2019-2020 Fishing Proclamation
Southern Ute Indian Reservation

Includes information on:

- *Fishing permit prices and vendors*
- *Stream access policy*
- *Tribal fishing regulations*
- *Game fish identification and bag limits*
- *Maps of Tribal fishing waters*

Southern Ute Division of Wildlife Resource Management
P.O. Box 737 • 116 Memorial Drive Ignacio, Colorado 81137
Phone: (970) 563-0130
Website: https://www.southernute-nsn.gov
Southern Ute Law Enforcement: (970) 563-4401

SOUTHERN UTE FISHING PERMIT VENDORS

Vendor	Address	City, State Zip	Telephone	Hours of Operation
Southern Ute Indian Tribe Division of Wildlife	116 Memorial Drive Annex Building	Ignacio, CO 81137	(970) 563-0130	Monday – Friday 8am–12pm, 1pm – 5pm
Sky Ute Casino Gift Shop	14324 Highway 172	Ignacio, CO 81137	(970) 563-6269	7 days: 7am – 11pm
Thriftway	15051 Highway 172	Ignacio, CO 81137	(970) 633-2449	7 days: 6am – 10pm
Duranglers Flies & Supplies	923 Main Avenue	Durango, CO 81301	(970) 385-4081	Mon-Sat: 8am – 7pm Sun: 9am – 5pm
Float 'n Fish	#4 County Rd 4251	Navajo Dam, NM 87419	(505) 632-5385	7 days: 7am – 5pm
Lake Capote	389 Highway 151	Pagosa Springs, CO 81147	(970) 883-2273	7 days: 8am – 6pm Mid-May – Mid-Sept *Call for other times*

Cover Photo by McKayla Lee - Southern Ute Drum -Reporter/Photograher

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IMPORTANT REMINDERS TO ANGLERS

ADVISORY: SEVERE DROUGHT AND WILDFIRE IMPACTS TO LOCAL TROUT FISHERIES

In recent years, local streams have experienced extreme summer low flow conditions that have significantly impacted our cold water trout fisheries. In addition, the impacts of the recent 416 Fire in the Animas watershed have severely reduced trout populations in the lower Animas River. As a result of these pressures, trout anglers should be prepared for lower-than-expected catch rates when fishing on the Reservation. Also, if severe local drought conditions persist through 2019, as predicted, the Tribe may be forced to temporarily suspend stream fishing in order to improve fish survival. Public notification, including signage at stream accesses, will occur if this action becomes necessary. For more information, please contact the Southern Ute Wildlife Division.

AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES

Colorado's aquatic ecosystems and fisheries are threatened by several imported animals, plants, and diseases, including zebra and quagga mussels, New Zealand mudsnails, Eurasian watermilfoil, whirling disease, and viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS). Don't let these invaders threaten our resources and recreation. Anglers are asked to follow these guidelines to help prevent and control the spread of these organisms in Reservation waters:

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. Allow boats, engines, boots and gear to dry completely. If draining and drying are not possible, wash boats, trailers and equipment carefully and completely with high-pressure hot water (140° F).

3. Don't move or transport fish between waters. This can spread diseases and nuisance species.

4. Don't dispose of fish entrails or other byproducts into any body of water.

5. 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).

SEASON DATES

Southern Ute Tribal streams and State-managed reservoirs 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 Senior Fishing Permits
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 Permit Fees

Permit Type	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 angler on designated Tribal waters.			$5.00
Permit Replacement All anglers needing to replace lost or damaged fishing permits can purchase duplicates at the Southern Ute 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 angler'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). Anglers must use the access points identified on the maps to enter and exit stream corridors, which are located only on Tribal trust lands. Anglers 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, anglers 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 anglers 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 anglers are responsible for knowing where Tribal land assignments occur, and fishing is the only activity allowed while accessing Tribal land assignments.

All anglers 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* anglers 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.

General Restrictions

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

Fishing Pole Attendance. Anglers 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 allotments, but not Tribal land assignments. Not all private property is posted, and it is the angler'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 anglers 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 Anglers:	*Additional Restrictions for Non-Tribal Members:*
No removing or disturbing artifacts	No camping
No alcohol or illegal drug use	No dogs
No off-road vehicle use	
No firearms / No Littering	

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

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.

Legal Hours of Take
With the exception of Lake Capote, fishing may occur 24 hours a day. Fishing hours for Lake Capote are generally sunrise to sunset.

