away.

AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES

Colorado's aquatic ecosystem and fisheries are threatened by several imported diseases, animals and plants, including Zebra and Quagga mussels, New Zealand mudsnails, whirling disease, viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) and Eurasian watermilfoil. Don't let these ruin your fishing trip. Anglers are asked to follow these guidelines to help control the spread of these pests and prevent new species from entering our Reservation:

1. Remove all plants, animals or mud, and thoroughly wash boats, trailers, waders and equipment that have come in contact with the water before leaving a lake or stream.
2. Drain water from boats, including live wells, bilge, ballast, storage areas or any other place on boats or equipment that might hold water.
3. Allow boats, engines, boots and gear to dry completely before moving to another body of water.
4. If draining and drying are not possible, wash boats, trailers and equipment carefully and completely with high-pressure hot water (140° F).
5. Don't move or transport fish between waters. This can spread diseases and nuisance species.
6. Don't dispose of fish entrails or other byproducts into any body of water.

7. For general disinfection, soak/treat equipment and waders for 15 minutes with a bleach solution (6 oz. household bleach per 5 gal. water), a solution of Sparquat 256 (4 oz. per 1 gal. water) or a solution of potassium chloride (1 tsp per 2 gal. Water).

AUTHORITY

These fishing regulations are approved by the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council under authority as outlined in Title 13, Article 1, Section 13-1-106, Subsections (1) through (3); Article 2, Section 13-2-101 and 13-2-102, of the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Code revised and amended by Tribal Resolutions No's. 1989-34, 2001-69, and 2002-215. Adopted February 3, 2015.

SOUTHERN UTE FISHING VIOLATIONS

The following are Tribal fishing-related violations, and associated civil penalties, that would-be offenders should be aware of. In addition to civil penalties, offenders may be assessed penalty points that may lead to the revocation or suspension of hunting and fishing privileges on the Reservation.

Common Fishing-Related Violations	Civil Penalties
Hunting, Fishing or Trapping Without Required Permit or Tag (13-3-111)	\$150
Using Nets, Trotlines or Traps (13-3-128)	\$250
Taking Undersized Fish (13-3-136)	\$50
Guiding or Outfitting Offenses (13-3-105)	\$2,500
Accessing a Stream for Fishing and Fishing Outside Designated Access and Fishing Easements (13-3-110)	\$150

