

# **Discussion of Proposed Changes to the Fisheries Rule 19.31.4 NMAC and Manner and Method Rule 19.31.10 NMAC**

**Agenda Item 12  
August 15, 2025**

**Kirk Patten**



# Fisheries Rule

- Four Year Cycle
- Current Rule Expires March 31, 2026
- Manner and Method for Fishing





# Data Review and Angler Input

Stream	Site	Date of survey	Species	Density (adults/ac +95% CI)	Mult. year classes and YOYs?	Met all parameters?
Beaver Creek	Only Site	8/2/23	Brook Trout	1,010.7±4.8	Yes	Yes
Diablo Creek	Only Site	8/2/23	Brook Trout	4,088.86±188.7	Yes	Yes
Brazos River	Only Site	8/1/23	Brown Trout	38.7±4.6	No YOYs	No
Red River	Special Trout Water	8/15/23	Brown Trout	202.7±13.8	Yes	Yes
	La Bobbita CG	8/15/23	Brown Trout	14.3±0.0	No	No
	Questa Ranger Station	8/15/23	Brown Trout	66.7±20.0	Yes	No
	Hatchery Diversion	8/16/23	Brown Trout	138.4±11.1	Yes	Yes
Cimarron River	Above Talby CG	8/16/23	Brown Trout	293.4±34.1	Yes	Yes
	Blackjack CG	8/17/23	Brown Trout	829.8±60.1	Yes	Yes
	Above Gravel Pits	8/17/23	Brown Trout	842.4±64.8	Yes	Yes
	Lowest Site	8/17/23	Brown Trout	229.7±29.5	Yes	Yes
Pecos River	Bert Clancy	8/29/23	Brown Trout	696.6±58.0	Yes	Yes
	Terrero	8/29/23	Brown Trout	711.3±52.2	Yes	Yes
	Lower Mora	8/30/23	Brown Trout	916.2±31.2	Yes	Yes
	Upper Mora	8/31/23	Brown Trout	827.1±55.8	Yes	Yes
	Jaime Koch	8/31/23	Brown Trout	920.3±90.4	Yes	Yes
Rio Pueblo	Special Trout Water	9/20/23	Brown Trout	470.9±36.2	Yes	Yes
	Upper Site	9/20/23	Brown Trout	812.7±43.6	Yes	Yes
Aqua Piedra	Only Site	9/20/23	Brown Trout	550.3±34.4	No YOYs	No



**Red Chile Water**  
Catch-and-release  
with tackle restrictions



**Green Chile Water**  
Two (2) trout daily bag limit  
with tackle restrictions



**Xmas Chile Water**  
Two (2) trout daily bag limit  
with any legal tackle



# Fisheries Rule Proposals

- Clarify definition of “Barbless lure or fly” – consistent with Manner and Method Definition
- Special Trout Water Designation - Jack’s Creek, Rio Chiquito, and Rio San Antonio (near Lagunitas Lakes)
  - Catch and Release for Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout
  - Unlimited harvest for non-native trout
  - Tackle limited to barbless lures or flies
- Remove Santa Cruz, Bonito, Monastery, and Springer Lakes reference for ice fishing prohibition
- Add Definition of Special Trout Water





# Manner and Method Proposals



- Clarify definition of “Barbless lure or fly” – consistent with Fisheries Rule Definition
- Remove Santa Cruz, Bonito, and Springer Lakes reference for ice fishing prohibition
- Prohibit using “bait fish” within BLM Overflow Wetlands
- Electric Trolling Motors at Jackson Lake WMA
- Director’s authority to suspend angling limits, methods, and size limits or to close a water
  - Six Months



# Public Outreach – May/June



- Website – May 21
- Virtual Public Meetings
  - June 9 and 13
  - Total of 13 attendees





# Public Comments

- Eight written comments
  - Remove “hard” plastic in definition of barbless lure or fly
  - Expand STWs Lakes
  - Expand STWs in Pecos and Cimarron
  - Proposed Native Trout STWs
  - Expand STW on San Juan



