

New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn

Week of July 26, 2008

This fishing report has been generated from the best information available from officers and anglers. Conditions encountered after the report is compiled may differ, however, as stream, lake and weather conditions alter fish and angler activities.

For information or to contribute, contact [Bill Dunn](#). If you have a "Catch of the Week" include date, location, type of fish, length and bait used to catch the fish.

CATCHES OF THE WEEK:

Brazos River: On July 21, Steve Kohrs age 15 of Albuquerque caught a 22 inch rainbow trout. He was using a brown trout Rapala.

Elephant Butte: On July 24, Anthony Ned of El Paso, TX caught a 5.5 pound channel catfish. He was using live crayfish.

Ute Lake: On July 26, Lawrence Roybal of Silver City caught a 6.28 pound largemouth bass. He was using a tube. On July 26, Patch Mason of Del Rio, TX caught a 4.53 pound largemouth bass.

Cochiti Lake: On July 27, Gary Montoya of Rio Rancho caught a 24 inch northern pike. He was fishing for white bass at the time and using a Bomber crank bait.

Abiquiu Lake: On July 28, Stan Kosiewicz of Los Alamos caught and released a 7 pound 27 inch walleye. He was using a crank bait in 24 feet of water at the upper end of the lake. On July 28, Jonathan Rudy Romero of Mora caught a 28 inch channel catfish. He was using night crawlers and fishing on the south side of the lake.

NORTHEAST AREA

CHARETTE LAKES: Trout fishing on the lower lake was very good this past week as several limits were taken by anglers using power bait, elk hair caddis, hoppers and worms. Most of the fish ranged in size from 11-to-15 inches. Fishing was good using worms for perch.

CIMARRON RIVER: Water flow below Eagle Nest as of Monday was 23cfs. Trout fishing was good for anglers using yellow sallies, worms, elk hair caddis, humpys and spinners. Fishing at the Gravel Pit Lakes was fair-to-good for anglers using Pistol Petes, power bait and salmon eggs.

CLAYTON LAKE: Fishing was good this past week for anglers targeting trout and walleye. They did well from the bank and from boats. Best baits for trout were extra scented power bait and worms while walleye were hitting worms and crank baits. We had no reports on other species.

CONCHAS LAKE: Fishing was fair using Ricos, buzz baits, tubes, jerk baits, crank baits and sweet beavers for a mix of largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. A few smallmouth bass were also taken by anglers using drop shot/worm rigs off rocky points. Fishing was fair using grubs, crank baits, minnows and bottom bouncer/night crawler rigs for walleye. Fishing was good using worms, wooly buggers and poppers for bluegill. White bass fishing was fair-to-good for anglers trolling crank baits and casting top water lures. Fishing for catfish was best at night with the best baits being liver and cut bait.

COYOTE CREEK: Trout fishing was good this past week for anglers using worms, elk hair caddis, stimulators, garlic cheese, salmon eggs and spinners.

EAGLE NEST LAKE: Anglers fishing in the Six Mile area this past week reported good fishing while trolling as well as from anchored boats for a mix of rainbow trout and kokanee. They were using power bait, wooly buggers, Pistol Petes and yellow and orange Panther Martins and fishing at depths of 15-to-20 feet. Fishing for perch was good using worms.

- HOPEWELL LAKE:** Trout fishing was good for anglers using stimulators, black gnat and black ant patterns, copper john barrs and salmon eggs.
- LAKE MALOYA/
LAKE ALICE:** Bait fishing for trout was at best sporadic over the past week. Anglers reported good action one day and slow the next at both lakes. Our best reports came from anglers fishing the evening hours at Lake Maloya and using Pistol Petes, black ants and elk hair caddis.
- MAXWELL LAKES** Trout fishing was fair using spinners, red power bait and night crawlers. We had no reports on other species.
- MCALLISTER LAKE** Due to poor water quality, the lake will remain closed until further notice.
- MONASTERY LAKE:** Trout fishing was good for anglers using cheese flavored Gulp bait, Pistol Petes, corn and small spinners.
- MORPHY LAKE:** Trout fishing was fair this past week for anglers using spinners, worms and bead head nymphs and fishing from boats. Fishing from the bank was slow-to-fair for anglers casting beyond the grass lines and using salmon eggs and power bait.
- PECOS RIVER:** Water flow near the town of Pecos as of Monday morning was 84cfs. Trout fishing this past week was very good using night crawlers, spinners, stimulators, wooly buggers, elk hair caddis and copper john barrs.
- RED RIVER:** Water flow below the hatchery was 147cfs. Trout fishing was fair-to-good using spinners, stimulators, salmon eggs and night crawlers.
- RIO GRANDE:** The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 648cfs. Trout fishing was fair using jerk baits, night crawlers, power eggs, hoppers, wooly buggers and spinners. A few northern pike were taken by anglers using jerk baits and large bunny leeches. We had no reports on other species.
- SHUREE PONDS:** Trout fishing was good for anglers using Daredevles, Kastmasters, hoppers, wooly buggers and Pistol Petes.
- SPRINGER LAKE:** Fishing was slow-to-fair using crank baits, jerk baits and live bait for northern pike. A few mud cats were taken by anglers using live bait and cut bait. We had no reports on other species.
- STORRIE LAKE:** Fishing for catfish was fair using corn and worms and fishing at night. Fishing was fair-to-good for anglers using pink power bait, cheese baits and pink eggs for trout. We had no reports on other species.
- STUBBLEFIELD:
UTE LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week. Fishing for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass was fair this past week for anglers using tubes, sweet beavers, top water lures, jerk baits and crank baits. Most of the bass were taken in less than 12 feet of water. The best action was reported by anglers fishing early and late in the day. Fishing was very good using top water lures, crank baits and jerk baits for schooling white bass. A few walleye were taken by anglers fishing at night and using minnows. We had no reports on other species.

