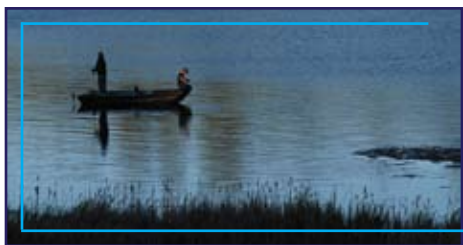


# On The Hook

*Championship Fishing Is Closer Than You Think!*



**LAKE CAPOTE** – Open now after being closed for several years for new dam construction this lake is stocked with Rainbow and Cutthroat Trout by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and requires special fishing licenses available at the lake. Drive west of Pagosa Springs 17 miles, the lake is at the 160 – 151 junction.

**ECHO LAKE** -- Trout are best caught with lures, flies or natural bait such as worms; Bass, with top surface lures, crank baits with pork frogs or rubber worms. Perch are best taken with live bait; Sunfish, with worms and sometimes flies; and Catfish, with cut bait (Suckers or commercial stink baits). Echo Lake is also excellent for Trout and Bass ice fishing throughout the winter. Access is easy, four miles from Pagosa Springs on U.S. Highway 84.

**OPAL LAKE** - Good Rainbow Trout fishing. The beaver ponds and stream below the lake also offer excellent fishing. To reach Opal lake, go south out of Pagosa Springs on Highway 84 approximately eight miles to Blanco Basin Road. Follow east to Castle Creek Road. Turn right across the Blanco River and follow the road two miles to a parking area identified by a sign

denoting the trailhead. The lake is a short 2 mile hike from the trailhead.

**WEST FORK OF THE SAN JUAN RIVER** -- Good Rainbow and Brown Trout fishing. Cutthroat Trout fishing from trail head at end of West Fork Road upstream. Easy access - take U.S. Highway 160 east out of Pagosa Springs approximately 17 miles to the West Fork Road. Drive on forest road for about three miles to the trailhead. Hike upstream from trail head at end of the road for better fishing.

**EAST FORK OF THE SAN JUAN RIVER** – Excellent Rainbow and Brown Trout fishing on lower reaches; Brook and Cutthroat Trout at higher elevations. The East Fork is easily accessible, about 10 miles northeast of Pagosa Springs on U.S. Highway 160 to the East Fork Road.

**FOURMILE LAKES** - Cutthroat Trout fishing in both lower and higher lakes. Take Fourmile Road north until the road ends. Hike about six to seven miles on trail visible from road's end to lower lake. Second lake is another half mile walk. Fourmile Falls can be seen about three miles

in. Very scenic. The altitude increases rapidly after the falls, be prepared for a strenuous hike!

**FOURMILE CREEK** - Access is same as for Four Mile Lakes. The creek begins near the trailhead. Good Brook and Cutthroat Trout fishing after high water has dropped (about mid June).

**TURKEY CREEK LAKE**-Good Brook Trout fishing. To get there, head east on U.S. Highway 160 approximately seven miles, turn north on Jackson Mountain Road and drive five miles to parking lot. Turkey Creek Lake is located nine miles from this point and can be accessed by following a trail from the parking lot.

**TURKEY CREEK** - Access is same as Turkey Creek Lake. Turkey Creek is about three miles in on the trail to Turkey Creek Lake. Good Brook, Cutthroat and Rainbow Trout fishing.

**SAN JUAN RIVER** - Excellent fishing for Rainbow and Brown Trout. This is for the fisherman who doesn't want to travel far. The San Juan River runs right through Pagosa Springs.

**PIEDRA RIVER** - Good Trout stream (Browns, Rainbows, Cutthroats and some Brook Trout). The stretch of the Piedra River from lower Piedra Campground upstream to Sand Creek can only be fished with artificial flies and lures with a two trout 16 inches or larger bag limit. The easiest access to the Piedra River is U.S. Highway 160 west of Pagosa Springs about 22 miles where the river crosses under the highway.

**WILLIAMS CREEK RESERVOIR** - Excellent fishing for Rainbow, Brown, Cutthroats, Brook Trout, and Kokanee Salmon. Salmon are best taken with artificial lures trolling deep. In the vicinity of Williams Creek Reservoir are four U.S. Forest Service campgrounds. Mountain views are tremendous. To get there, follow Piedra Road north about 24 miles.