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**Green Chile Water**

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**Xmas Chile Water**

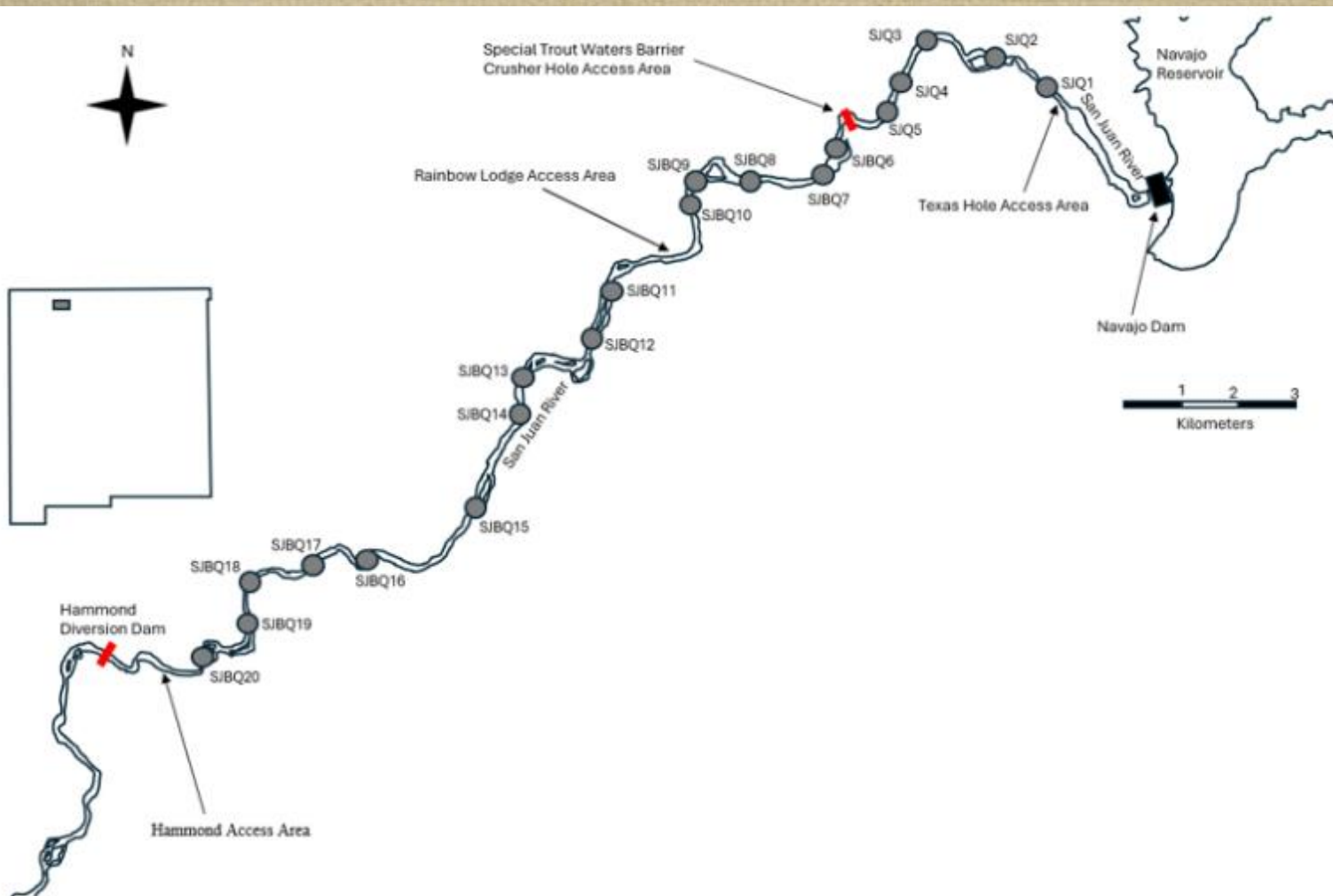
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# Questions?