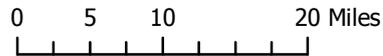
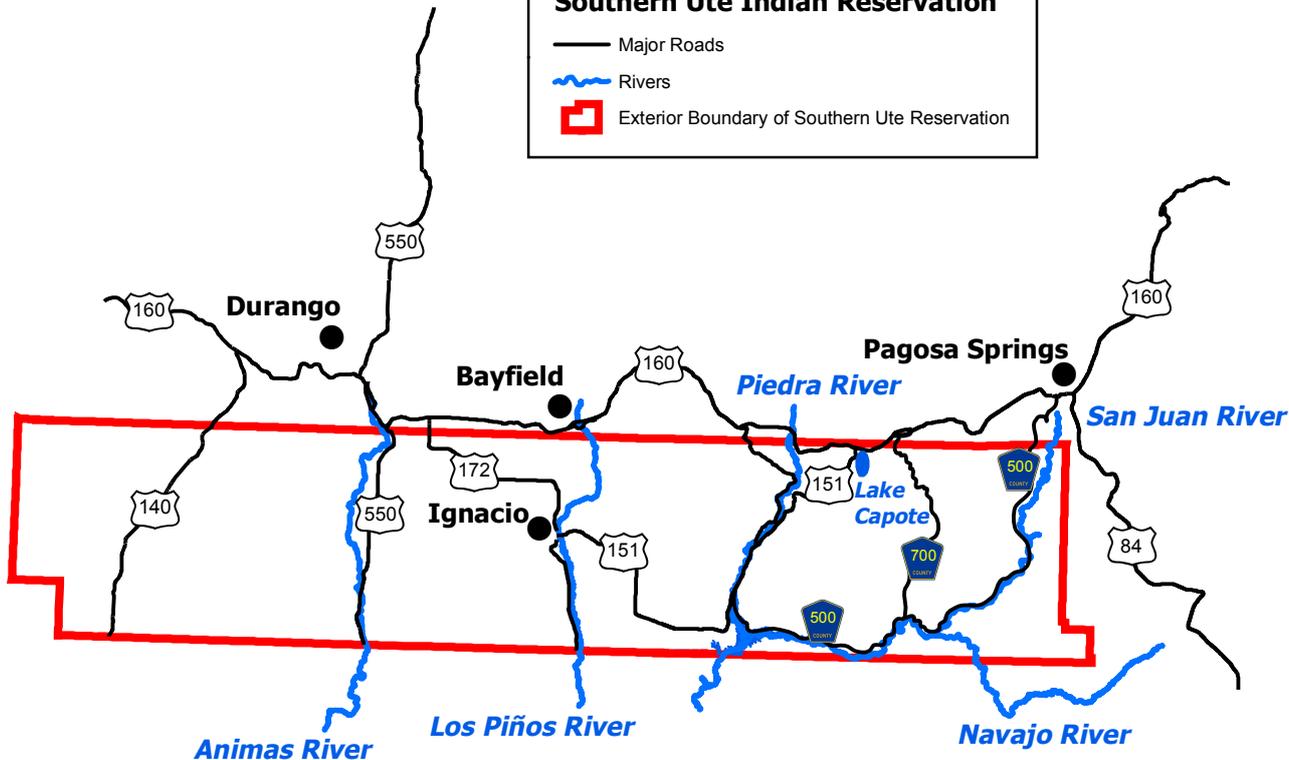
DESIGNATED TRIBAL WATERS / ACCESS POINT MAPS

The maps provided here identify Tribal trust waters that are open to non-Tribal member fishing. Enrolled Southern Ute Tribal members may fish *all* waters within the Reservation boundaries. Also included on these maps are the locations of the designated stream access points.

