

# New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

*NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn*

## Week of September 20, 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.

If you have a catch of the week story or just want to tell us about your latest New Mexico fishing experience, send it to us at [fishforfun2@hotmail.com](mailto:fishforfun2@hotmail.com). We may include your story in our next report. For catches of the week, include name, date, location, type of fish, length and bait used.

**FREE FISHING DAY:** Mark your calendar for September 27. This is a free fishing day. No license is required to fish public waters. All other rules apply. Take the whole family and have a great day of fishing fun!

### CATCHES OF THE WEEK:

**Conchas Lake:** On September 20, Michael Bock of Albuquerque caught a 3.9 pound smallmouth bass.

**Heron Lake:** On September 21, Mark Bayliss of Raton caught a 19.25 inch kokanee. He was trolling an orange Cripp lure.

**Ute Lake:** On September 21, Craig Dillion of Colorado Springs caught a 5.29 largemouth bass. He was fishing a tournament.

### NORTHEAST AREA

- CHARENTE LAKES:** Trout fishing on the lower lake was good using salmon eggs, worms and corn/marshmallow combinations. Fishing was fair using worms for perch.
- CIMARRON RIVER:** Water flow below Eagle Nest Lake as of Monday was 37cfs. Trout fishing was good using salmon eggs, worms, spinners and copper john bairs. We had no reports from the gravel pit lakes.
- CLAYTON LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species but there were a few trout taken by anglers using worms.
- CONCHAS LAKE:** Fishing was fair using liver, minnows, night crawlers and dough baits for catfish. Fishing was slow for all other species but there were a few smallmouth bass, crappie and white bass caught by anglers using minnows and crank baits. The fish were scattered at various depths.
- COYOTE CREEK:** Trout fishing was very good for anglers using worms, yellow power bait, spinners and a fly and bubble. Angler James Howden reported that he and his fishing partner caught limits of 12 inch trout this last week and experienced some of the best fishing all summer.
- EAGLE NEST LAKE:** Trout and kokanee fishing was fair-to-good this past week for anglers fishing from boats and from the bank. Best baits were sparkle power bait, garlic cheese, spinners tipped with corn and salmon eggs. A few perch were taken on worms and power bait. Kokanee snagging season opens October 1.
- HOPEWELL LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- LAKE MALOYA/  
LAKE ALICE:** Trout fishing at Lake Maloya was good using sparkle power bait and salmon eggs. Fishing at Lake Alice was good for anglers using corn.
- LOS PINOS RIVER:** Trout fishing was good for anglers using salmon eggs and worms.
- MAXWELL LAKES** The water was extremely low and fishing was slow.
- MCALLISTER LAKE** Due to poor water quality, the lake will remain closed until further notice.
- MONASTERY LAKE:** Trout fishing was fair using power bait, Pistol Petes and salmon eggs.
- MORPHY LAKE:** Trout fishing was fair-to-good using power bait, salmon eggs and worms.
- PECOS RIVER:** Water flow near the town of Pecos as of Monday morning was 51cfs. Trout fishing was good using salmon eggs, worms, power bait and bead head prince nymphs.
- RED RIVER:** Water flow below the hatchery was 80cfs. Trout fishing was very good using wooly buggers, spinners, salmon eggs and night crawlers.
- RIO GRANDE:** The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 276cfs. Trout fishing in the Pilar area and above Taos was good using streamers, night crawlers, San Juan worms and spinners.
- SHUREE PONDS:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- SPRINGER LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.

**STORRIE LAKE:** Trout fishing was good using power bait and salmon eggs. Best reports came from anglers fishing near the inlet.

**UTE LAKE:** Fishing for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass was fair-to-good for some but slow for others. Best baits were swim baits, top water lures and spinner baits. Fishing was fair using top water lures, crank baits and spinners for white bass. A few walleye were taken by anglers using bottom bouncer rigs with night crawlers or minnows at 20-to-25 feet. Fishing was fair using liver and minnows for catfish.

## **NORTHWEST AREA**

**ABIQUIU LAKE:** Fishing was slow-to-fair using deep running crank baits and bottom bouncer/worm rigs for walleye. Fishing was slow-to-fair using tubes, jigs and worms for smallmouth bass. We had no reports on other species.

**ANIMAS RIVER:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**BLUEWATER LAKE:** Fishing was very slow for all species.

**CANJILON LAKES:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**CHAMA RIVER:** Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 586cfs and 843cfs respectively. Fishing below El Vado was slow-to-fair using night crawlers, streamers and spinners for brown trout and salmon eggs for rainbow trout. We had no reports from below Abiquiu.

**COCHITI LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species. A few small bass were taken by anglers using minnows.

**EL VADO LAKE:** Fishing was slow. A few trout were taken by anglers using night crawlers, spinners, power bait and salmon eggs.

**FARMINGTON LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**FENTON LAKE:** Trout fishing improved this past week. Several anglers did well using worms for fish up to 14 inches. A few were also taken on salmon eggs and wooly buggers.

**HERON LAKE:** Took a little longer but anglers still managed to catch some limits of kokanee this past week. The fish were scattered from the surface to about 60 feet. Best baits were orange and yellow Panther Martins and Crippures. Fishing for all other species was slow.