NORTHWEST AREA

- ABIQUIU LAKE:** Fishing was fair-to-good using crank baits, tubes, grubs, bottom bouncer/night crawler rigs, minnows and jigs for walleye. Most of the walleye were taken by anglers fishing deep flats. Fishing was good using top water lures, crank baits, tubes, sweet beavers and worms for smallmouth bass. Fishing for catfish was fair and best at night for anglers using night crawlers, stink bait and hot dogs. We had no reports on other species.
- BLUEWATER LAKE:** Fishing pressure was very light again this past week and fishing was rated as slow for all species.
- CANJILON LAKES:** Trout fishing on the upper lake was fair for anglers using Pistol Petes, spinners, worms, power bait and fly and bubble combinations. The lower lakes were quite murky.
- CHAMA RIVER:** Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 200cfs and 240cfs respectively. Fishing below El Vado was good using power bait, salmon eggs, night crawlers and spinners for rainbow trout. Fishing was fair-to-good using night crawlers, Panther Martins and hoppers for brown trout. Ray Cisneros of Cuba caught several brown trout ranging in size from 14-to-19 inches while using a hopper pattern. We had no reports this week from below Abiquiu.
- COCHITI LAKE:** Fishing was good trolling Bombers, Z Rays, Rooster Tails and Wally Divers for white bass. Anglers trolling also picked up a few northern pike and smallmouth bass. Fishing was

- good using buzz baits, worms, crank baits and jigs for largemouth bass. Fishing was fair using minnows and stink bait at night for catfish. We had no reports on other species.
- EL VADO LAKE:** Trout fishing was good again this past week as anglers reported catching several rainbows in the 15-to-18 inch size while fishing from the bank and from boats. Best baits were spoons, spinners and night crawlers.
- FARMINGTON LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.
- FENTON LAKE:** Fishing was fair-to-good for anglers using bright colored power baits and worms for rainbow trout. A few fish were also taken on Pistol Petes. The water was off color.
- HERON LAKE:** Kokanee fishing continued to be very good this past week. Anglers did well using orange and rainbow colored spinners and double whammies tipped with corn at depths of 25-to-35 feet. The fish ranged in size from 13-to-17 inches. Anglers fishing for kokanee also caught a few rainbows. Fishing from the bank was slow-to-fair using power bait, worms and spinners for rainbow trout. We had no reports on other species.
- JEMEZ WATERS:** Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 37cfs near Jemez Springs. Trout fishing on the Jemez, Rio Guadalupe, San Antonio and East Fork was fair-to-good for anglers using parachute adams, royal wulffs, hoppers, copper john barrs, small gold spinners, worms and salmon eggs.
- LAGUNA Del CAMPO:** (Burns Canyon Lake) Trout fishing was fair for anglers using worms, Pistol Petes, spinners and salmon eggs.
- MANZANO LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- MCGAFFEY LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.
- NAVAJO LAKE:** Fishing for kokanee and rainbow trout was very good this past week. Anglers did well fishing the main lake between the dam and Sims Mesa and using Panther Martins, Rooster Tails, Double Whammies and kokanee killers tipped with corn. They were trolling at depths of 25-to-45 feet. Fishing was fair-to-good using jerk baits, crank baits, spinner baits and buzz baits for northern pike. There was some good pike action at the upper end of the San Juan arm but there were also reports of pike taken on the main lake, the Pine arm and in Francis Canyon. Fishing was fair using jerk baits, tubes, top water lures, drop shot/worm rigs and crank baits for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Fishing was fair using small jigs, worms and poppers for bluegill. We had no reports on other species.
- RAMAH LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species. The water was quite low.
- SAN JUAN:** Water flow below Navajo Lake as of Monday morning was at 508cfs. Trout fishing was good using red annelids, small bead head pheasant tail nymphs, orange sparkle worms, streamers, dead chickens and parachute adams. Fishing through the bait waters was fair-to-good using night crawlers, Pistol Petes, spinners, cheese baits, copper john barrs, parachute adams, salmon eggs and jerk baits.
- SANTA CRUZ LAKE:** Trout fishing was fair using spinners, worms and salmon eggs.
- SEVEN SPRINGS
BROOD POND:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- TINGLEY BEACH:** Fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was fair using worms and stink bait for bluegill and catfish. At the Catch and Release Pond trout fishing was fair early in the day for anglers using parachute adams, dead chickens, Griffith's gnats and leeches.

