

Subject: Results for May 9, 2026 Children's Fishing Derby
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From: Friends Eagle Nest & Cimarron State Parks
To: Friends Eagle Nest & Cimarron State Parks
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[EXTERNAL]

May 9, 2026 CHILDREN'S FISHING DERBY REPORT

By Friends of Eagle Nest Lake and Cimarron Canyon State Parks

Questions should be sent to: friendsenccparks@gmail.com

For more information about Friends of Eagle Nest Lake and Cimarron Canyon State Parks, please go to: www.friendsofeaglenestlake.org/

Eighty-two young fisher people competed to catch prize winning fish at the 32nd Annual Children's Fishing Derby at Gravel Pit Lakes in Cimarron Canyon on May 9, 2026.

Participants, their families, volunteers from Friends of Eagle Nest Lake and Cimarron Canyon State Parks, and staff members of New Mexico State Parks and New Mexico Department of Wildlife enjoyed their time at the Fishing Derby – it was a beautiful day!

Prior to the Fishing Derby start at 10 AM, Robert Smith, the N.E. Regional Interpreter for New Mexico State Parks, gave a presentation featuring a bear.



A Canada Goose on the water came to investigate the Fishing Derby

Those participating in the Fishing Derby came from throughout northeast and central New Mexico and Texas to compete in two age categories – 3 through 7 and 8 through 11 years of age. The results from the 3 hours of fishing competition are:

3-7 Years	8-11 Years
Madelyn B. 12 ^{3/8} 6	Treavon E. 13 ^{3/4} 7 ^{5/8}
Carson V. 12 ^{1/4} 5 ^{3/4}	Billy P. 12 ^{5/8} 6 ^{1/8}
Amara S. 12 ^{1/8} 6 ^{1/4}	Brandon J. 12 ^{5/8} 5 ^{3/8}

Ages 3 thru 7: The 1st place trout measuring 12-3/8 inches was caught by Madelyn B., and it was only 1/8 inch longer than the 2nd place trout caught by Carson V. The 3rd place trout was caught by Amara S.

Ages 8 thru 11: Treavon E. caught the 1st place trout measuring 13-3/4" in length, and it was a little over 1-inch longer than the 2nd place trout caught by Billy P. The 3rd place trout was

by Billy F. The 3rd place trout was caught by Brandon J.

The first-place winners in both age categories received bicycles. Second and third place winners received an assortment of merchandise donated by generous area merchants, individuals, and Friends. Fishing Derby participants and their mothers were also gifted with a ticket for the raffle of a variety of prizes from local merchants and Friends. Please see the list of generous donors to the Fishing Derby at the end of this article.

Fishing Derby Chairman Scott Tousley, reports that Friends of Eagle Nest Lake and Cimarron Canyon State Parks is pleased with the number of children participating in the Fishing Derby and extends a big “Thank You” to the families accompanying these young fisher people and to the prize donors for making this an extra special day. Individuals wishing to assist in future events promoting fishing in Cimarron Canyon and at Eagle Nest Lake are encouraged to join Friends of Eagle Nest Lake and Cimarron Canyon State Parks.



Ernie Sutliff Memorial Prize winners with the Sutliff Family. 2026 is the 4th year for the Special Ernie Sutliff, Sr. Memorial Raffle Prize that is sponsored by the Sutliff Family to honor Ernie Sutliff, Sr. who loved to fish.



While waiting for the measuring results, Laura McCann of Raptors of New Mexico Foundation gave a presentation featuring the following guest raptors: a Red-tailed Hawk, a Great Horned Owl, and a Turkey Vulture.

Prior to the Fishing Derby start at 10 AM, Robert Smith, the N.E. Regional Interpreter for New Mexico State Parks, gave a presentation featuring a bear. And, while waiting for the Fishing Derby results, the program by Laura McCann of Raptors of New Mexico Foundation featured a Red-tailed Hawk, a Great Horned Owl, and a Turkey Vulture. The bear and raptors were injured and their injuries prevent them from being able to survive if returned to the wild, so they now participate in educational programs. Both the bear and raptor programs gave viewers a better appreciation for the challenges encountered by these wildlife species. More information about Raptors of New Mexico Foundation is at www.raptorsnm.org

The Annual Children's Fishing Derby is sponsored by Friends of Eagle Nest Lake and Cimarron Canyon State Parks in cooperation with New Mexico State Parks and the New Mexico Department of Wildlife.

A big THANK YOU to:

The fishing participants and their families,
New Mexico State Parks,
New Mexico Wildlife,
Raptors of New Mexico Foundation, and

the Fishing Derby Donors:

Ernie Sutliff Family for the Special Ernie Sutliff Prize
Ace Hardware, Taos
Builder's Supply, Angel Fire
Cooper's Fishing Club, Red River
Dos Amigos, Eagle Nest
Eagle Nest Fly Shack, Eagle Nest
Eagle Nest Cabins & Marina

Friends of Eagle Nest Lake and Cimarron Canyon State Parks
Gateway Museum, Eagle Nest
Knights of Columbus, Cimarron
Mountain Supply, Angel Fire
Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron
Sitzmark, Red River
Taos Community Foundation
Tractor Supply, Taos
WalMart, Taos

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