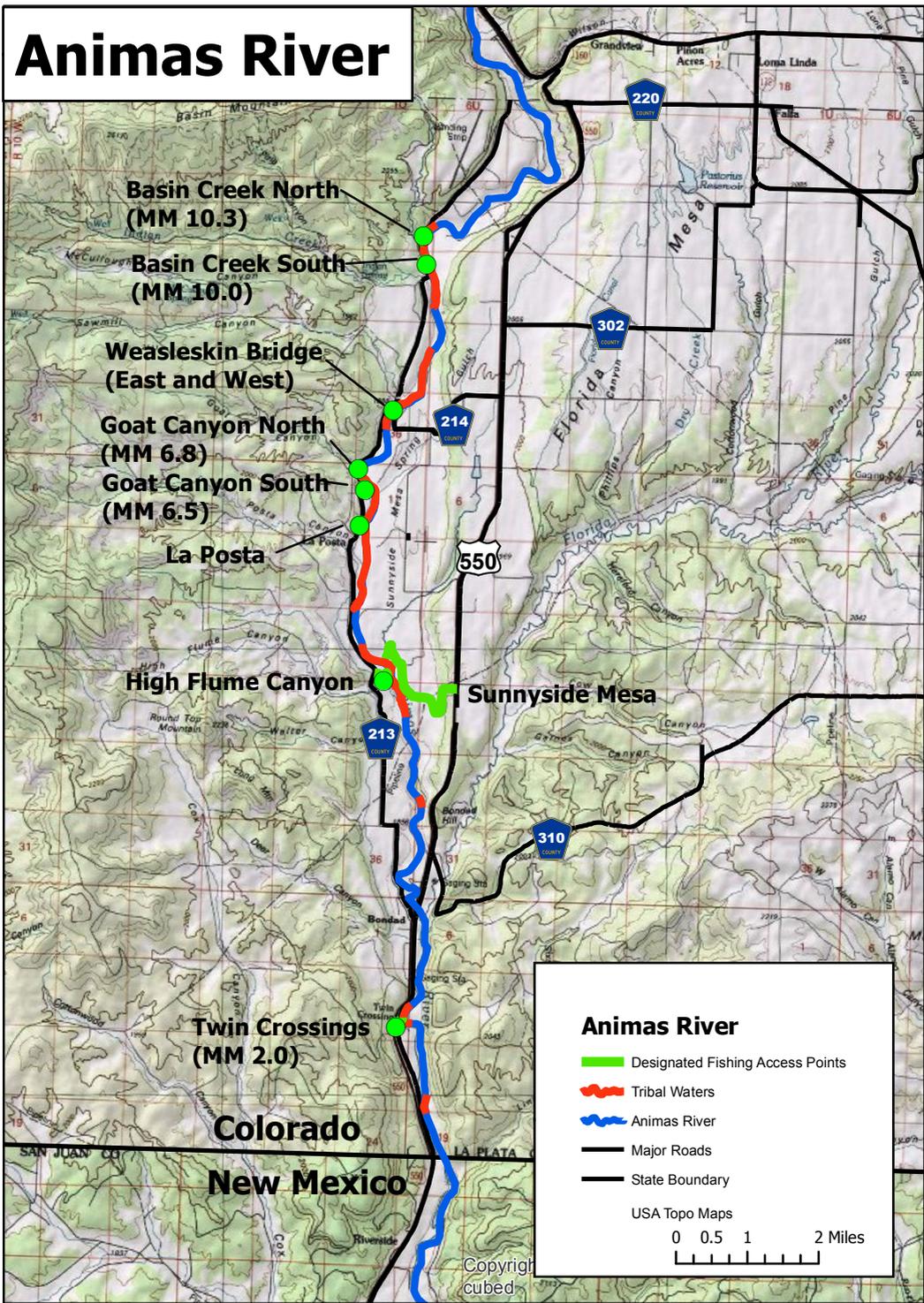
In many places, but not all, boundaries between Tribal trust waters and allotted or private waters are marked in the field. It is the fisherman's responsibility to know where these boundaries are and to obtain access permission when needed.

Southern Ute Indian Reservation

- Major Roads
- ~ Rivers
- ▭ Exterior Boundary of Southern Ute Reservation



Animas River



- Basin Creek North (MM 10.3)**
- Basin Creek South (MM 10.0)**
- Weasleskin Bridge (East and West)**
- Goat Canyon North (MM 6.8)**
- Goat Canyon South (MM 6.5)**
- La Posta**

High Flume Canyon **Sunnyside Mesa**

Twin Crossings (MM 2.0)