**BUCKLES AND HARRIS LAKES** - Good Rainbow Trout fishing. To reach the lakes, take U.S. Highway 84 south about 20 miles to Buckles Lake Road. Follow this road, which leads to a parking area and trailhead, then hike in a half mile to Buckles Lake, another mile to Harris Lake.

**NAVAJO RESERVOIR** - Large Catfish, Trout, Bass, Pike, Crappie and Perch can be caught here. About one-third of Navajo Reservoir is located in Colorado, the remaining two third, in New Mexico. Once over the Colorado line, fishermen are required. to purchase a New Mexico fishing licenses. Live minnows may be used as fish bait in both the Colorado and New Mexico portions of Navajo lake. The lake can be accessed from Pagosa Springs by heading west on U.S. Highway 160 about 17 miles, then turn south on Colorado State Highway 151 and go about 35 miles.

**SAN JUAN RIVER BELOW NAVAJO DAM** - (New Mexico fishing license required). These are trophy fish waters. The first ¼ mile is catch and release only. The next 3.75 mile, you can keep one fish over 20" but you can no longer fish the quality waters for that day. In the Cottonwood Campground you may use bait. Artificial flies and lures with barbless hooks are required in the quality waters of the river.



## Golfing in Paradise

Pagosa Country has many recreational activities to offer visitors and locals alike. For those of us who prefer drivers and wedges to hiking boots and fishing poles, Pagosa and the surrounding area are sure to satisfy.

### Golfing in Style in Pagosa

The Pagosa Springs Golf Club has more to offer than just greens and fairways. Dazzling views all year long draw golfers from around the world to the 27 hole championship golf course. Located near the Fairfield Pagosa Lodge, the Club employs three golf professionals, runs a lounge, and can schedule tee times 14 days in advance. This stunning course is also the home course for the Pagosa Springs High School Golf Team, bringing community and a great game together. The Club offers off-season and high-season rates, (and even twilight rates), ranging from \$13.00 for a junior to play nine holes in the off-season, to \$50.00 for an adult to play 18 holes during the height of golf season. Golf cart rentals are available at a price of \$15 per person for 18 holes, \$11 per person for 9 holes. Golf Pros can give you lessons, privately or in a group, so you can keep up with your game, even if you're picking up clubs for the first time. The Club also offers Ladies' and Men's leagues for the avid golfer. An interesting aspect of this course is that it offers three different nine-hole courses to challenge your golf game and provide amazing views of the San Juan Mountains in the process. Meadows, Ponderosa and Pinon courses surround Pinon Lake and wrap around through beautiful homes and hazardous bunkers. Look for Pagosa Peak in the distance, but don't get too distracted in the tee box. Johnny Bulla designed the courses, which opened to the public in 1980 and 1985. In the snowier months, the course is converted into a cross-country skiing area.

### Golfing in Durango and Cortez

In Durango, just 60 miles away, you'll find several golfing options. Hillcrest Golf Club, an 18-hole course located on the same mesa as Fort Lewis College, offers year-round golf. Fees are around \$200. Dalton Ranch Golf Course in Durango is a relatively new course, having opened in 1993. It's a semi-private course offering daily fee-play for the general public. Public fees range from \$20 to \$49. The Sheraton Tamarron Resort offers The Cliffs, an 18-hole championship resort golf course rated one of the top 50 resort courses in America by Golf Digest. The course offers challenging play, and prices range from \$65 to \$125. The Cliffs is open from May 1 to October 31 yearly, and is located 18 miles north of Durango. Cortez, Colorado offers Conquistador Golf Course, an 18-hole public course with a traditional feel. The course, designed in 1963 by Press Maxwell, has fees around \$20 and is open from mid-March to mid-November.

*There's More...* Use your investigative skills to find golf courses we haven't mentioned in the area around Pagosa. You may be pleasantly surprised at what you find.

## Southern Colorado Owned Since 1905



■ Mortgage & Construction Loans

■ Checking & Savings Accounts ■ Certificates & IRAs

■ Consumer Loans ■ Debit & ATM Cards

731-4701

**Rio Grande**  
SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION

80 PIEDRA ROAD / PAGOSA SPRINGS



**Courteous Personal Service...no hard sell**