

New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn

Week of February 21, 2009

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. 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.

CATCHES OF THE WEEK:

Cochiti Lake: On February 22, Justin Easley of Albuquerque caught and released a 10 pound walleye. He was using a minnow and fishing about 25 feet deep.

Santa Rosa Lake: On February 22, Eldon McWhorter of Bosque Farms caught a 3.7 pound largemouth bass. He was using a jig and craw combination.

Eagle Nest Lake: On February 22, Jason Quintero age 7 of Albuquerque caught a heavy 18 inch rainbow trout. He was fishing near the north dock and using a Rapala ice jig tipped with a worm. It was his first time ice fishing.

The following waters open for fishing on March 1st: Charette Lakes, Clayton Lake, Maxwell Lakes and Red River City Ponds. McAllister Lake was scheduled to open but due to the high golden algae content it will remain closed for now.

NORTHEAST AREA

CONCHAS LAKE: Fishing was very slow for all species. Fishing pressure was light.

EAGLE NEST LAKE: Ice thickness as of Monday was about 17 inches. Fishing was good using ice jigs, worms, Gulp eggs, salmon eggs and power bait for a mix of perch and rainbow trout. Several of the trout were in the 16-to-18 inch range. For updated ice conditions call the park office at 575-377-1594.

LAKE MALOYA/

LAKE ALICE: Bank fishing at Lake Maloya was very good using home made dough baits, power bait and salmon eggs for trout. At Lake Alice, ice fishing was slow with a few trout taken on power bait and home made dough baits. For updated conditions call the state park office at 575-445-5607.

MONASTERY LAKE: We had no reports from anglers this week.

PECOS RIVER: Trout fishing was slow.

RED RIVER: Water flow below the hatchery was 53cfs. Trout fishing was fair using salmon egg/marshmallow combinations.

RIO GRANDE: The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 544cfs. Fishing was slow but there were a few northern pike caught by anglers using jerk baits and big flies. We had no reports on other species.

STORRIE LAKE: As of Monday the lake was completely free of ice. Trout fishing was slow with a few taken on salmon eggs.
UTE LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species again this past week. Fishing pressure was very light.

NORTHWEST AREA

ABIQUIU LAKE: Fishing was slow but there were a few walleye taken by anglers using fathead minnows and fishing at depths of 17-to-25 feet. We had no reports on other species.

ALBUQUERQUE

AREA DRAINS: Trout fishing on the Albuquerque, Bernalillo, Corrales and Peralta drains was good using salmon eggs, power bait, small spinners, copper john barrs and dead chickens.

BLUEWATER LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species.

CHAMA RIVER: Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 58cfs and 216cfs respectively. Trout fishing below Abiquiu was slow-to-fair using salmon eggs and small spinners. We had no reports from below El Vado.

COCHITI LAKE: Fishing for some anglers was good using beef liver at 25 feet for catfish. Lee Easley, Joe Borlan and their wives from Albuquerque caught and released several catfish ranging from 2-to-5 pounds. They were using beef liver.

EL VADO LAKE: We had no reports from anglers this week.

FENTON LAKE: As of Monday the lake was still closed to fishing but the park was open to other activities. For updated ice conditions, contact the park office at 575-829-3630.

HERON LAKE: Bank fishing was fair-to-good using garlic power bait and salmon eggs for rainbow trout. We had no reports on other species or from boaters.

JEMEZ WATERS: Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 21cfs near Jemez Springs. Trout fishing below Battleship Rock and through the town of Jemez was good using small bead head nymphs and salmon eggs. We had no reports on other streams.

MANZANO LAKE: Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait just off the bottom.

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

NAVAJO LAKE: Fishing continued to be slow with just a few pike and trout caught this past week. The pike fishing was best using deep running crank baits on the San Juan arm while trout fishing was best trolling jointed Rapalas on the main body of the lake. We had no reports on other species.

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

SAN JUAN: Water flow below Navajo Lake as of Monday morning was 493cfs. Trout fishing through the Quality Waters was good using red annelids, San Juan worms, chartreuse egg patterns, wooly buggers, dead chickens and small hair jigs. Fishing through the bait waters was good using salmon eggs, power bait, jigs and jerk baits.

