

May 16, 1949.

For the Fish & Wildlife files, Bandelier National Monument.

On Sunday, May 15, ranger patrol was made along the Frijoles stream and a thorough check was made of the fishing. Fishermen were asked to show licenses and creels were examined in each case. In all, 40 fishermen were contacted and most of them were having fairly good luck. Several had their limit early in the day.

Examination of the creel showed that in the lower Frijoles near the headquarters area the fish were nearly all Rainbow. About 3 miles above headquarters brook were beginning to show up and at the Upper Crossing area the catches were almost exclusively brook. Only one cutthroat was seen during the entire day. Total number of fish counted contained 148 rainbow, 23 brook, and 1 cutthroat.

The larger fish (8 to 10 in.) were being caught about three miles above the headquarters. No large fish were observed in creels of fishermen who had obtained the limit above the upper crossing.

Conclusions about the fishing in Frijoles stream as a result of this survey might be listed as follows:

1. Fish in the lower Frijoles are predominantly Rainbow and the size of the fish larger.
2. In the region of the Upper Crossing the fish are mostly Brook and the average size of the fish caught was smaller.
3. The fact that very few fishermen caught fish of any size is probably due to a reticence of the larger fish to be lured by worms. It is believed that there are some large fish in the stream and if it could be efficiently fished with flies creels would show fish of a larger average.

Sylvester J. Knefe
Sylvester J. Knefe,
Park Ranger.

average brook - 8 to 10 in.

*4000 legal
Rainbow
May-10.
Cremand Cove*