- STW - 222,000 angler days/year
- Regular Reg. – 126,000 angler days/year
- Rainbow and Brown Trout fishery

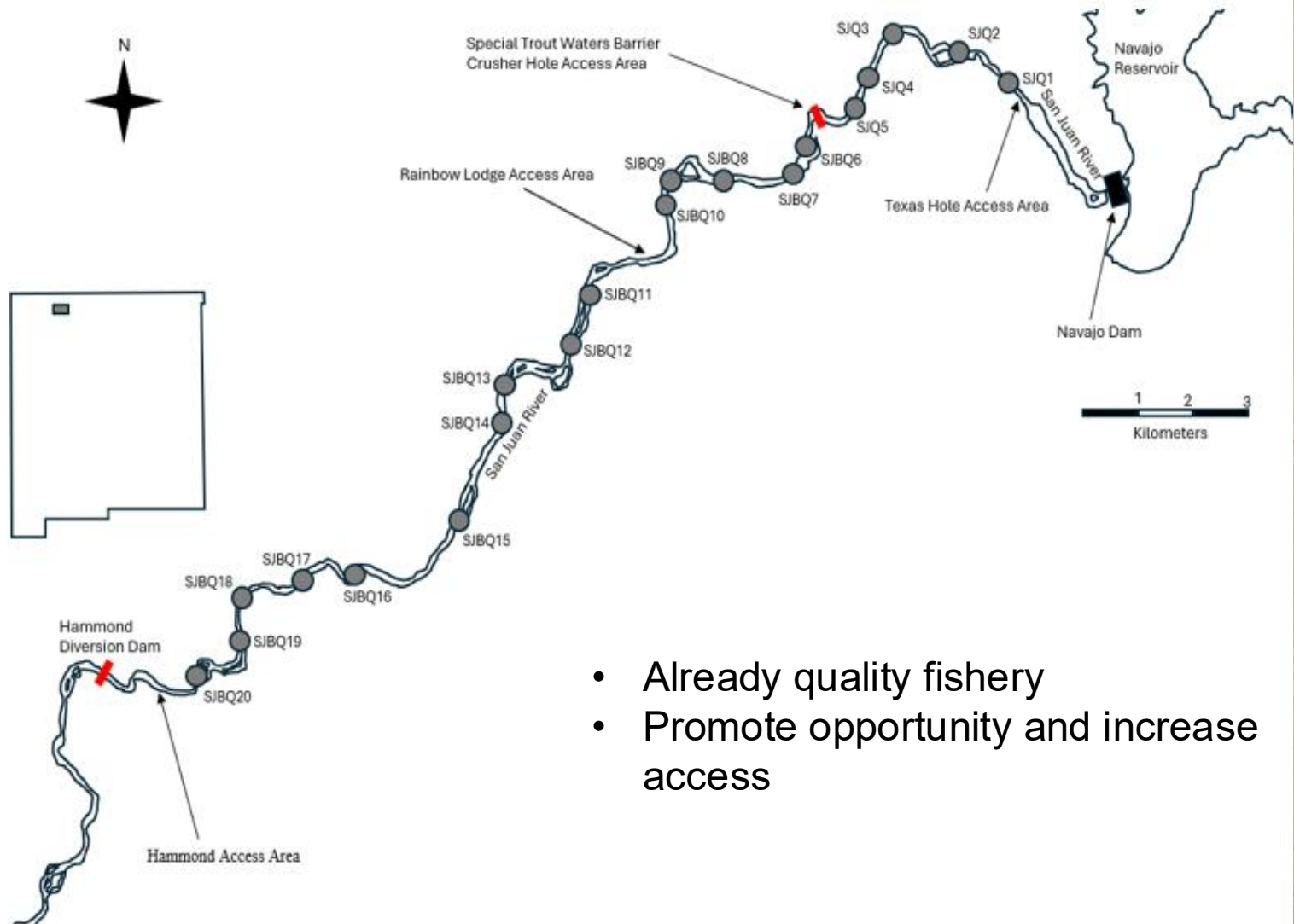


- Extend Special Trout Water below Crusher Hole
- Loss of general fishing opportunity
- Work with State Parks on boat ramp/angling enforcement





- New Special Trout Water in Lower San Juan Trout Fisheries



- Already quality fishery
- Promote opportunity and increase access