



**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Justin Caporusso/Caporusso Communications

[justin@caporussocommunications.com](mailto:justin@caporussocommunications.com)

(916) 412-0571

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Reel in the Fun this Fishmas!!!**

*Opening Day of Regular Fishing Season set for April 27<sup>th</sup>*

**MONO COUNTY, Calif. (APRIL 17, 2024)** – Eastern Sierra locals and visitors alike are gearing up for “Fishmas,” the official start to the regular fishing season on April 27, 2024. Lakes, streams, and reservoirs will be at very healthy levels, and most will be ice-free following a strong winter and mild spring. Unlike most of California, the majority of the lakes in Mono County are natural, fed by spring snowmelt and surrounded by the jagged landscape of the Sierra Nevada mountain range.

*“Opening weekend is always highly anticipated, and we look forward to enthusiastically welcoming anglers on April 27<sup>th</sup>,”* said Jeff Simpson, Mono County Economic Development Director. *“Mono County Tourism’s [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages are the best resources for real-time updates and conditions as the season approaches.”*

Fishmas is among the most important days of the year in Mono County, for both locals and visitors who come to cast a line in one of the region’s scores of alpine lakes and streams. More than a dozen bodies of water are stocked by Mono County, along with California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Mammoth Lakes Tourism, Bishop Chamber of Commerce, Inyo County, and private marina operators. Mono County, specifically, will stock 17 bodies of water in the region with almost 18,000 pounds of rainbow trout starting mid-April through the regular season, which ends on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Throughout the regular season, anglers are encouraged to join the effort to keep Eastern Sierra fisheries healthy and [sustainable](#) by practicing “catch and release” - keeping only the fish they need and releasing the rest to reproduce and grow.

To encourage beginners, the state holds two “free fishing days” per year, typically the first Saturday of July and the first Saturday of September (all other regulations still apply). A free [Mono County Fishing Map](#) can also help navigate the fishable waters in the area.

For more information about fishing regulations, anglers should visit the CDFW website at: <https://fgc.ca.gov/Regulations/Current> and bookmark the regulation map at: <https://apps.wildlife.ca.gov/sportfishingregs/>.

Between now and April 27, select [year-round fishing spots](#) are still under catch-and-release rules.

Because of the location of Mono County's fishing hotspots, there are plenty of opportunities for non-fishing family members and friends who prefer to hike, explore nature, do a little boating, or delve into the region's rich history.

Visit [MonoCounty.org](http://MonoCounty.org) to learn more about fishing in Mono County, as well as other things to do and see, lodging, and much more.

-###-

### **[Mono County Fishing Images](#)**

For more on lakes, guides, and regulations, visit [MonoCounty.org/fishing](http://MonoCounty.org/fishing)

For more on fishing derbies and events, visit [MonoCounty.org/things-to-do/fishing/fishing-events](http://MonoCounty.org/things-to-do/fishing/fishing-events)

For a free [Mono County Fishing Map](#) and/or Mono County Visitor Guide by mail, submit a request at [MonoCounty.org/plan-your-trip/visitor-guides/](http://MonoCounty.org/plan-your-trip/visitor-guides/)

### **[About Mono County](#)**

Located approximately 315 miles north of Los Angeles, and 280 miles east of San Francisco, Mono County accesses the east entrance to Yosemite National Park and welcomes visitors year-round. The vast playground of the Eastern Sierra is an easily reached destination via the all-weather US Highway 395, a State-Designated Scenic Byway which traverses Mono County from north to south, offering motorists tremendous vistas right from the steering wheel and countless sideroads, hiking trails, lakes, and roadside villages to explore. United Airlines offers winter service from San Francisco (SFO) and Denver (DEN) to nearby Bishop Airport (KBH). Chartered service with Advanced Airlines from several Southern California cities to Mammoth Yosemite Airport (MMH) is available winter and summer. For more information or to request guides, visit [MonoCounty.org](http://MonoCounty.org) or call 800-845-7922.