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.

Southern Ute Tribal Member anglers are allowed to use two fishing rods while fishing at Navajo and Pastorius Reservoirs within the exterior boundary of the Southern Ute Reservation, but *not* at Lake Capote. Use of a second rod does not entitle an angler to an additional bag limit, nor can it be used by another person to fish.

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.

Carp Bowfishing
Bowfishing for grass carp and common carp is allowed for *all anglers* at Lake Capote, and for Southern Ute Tribal Members at Navajo Reservoir (in Colorado). Non-Southern Ute Tribal Members interested in bowfishing at Navajo Reservoir (in Colorado) must consult State of Colorado regulations for requirements and further information.

Size Restriction: Method allowed only for carp greater than 18"

Possession Limit: Unlimited

Season Dates: Lake Capote Open Season – Approx. April through October
Navajo Reservoir – Year-round

Gear Type: Recurve, compound, or longbow. Bows must have reel, fishing line, and arrow attached to the bow. Bows must have a safety slide mechanism that keeps fishing line in front of the arrow rest at all times. Arrows must have barbed heads and be shot from the bow.

Closed Areas: At Lake Capote, closed to waters within 50 yards of an occupied boat dock or ramp, and occupied picnic sites. At Navajo Reservoir, closed to waters within the Marina.

Animas River Special Waters
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: 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.

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.

Daily Bag & Possession Limits for Stream Fishing – All Anglers

Game Fish	Juvenile (Under 13)	Adult (13 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: 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.

Daily Bag & Possession Limits for Navajo and Pastorious Reservoirs Tribal Member Anglers Only [1]

Game Fish	Juvenile (Under 13)	Adult (13 and older)
Trout: Rainbow, Brown, Cutthroat [2]	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, Common Carp	Unlimited	

[1] Non-member anglers must follow State of Colorado bag and possession limits

[2] Limits on trout may consist of one species or a mix of more than one species.

Protected Species
Roundtail chub, flannelmouth sucker, and bluehead sucker are rare native fish found in streams on the Southern Ute Reservation. They 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.

Roundtail Chub
Gila robusta

Flannelmouth Sucker
Catostomus latipinnis

Bluehead Sucker
Catostomus discobolus

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.

Lake Capote Recreation Area

398 Highway 151, Pagosa Springs Colorado 81147
Email: capote_lake@southernute-nsn.gov
Phone: (970) 883-2273

Lake Capote is a Tribally owned fishing lake open to the public roughly from April through October each year. The lake is stocked with rainbow and brown trout, largemouth bass, and channel catfish. Lake Capote offers RV campsites equipped with electric and water hook-ups, and primitive tent sites with fire rings and picnic tables. In addition, Lake Capote offers food concessions, fishing supplies, boat rentals, barbeque grills, shade structures, a bathhouse, and picnic tables situated around the lake.

Daily Fishing Permits
Colorado State fishing permits and Southern Ute stream permits are NOT valid for fishing at Lake Capote. Lake Capote daily fishing permits may be purchased at the baitshop between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm. Anglers wanting to fish before or after these hours are required to self-permit and submit payment at the self check-in station located at the front of the baitshop. Permits are only valid for the date of purchase. Permits are available at a discounted rate for Southern Ute Tribal Members age 14 to 54, and free-of-charge to Southern Ute youth and elders.

Lake Capote Fishing Regulations
- No fishing without a valid permit
- Fishing is allowed from sunrise to sunset
- One pole per angler allowed
- Bowfishing allowed for grass carp only (See *Carp Bowfishing*)
- No live bait (worms & night crawlers allowed)

Bag Limits Per Angler
- Rainbow & Brown Trout
  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.
- Channel Catfish – One (1), any size
- Largemouth Bass – One (1), any size

Watercraft
Privately owned boats, float-tubes, kayaks, etc. may be used. Electric motors only; no gas-powered engines. Watercraft MUST be inspected by a Lake employee for aquatic nuisance species before launch into the lake.