Colorado
New Mexico

Animas River

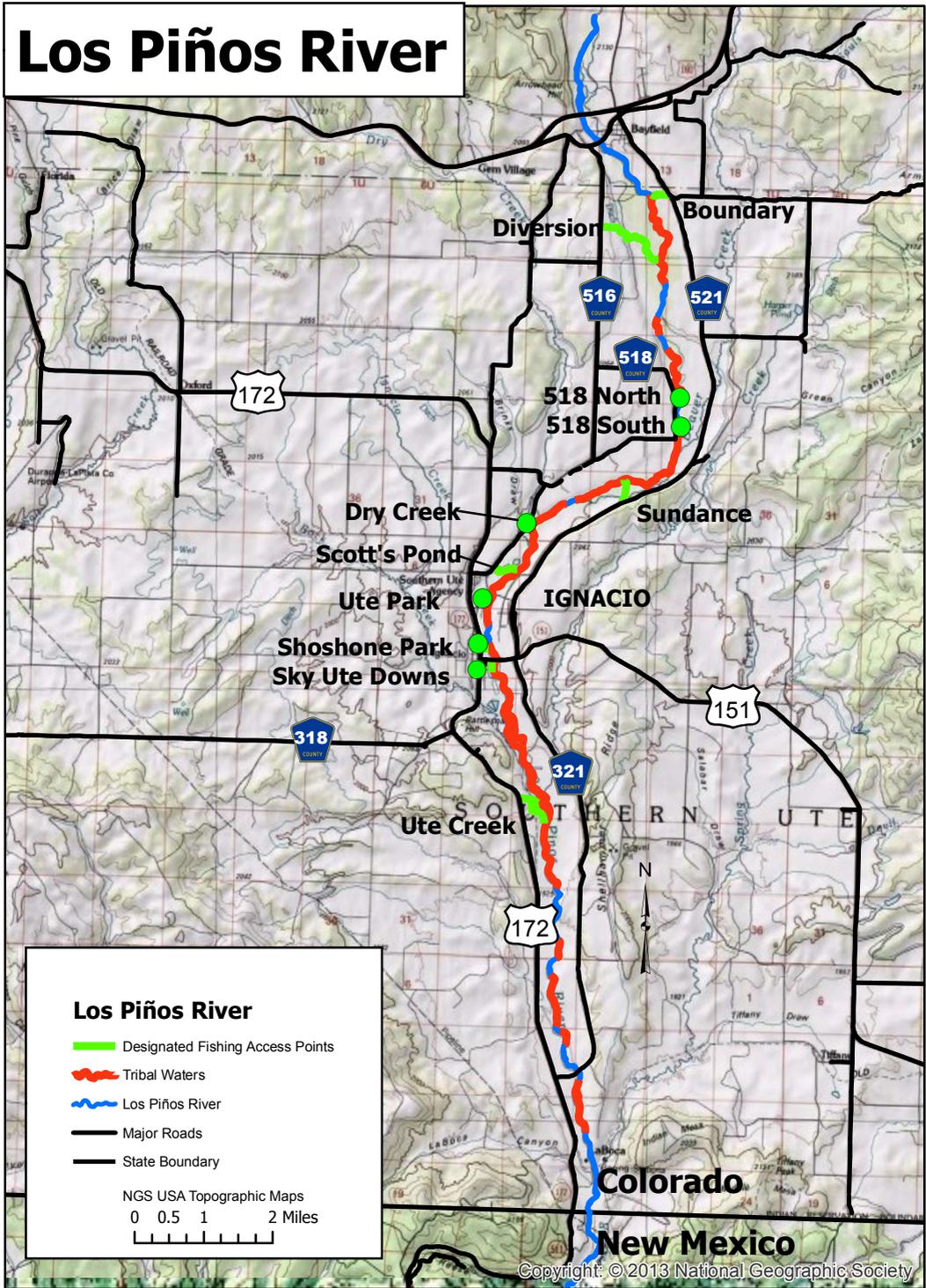
- █ Designated Fishing Access Points
- █ Tribal Waters
- █ Animas River
- Major Roads
- State Boundary