SOUTHWEST AREA

- BEAR CANYON:** Fishing was slow for all species.
- BILL EVANS LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- BURN LAKE:** Fishing was slow.
- CABALLO LAKE:** Fishing was very good this past week trolling white, silver and chrome colored crank baits for white bass. Most of the action was on the east side of the lake. Anglers trolling for white bass also picked up a few walleye. We had no reports on other species. Runoff from heavy rains in the hills created murky water conditions over the past weekend.
- ELEPHANT BUTTE:** Fishing was good using crank baits, top water lures, live bait and grubs for white bass. Most of the white bass were taken by anglers fishing between the Jungles and Kettle Top. Anglers fishing for white bass also caught several walleye. Fishing was fair using sweet beavers, power worms, Sammy 100s, Ricos, crank baits, senkos and jerk baits for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Like last week, several bass were taken off main lake points and in cuts in or near salt cedars. Anthony Ned and Carlton Earley of El Paso caught limits of bass in the 1.5-to-3 pound class while using live crayfish. Striped bass

fishing was slow-to-fair for anglers using live bait, deep running crank baits and top water lures. Fishing was fair using cut bait, shrimp, hot dogs and Gulp crawlers for catfish. Most of the catfish action was at the upper end of the lake.

- ESCONDIDA LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- GILA RIVER:** Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 443cfs. High water on the Forks kept anglers away this past weekend. Fishing was slow.
- LAKE ROBERTS:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- PERCHA DAM:** Fishing was slow for all species.
- QUEMADO LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.
- RIO GRANDE:** Water flow below Elephant Butte on Monday was 595cfs. Fishing on this stretch of river was fair using stink bait and night crawlers for catfish. Fishing in the San Marcial area was slow but there were a few catfish taken by anglers using cut bait and minnows. Fishing on the river below Caballo was slow.
- SNOW LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- SOUTHEAST AREA**
- BATAAN LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- BONITO LAKE:** Before the big rains, trout fishing was fair-to-good early in the day using power bait, salmon eggs, spinners and Pistol Petes.
- BOSQUE REDONDO:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- BOTTOMLESS LAKES:** Fishing was slow. Stocking has been suspended due to a golden algae bloom.
- BRANTLEY LAKE:** Anglers are to practice catch and release for all fish here as high levels of DDT were found in several fish.
- CARLSBAD MUNICIPAL LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.
- GRINDSTONE RESERVOIR:** Due to the heavy flooding in the area, anglers are advised to avoid the area until further notice.
- JAL LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.
- LAKE VAN:** Fishing was slow for all species.
- PECOS RIVER:** Water flow on Monday below Sumner Lake was 139cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.
- PERCH LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.
- RUIDOSO RIVER:** Water flow at Ruidoso on Monday was 614cfs. Flooding has closed several roads in the area and anglers are advised to avoid attempting to travel here for the next several days.
- SANTA ROSA LAKE:** Fishing was fair-to-good this past week using tubes, worms, jerk baits, crank baits and top water lures for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Most of the bass were taken out of less than 8 feet of water. Fishing was fair using crank baits, tubes, grubs, minnows, jerk baits and bottom bouncer/worm rigs for walleye. A few catfish were taken by anglers using hot dogs and liver. We had no reports on other species.
- SUMNER LAKE:** Fishing was slow-to-fair for anglers using minnows, tubes, worms, crank baits and top water lures for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing was fair using night crawlers, minnows and stink bait for catfish. We had no reports on other species.

Stocking Report:

Crews stocked 20,774 rainbow trout averaging 10.2 inches in the following waters: CANJILON LAKES, CHAMA RIVER-Above El Vado, CIMARRON RIVER-West of Cimarron, CIMARRON RIVER GRAVEL PIT LAKES, COYOTE CREEK-Near Guadalupita, COYOTE CREEK POND, GLENWOOD POND, HOLY GHOST CREEK, HONDO RIVER, HOPEWELL LAKE, LAGUNA DEL MADRE-Burns Lake, LAGUNITAS LAKES, MONASTERY LAKE, MORA-Pecos River Drainage, MT VIEW PONDS, PANCHUELA CREEK, PECOS RIVER-Cowles to Village of Pecos, RED RIVER-Above Questa, RED RIVER EAST FORK, RED RIVER WEST FORK, RIO PUEBLO, SAN ANTONIO RIVER, SAN JUAN RIVER-Below Quality Waters, SEVEN SPRINGS BROOD POND, SHUREE PONDS & WINSOR CREEK. In addition crews stocked 192,000 kokanee salmon fingerlings in Heron Reservoir and Navajo Reservoir and 294 Rio Grande Cutthroat trout averaging 12.9 inches in length in the Pecos River from Cowles to the Village of Pecos.