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

TINGLEY BEACH: Trout fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was good using salmon peach and garlic power baits, super dupers and leeches. Fishing at the Catch and Release Pond was very good using zebra midges and leeches.

SOUTHWEST AREA

- BEAR CANYON:** Trout fishing was very good using spinners, worms, salmon eggs and power bait.
- BILL EVANS LAKE:** Trout fishing was fair using spoons, wooly buggers, salmon eggs and power bait.
- BURN LAKE:** Trout fishing was fair-to-good using power bait and salmon eggs.
- CABALLO LAKE:** Fishing continued to be slow for all species.
- ELEPHANT BUTTE:** Fishing was very slow over the past weekend. A few largemouth bass were taken by anglers pounding the banks with jig and craw combos, senkos and power worms. Anglers trolling and casting for white bass and striped bass spent hours on the water with no success. Surface temperatures ranged from 46-to-51 degrees.
- ESCONDIDA LAKE:** Trout fishing was good using salmon eggs, power bait and homemade dough baits.
- GILA RIVER:** Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 73cfs. We had no reports from anglers.
- GLENWOOD POND:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- LAKE ROBERTS:** Trout fishing was fair using salmon eggs, power bait and garlic cheese.
- PERCHA DAM:** Fishing was slow for all species.
- QUEMADO LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- RIO GRANDE:** Water flow below Elephant Butte on Monday was 1,700cfs. Fishing below Elephant Butte was fair using worms and spinners for trout. We had no reports on other species. Fishing below Caballo was slow.

SOUTHEAST AREA

- BATAAN LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- BOSQUE REDONDO:** Trout fishing was fair-to-good using salmon eggs, spinners and power bait.
- BOTTOMLESS LAKES:** Trout fishing was slow with a few fish taken on salmon eggs and power bait.
- BRANTLEY LAKE:** Anglers are to practice catch and release for all fish here as high levels of DDT were found in several fish. This is a good place to work on bass fishing techniques over the winter months.
- CARLSBAD MUNICIPAL LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- GRINDSTONE RESERVOIR:** Trout fishing was very good this past week. Florian Bosch of Alamogordo reported catching several trout ranging from 10-to-15 inches while using pink power bait. Other good baits were salmon eggs and red power bait.
- JAL LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- LAKE VAN:** Trout fishing was fair using salmon eggs and power bait.
- PECOS RIVER:** Water flow on Monday below Sumner Lake was 19cfs. Trout fishing was fair using power bait and salmon eggs.
- PERCH LAKE:** Trout fishing was fair-to-good using salmon eggs, power bait and spinners.
- RUIDOSO RIVER:** Water flow at Hollywood on Monday was 11cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

SANTA ROSA LAKE: Fishing for bass was fair during the past week but slowed over the weekend as the water surface temps dropped from 46 to 39 degrees. Best baits were chigger craws, sweet beavers and jig and craw combinations. Anglers fishing for bass also picked up a few walleye.

SUMNER LAKE: Fishing was fair using minnows, jigs and spoons for 15-to-17 inch walleye. Most of the fish were taken at depths of 15-to-25 feet. Anglers fishing for walleye reported catching an occasional crappie.

Stocking Report:

Crews stocked 23,474 rainbow trout averaging 10.2 inches in length in the following waters: ANIMAS RIVER, AZTEC POND, BEAR CANYON RESERVOIR, BELEN RIVERSIDE DRAIN, BLUE HOLE PARK POND, BOSQUE REDONDO, BURN LAKE, CEBOLLA RIVER, CHAMA RIVER-Below Abiquiu, CHAPARRAL PARK LAKE, CLAYTON LAKE, EL RITO CREEK-Near Santa Rosa, EUNICE LAKE, GALLINAS RIVER-Near Las Vegas, GLENWOOD POND, GREEN MEADOW LAKE, GREENE ACRES LAKE, HARRY MCADAMS PARK POND, JAL LAKE, JEMEZ RIVER, LAKE ROBERTS, NED HOUK PONDS, PECOS RIVER-Lake Sumner to Roswell, PERALTA DRAIN, PERCH LAKE-Guadalupe County, RIO GRANDE-Middle & YOUNG POND.