

**CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-\_\_**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

Mayor Michael Garcia

Councilor Paul Bustamante

**A RESOLUTION**

**SUSPENDING THE ANNUAL FISHING DERBY IN SANTA FE RIVER; APPROVING A CHILDREN’S FISHING DERBY EVENT ON CITY PROPERTY IN NICHOLS RESERVOIR ON SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2026; AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER AND DESIGNATED CITY STAFF TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ORGANIZE THE EVENT.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Fe (“City”) has, in the past, hosted an annual Fishing Derby;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the annual Fishing Derby is a City tradition which brings community together; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fishing Derby may provide education to the public, and especially children, about the City’s water supply; and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 2008-111 combined the annual River Festival and the Fishing Derby in order to promote greater awareness of the river, to celebrate the Santa Fe River and its historic and present roles in the community, to promote the diversity of cultures, to bring together different segments of the community, and to provide entertainment and fun for families; and

1           **WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 2012-28 adopted the “City of Santa Fe Administrative  
2 Procedures for City of Santa Fe River Target Flows” (“Administrative Procedures”), and  
3 Resolution No. 2012-52 amended “No. 5 of the Administrative Procedures to specify that in a year  
4 where the “watershed yield is less than 50%, or, if for other climactic or hydrologic reasons, daily  
5 target flows adequate for the Fishing Derby cannot be met, the date of the Fishing Derby may be  
6 changed or the Fishing Derby will be suspended”; and

7           **WHEREAS**, consistent with Rule No. 5 of the Administrative Procedures, drought  
8 conditions this year in Santa Fe create conditions under which the specified target flows will not  
9 be met and the annual Fishing Derby in the Santa Fe River would therefore be suspended until such  
10 time that the appropriate flows can be met; and

11           **WHEREAS**, the City wishes to hold a fishing derby event for children, and the ongoing  
12 drought conditions in Santa Fe are such that the annual Fishing Derby’s status is unclear as it relates  
13 to the specified requirements of Rule No. 5; and

14           **WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 2026-17 specifies that limited fishing events on City-owned  
15 property in the Santa Fe Municipal Watershed may be approved by the Governing Body and  
16 Ordinance No. 2026-17 would make it possible to hold a “Children’s Fishing Derby” event in the  
17 Nichols Reservoir (“the Reservoir”); and

18           **WHEREAS**, a fishing derby may take place in the Reservoir if New Mexico Game and  
19 Fish stocks the Reservoir with fish; and

20           **WHEREAS**, the City is committed to protecting the Santa Fe Watershed and as such, the  
21 Governing Body wishes the event to be conducted with the care that such a commitment would  
22 require.

23           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**  
24 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that due to the current drought conditions in Santa Fe, and consistent with  
25 the requirements established in the Administrative Procedures, Rule No. 5, the annual Fishing

Derby in the Santa Fe River shall be suspended for the year of 2026.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that consistent with Ordinance No. 2026-17, the Governing Body approves a Children's Fishing Derby event on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026, on City property at the Nichols Reservoir.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** and that the City Manager and designated staff shall take the necessary steps to organize the Children's Fishing Derby event with the following specifications:

- 1) The event shall be limited to 150 children, each accompanied by an adult; and
- 2) The participants in the event shall access the Reservoir by City bus only; and
- 3) The City Manager and designated staff take all necessary precautions to protect the Santa Fe Watershed and the City's water supply in all aspects of the event planning.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager or a designee of the City Manager shall determine all other details necessary to organize the Children's Fishing Derby, including working with New Mexico Game and Fish to stock the Reservoir with fish.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

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MICHAEL J. GARCIA, MAYOR

1 ATTEST:

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4 GERALYN F. CARDENAS, CITY CLERK

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6 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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8 Marcos D. Martínez

Marcos D. Martínez (Aug 7, 2026 12:10:02 MDT)

9 MARCOS D. MARTÍNEZ, CITY ATTORNEY

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25 *Legislation/2026/Resolutions/Children's Fishing Derby*