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

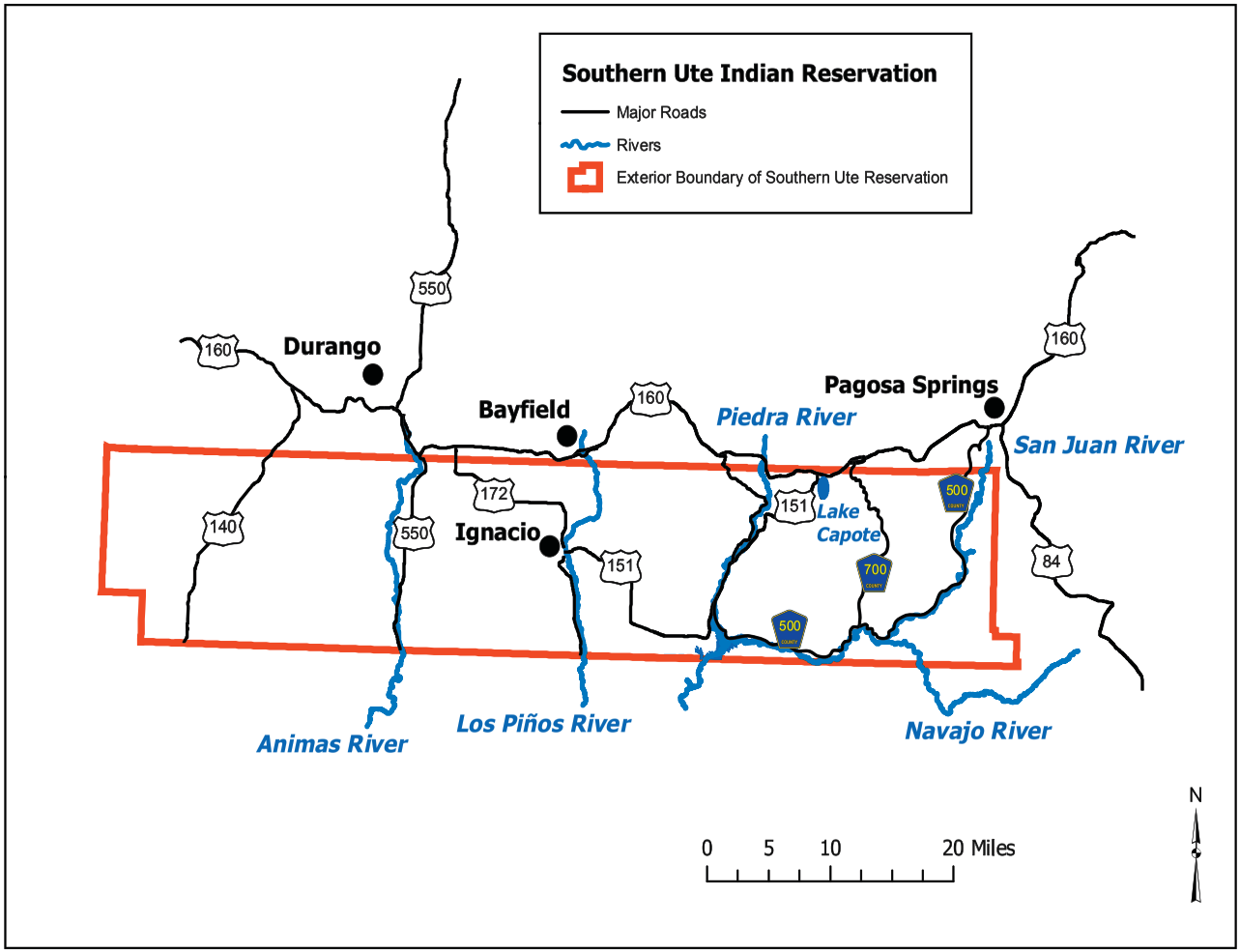
AUTHORITY

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 January 15, 2019 by Resolution # 19-004.