USA Topo Maps

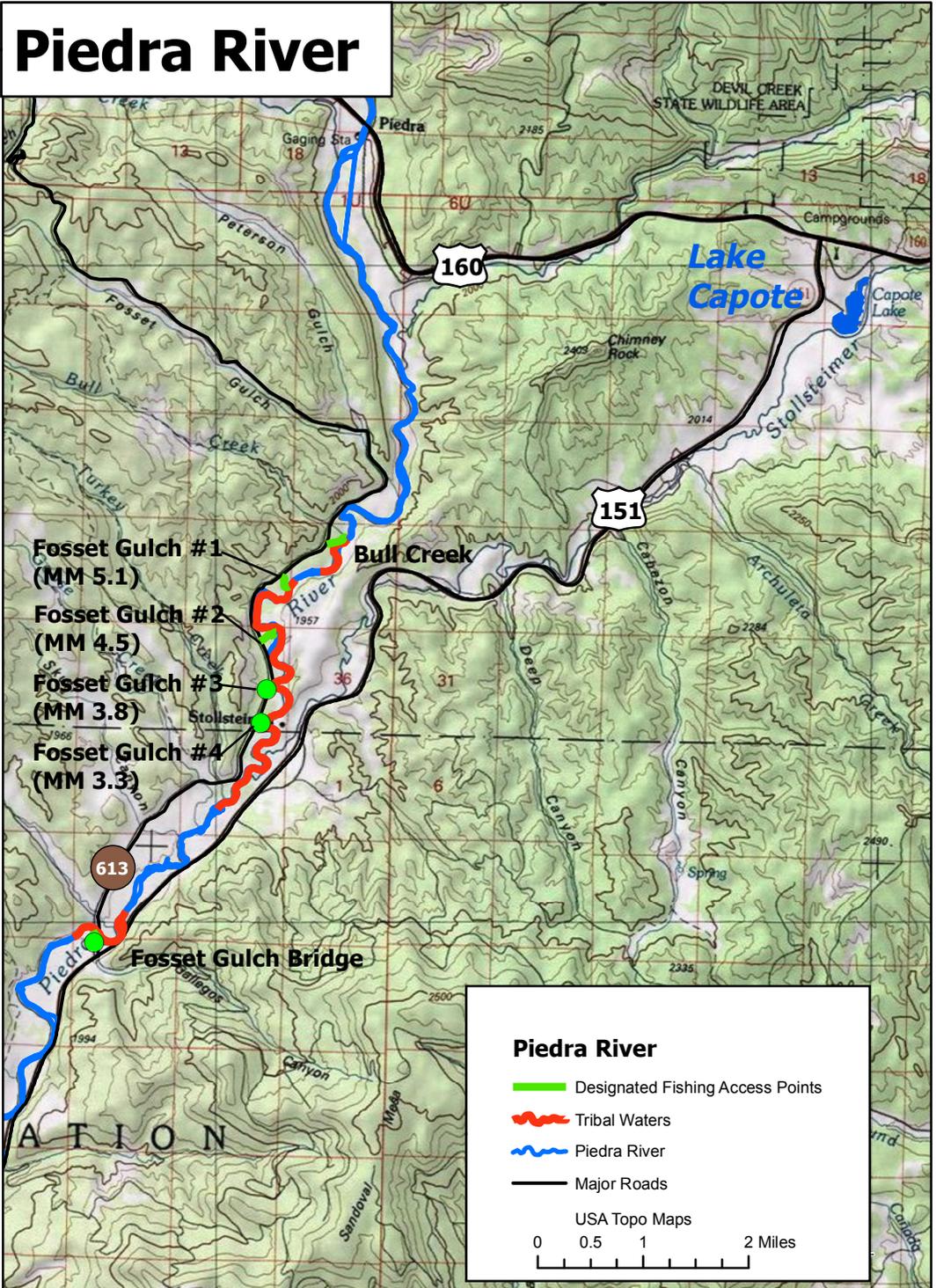
0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Copyright
cubed