**JEMEZ WATERS:** Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 21cfs near Jemez Springs. Trout fishing on the Jemez, the Cebolla and the Rio Guadalupe was fair-to-good using worms, night crawlers, copper john barrs and salmon eggs.

**LAGUNA Del CAMPO:** (Burns Canyon Lake) We had no reports from anglers this week.

**MANZANO LAKE:** Fishing was slow.

**MCGAFFEY LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**NAVAJO LAKE:** Fishing for smallmouth bass was slow but there were a few taken by anglers using jigs, spinner baits and tubes. Fishing was slow-to-fair trolling spinners tipped with corn for kokanee. The kokanee snagging season opens October 1. A few northern pike were caught by anglers using spinner baits and crank baits. We had no reports on other species.

**RAMAH LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**RIO PUEBLO:** Trout fishing was fair-to-good using an assortment of small flies.

**SAN JUAN:** Water flow below Navajo Lake as of Monday morning was at 832cfs. Trout fishing in the Quality Waters was very good for anglers using size 20-to-26 emergers and pheasant tail nymphs under a strike indicator. The best action was reported by anglers fishing the Texas Hole area. They caught several good size brown and rainbow trout. Fishing through the bait waters was good using worms, salmon eggs, streamers and spinners.

**SANTA CRUZ LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**SEVEN SPRINGS  
BROOD POND:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**TINGLEY BEACH:** Fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was fair using night crawlers, flies and worms for bluegill. Fishing was slow-to-fair using dough bait, hot dogs and night crawlers for catfish. Trout fishing at the Catch and Release pond was poor.

## **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 for all species.

**CABALLO LAKE:** Fishing was slow. Fishing pressure was light.

**ELEPHANT BUTTE:** Fishing was fair-to-good trolling and casting crank baits and spoons and using top water lures and grubs for white bass. The best reports came in from anglers fishing near Kettle Top and the mouth of McRae Canyon. Fishing was good using cut bait, shrimp, dough bait and liver for catfish. Fishing was slow-to-fair using top water lures, tubes, spinner baits, jigs and jerk baits for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Striped bass fishing was slow.

**ESCONDIDA LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.

**GILA RIVER:** Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 111cfs. Fishing on the Forks was slow for all species.

**GLENWOOD POND:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**LAKE ROBERTS:** Fishing was slow-to-fair using worms, power bait and salmon eggs for trout. We had no reports on other species.

**PERCHA DAM:** Fishing was fair using chicken liver and worms for catfish. We had no reports on other species.

**QUEMADO LAKE:** Trout fishing was fair-to-good using wooly worms and Pistol Petes. A few fish were also taken on power bait. We had no reports on tiger musky.

**RIO GRANDE:** Water flow below Elephant Butte on Monday was 38cfs. Fishing below Caballo was fair using liver and night crawlers for catfish. We had no reports on other species.

## **SOUTHEAST AREA**

**BATAAN LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**BONITO LAKE:** Trout fishing was good using salmon eggs under a bobber, power bait, spinners and bead head nymphs.

**BOSQUE REDONDO:** Fishing was slow-to-fair using liver and night crawlers for catfish. One largemouth bass was caught by an angler using worms. We had no reports on other species.

**BOTTOMLESS LAKES:** Fishing was slow. Stocking has been suspended.

**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:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**GRINDSTONE RESERVOIR:** Trout fishing was fair using power bait, salmon eggs, wooly buggers and spinners.

**JAL LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**LAKE VAN:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

**PECOS RIVER:** Water flow on Monday below Sumner Lake was 129cfs. Fishing for catfish was good using liver, night crawlers and stink bait. Four good size walleye were caught by anglers using night crawlers.

**PERCH LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.

**RUIDOSO RIVER:** Water flow near Hollywood on Monday was 24cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

**SANTA ROSA LAKE:** Fishing was slow-to-fair trolling crank baits and spinner/worm rigs in the main channel for walleye. A few smallmouth bass were taken by anglers working the east side and using tubes, worms, brush hogs and crank baits. We had no reports on other species.

**SUMNER LAKE:** Fishing was fair using crank baits, minnows, bottom bouncer/worm rigs and grubs for a mix of walleye and white bass. A few smallmouth and largemouth bass were taken by anglers using spinner baits, tubes and crank baits. Fishing was fair using liver and night crawlers for catfish.

### **Stocking Report:**

Crews stocked 22,903 rainbow trout averaging 10.2 inches in the following waters: BLUE HOLE PARK POND, BLUEWATER LAKE, BRAZOS RIVER, CHAMA RIVER-Above and Below El Vado and Below Abiquiu, EL RITO CREEK-Near Santa Rosa, HOLY GHOST CREEK, LA JUNTA CREEK, LAGUNA DEL CAMPO-aka Burn Lake, LAKE ALICE, LAKE MALOYA, MCGAFFEY LAKE, MONASTERY LAKE, MORA-Pecos River Drainage, MORPHY RESERVOIR, PECOS RIVER-Cowles to Village of Pecos, Village of Pecos to Villanueva and Villanueva to I-40, RIO PUEBLO & STORRIE RESERVOIR.

In addition crews stocked 15,126 fingerling Rio Grande cutthroat trout in the following waters: GOOSE LAKE, HORSESHOE LAKE, LOST LAKE, MIDDLE FORK LAKE & PECOS RIVER-Cowles to Village of Pecos.