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 angler'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
Durango
Bayfield
Ignacio
Pagosa Springs
Piedra River
San Juan River
Lake Capote
Animas River
Los Piños River
Navajo River
160
550
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172
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0 5 10 20 Miles
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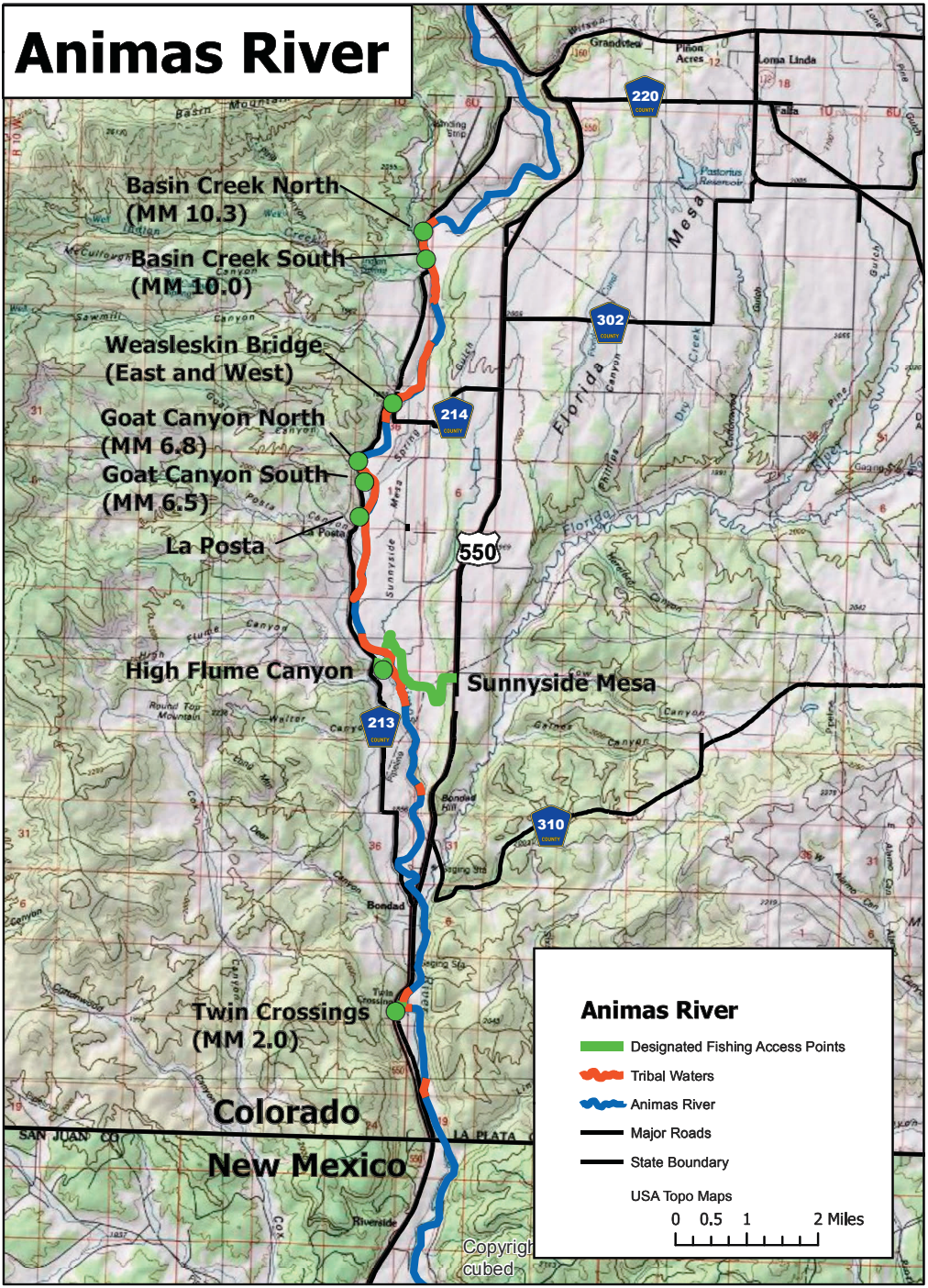
Animas River
Basin Creek North
(MM 10.3)
Basin Creek South
(MM 10.0)
Weasleskin Bridge
(East and West)
Goat Canyon North
(MM 6.8)
Goat Canyon South
(MM 6.5)
La Posta
High Flume Canyon