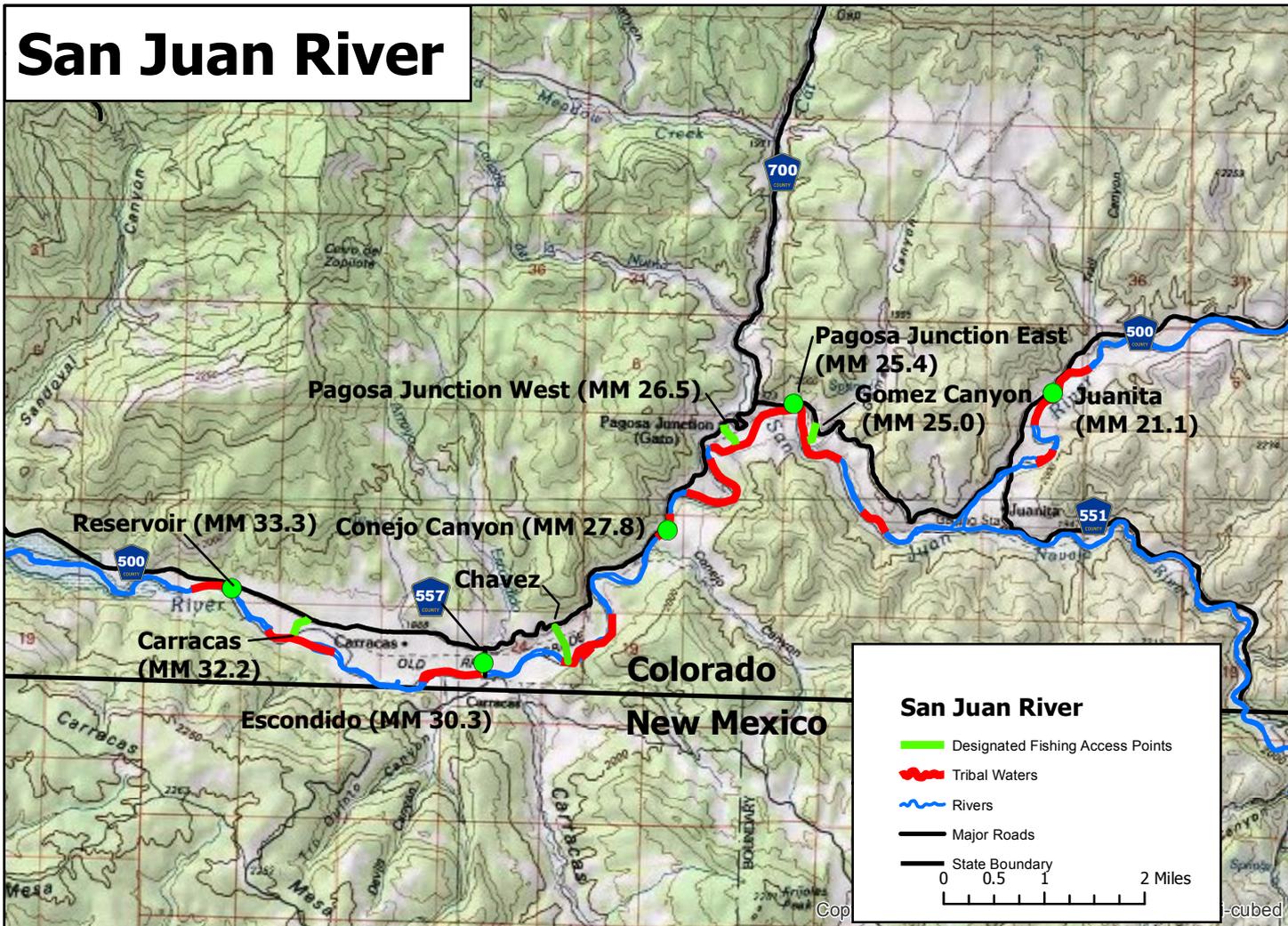
Los Piños River



Piedra River



San Juan River



-17-

Copyright

-cubed

Popular Game Fish on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation



Rainbow Trout

Numerous black spots on a light body with a reddish stripe along the sides.



Brown Trout

Large black spots and smaller reddish-orange spots with light margins.



Kokanee Salmon (spawning female)

Red-gray-white pattern of color with scarce spots.



Channel Catfish

Forked tail and chin whiskers. Young have dark spots.



Largemouth Bass

Upper jaw extends beyond the eye and conspicuous bar dark along body.



Smallmouth Bass

Upper jaw extends to middle of reddish eye and dark vertical bars on sides.