Sunnyside Mesa
Twin Crossings
(MM 2.0)
Colorado
New Mexico
SAN JUAN CO.
LA PLATA
Animas River
Designated Fishing Access Points
Tribal Waters
Animas River
Major Roads
State Boundary
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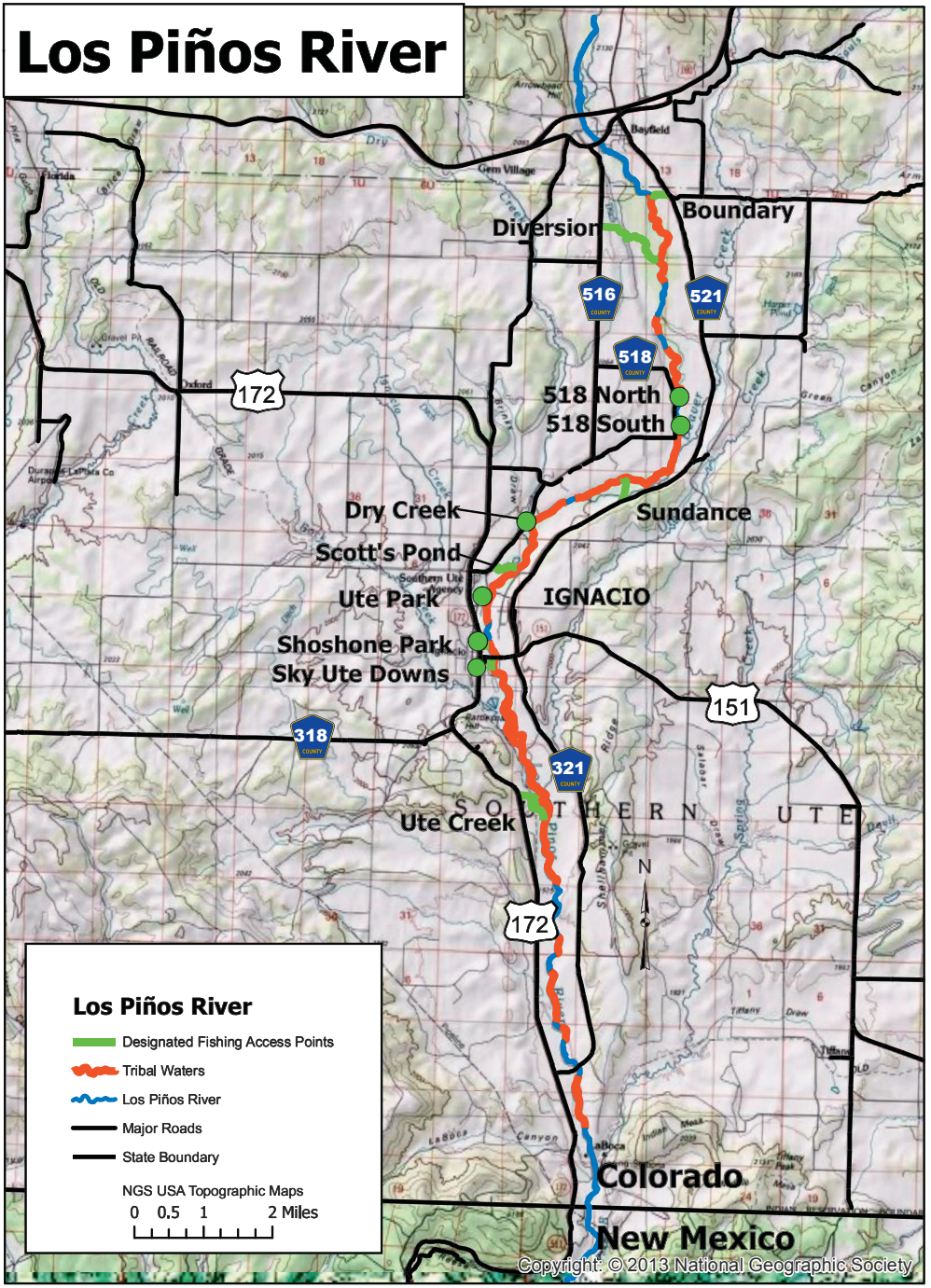
Los Piños River
Diversion
Boundary
516
521
518
518 North
518 South
172
Dry Creek
Sundance
Scott's Pond
Ute Park
IGNACIO
Shoshone Park
Sky Ute Downs
151
318
321
Ute Creek
SOUTHERN UTE
172
Colorado
New Mexico
Los Piños River
Designated Fishing Access Points
Tribal Waters
Los Piños River
Major Roads
State Boundary
NGS USA Topographic Maps
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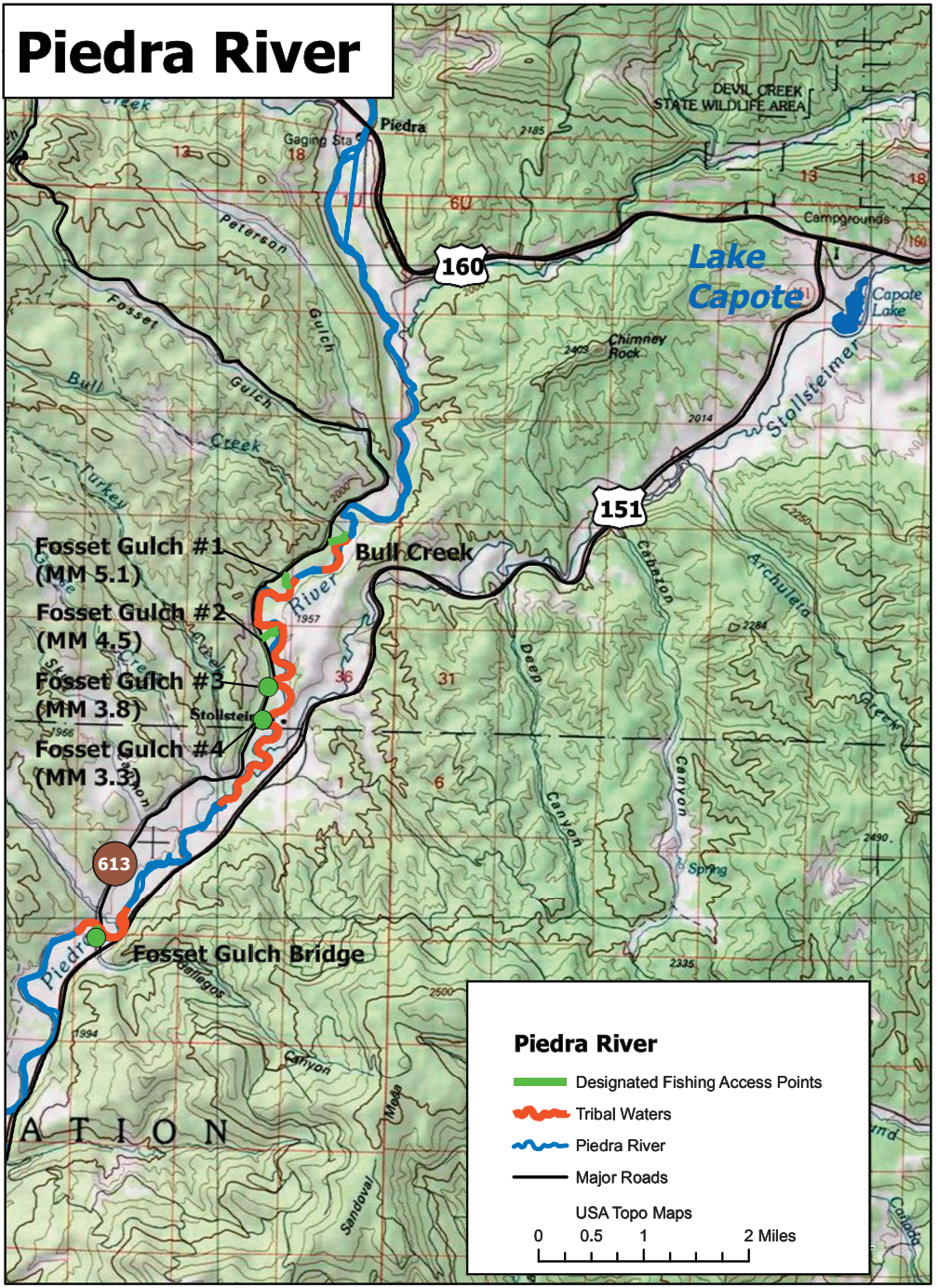
Piedra River
DEVIL CREEK STATE WILDLIFE AREA
Piedra
Gaging Sta
Campgrounds
160
Lake Capote
Capote Lake
Peterson Gulch
Fosset Gulch
Bull Gulch
Creek
Chimney Rock
Stollsteimer
151
Fosset Gulch #1 (MM 5.1)
Fosset Gulch #2 (MM 4.5)
Fosset Gulch #3 (MM 3.8)
Fosset Gulch #4 (MM 3.3)
Bull Creek
River
Stollstein
Deep Canyon
Archuleta
613
Fosset Gulch Bridge
Piedra
Gallegos Canyon
Mesa
Sandoval
Spring
Piedra River
Designated Fishing Access Points
Tribal Waters
Piedra River
Major Roads
USA Topo Maps
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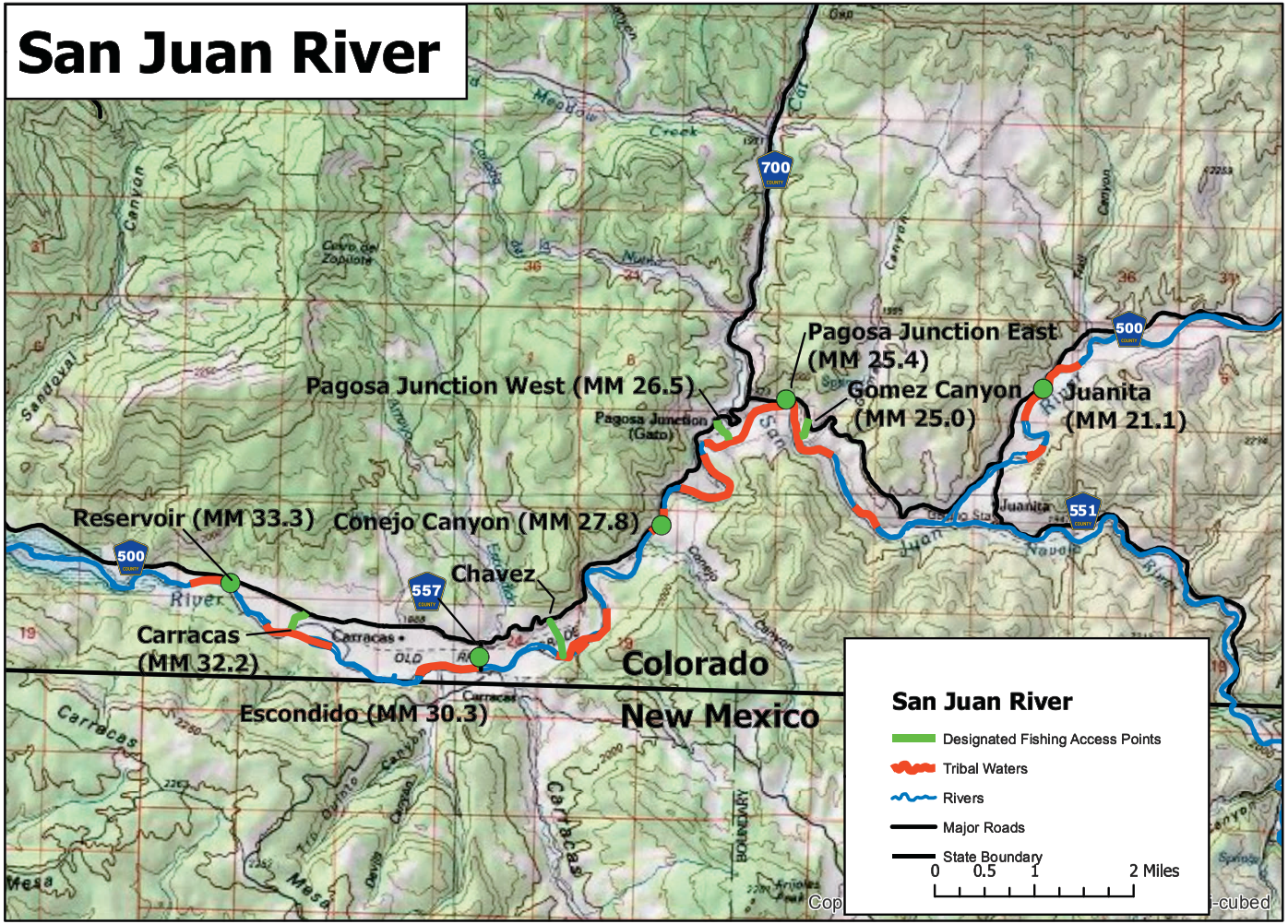
San Juan River
Pagosa Junction East (MM 25.4)
Pagosa Junction West (MM 26.5)
Gomez Canyon (MM 25.0)
Juanita (MM 21.1)
Pagosa Junction (Gato)
Reservoir (MM 33.3)
Conejo Canyon (MM 27.8)
Chavez
Carracas (MM 32.2)
Escondido (MM 30.3)
Colorado
New Mexico
700
500
557
551
San Juan River
Designated Fishing Access Points
Tribal Waters
Rivers
Major Roads
State Boundary
0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Popular Game Fish on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation

Brown Trout
Salmo trutta

Rainbow Trout
Oncorhynchus mykiss

Channel Catfish
Ictalurus punctatus

Green Sunfish
Lepomis cyanellus

Largemouth Bass
Micropterus salmoides