

New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn

Week of March 14, 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:

Chama River: On March 10, Nick Miera of Albuquerque caught and released a 22 inch German brown. He was fishing the river below Abiquiu Reservoir and using a black and gold countdown Rapala.

Elephant Butte: On March 14, Donald Peters of Las Cruces caught a 5 pound 6 ounce walleye. He was using a plastic worm.

Santa Rosa Lake: On March 14, Frank Ramsey of El Paso, TX caught a 10 pound walleye. He was using a DT4 Rapala and fishing in 3 feet of water. On the same day, Brian Stangel of Albuquerque caught a 4.09 pound largemouth bass. He was using a chigger craw and fishing shallow.

NORTHEAST AREA

CHARETTE LAKES: Fishing was slow.

CIMARRON RIVER: Water flow below Eagle Nest Lake as of Monday was 6cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

CLAYTON LAKE: Fishing was fair using worms corn and power bait for trout and bullheads. We had no reports on other species.

CONCHAS LAKE: Fishing for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass was slow-to-fair using night crawlers, grubs, senkos and crank baits. Fishing for catfish was fair using worms and minnows. Fishing for white bass was slow-to-fair using grubs, minnows and spinners. We had no reports on other species.

EAGLE NEST LAKE: Fishing was good using power bait, salmon eggs, small hair jigs and worms for trout and a few perch.

LAKE MALOYA/

LAKE ALICE: Trout fishing was very good at both lakes. Best baits were sherbet and orange power baits, salmon eggs and home made dough baits.

MCALLISTER LAKE: Closed due to high golden algae content.

MAXWELL LAKE 13: Fishing was slow-to-fair again this past week but there were some good size trout taken on power bait, spinners and spoons.

MONASTERY LAKE: Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using salmon peach power bait, salmon eggs and spinners.

PECOS RIVER: Water flow near the town of Pecos on Monday was 79cfs. Trout fishing was fair using egg patterns, bead head hares ears, salmon eggs and worms.

RED RIVER: Water flow below the hatchery was 58cfs. Trout fishing was good using salmon egg/marshmallow combinations, night crawlers, wooly buggers and copper john barrs.

RIO GRANDE: The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 703cfs. Fishing on the upper Rio was slow for all species with a few trout taken by anglers using wooly buggers and spinners.

SPRINGER LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using cut bait for northern pike up to 26 inches. We had no reports on other species.

STORRIE LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species. Fishing pressure was light.

STUBBLEFIELD: We had no reports from anglers this week.

UTE LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using minnows and grubs for smallmouth bass. A few walleye were taken by anglers using minnows. Fishing for catfish was good using minnows, night crawlers and dough baits. We had no reports on other species.

NORTHWEST AREA

ABIQUIU LAKE: Fishing was fair using minnows, deep diving crank baits and spoons for walleye and smallmouth bass. Fishing was fair using crank baits, night crawlers and minnows for trout. We had no reports on other species.

ALBUQUERQUE

AREA DRAINS: Fishing on the Albuquerque and Corrales Drains was slow-to-fair using spinners, tricos and salmon eggs for trout. Joe Romero reported that the trout fishing was very good on the Peralta Drain using spinners. We had no reports from Bernalillo or Belen.

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

CHAMA RIVER: Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 193cfs and 212cfs respectively. Fishing below Abiquiu was slow-to-fair using jerk baits and spinners for brown trout. Below El Vado, fishing was fair using wooly buggers, peacock nymphs and night crawlers for browns and rainbows.

COCHITI LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using spinner baits and jerk baits for northern pike. Fishing was fair using minnows, jigs and spinner baits for black bass. We had no reports on other species.

EL VADO LAKE: Trout fishing was slow.

FENTON LAKE: Trout fishing was good using Pistol Petes and small spoons. A few fish were also taken on power bait and salmon eggs.

HERON LAKE: Bank fishing was slow with a few trout taken on power bait and salmon eggs. Fishing from boats was slow except for a few small lakers in the 6-to-7 pound class caught by anglers jigging in 30-to-45 feet of water.

JEMEZ WATERS: Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 46cfs near Jemez Springs. Trout fishing on the Cebolla and Jemez was fair using worms, salmon eggs, spinners and small bead head nymphs. We had no reports on other streams.

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

MCGAFFEY LAKE: Trout fishing was slow.

NAVAJO LAKE: Fishing was good using spinner baits and jerk baits for northern pike. The best action was reported to be up the San Juan arm and in La Jara Canyon.

Fishing was slow-to-fair using spinner baits, jigs and tubes for smallmouth bass. 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 499cfs. Trout fishing through the Quality Waters was fair-to-good using egg patterns, small hair jigs, wooly buggers, dead chickens and emergers. Fishing through the bait waters was fair using cheese baits, salmon eggs, power bait and jerk baits.

SANTA CRUZ LAKE: Trout fishing was very good using power baits, salmon eggs, jerk baits, crank baits and spinners. Anglers did well from boats and from the bank.

TINGLEY BEACH: Trout fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was very good using salmon peach power bait, bread rolled into dough balls, salmon eggs, spinners and spoons. Fishing at the Catch and Release Pond was very good using parachute adams, dead chickens, olive, cream and green midges and small pheasant tail nymphs.

SOUTHWEST AREA

BEAR CANYON: Trout fishing was good using salmon eggs, power bait, wooly buggers and worms.

BILL EVANS LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using spoons, power bait, salmon eggs and corn. Fishing for bass was slow-to-fair using swim baits, jigs and spinner baits. We had no reports on other species.

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

CABALLO LAKE: Fishing continued to be slow for all species. The water was quite murky.

ELEPHANT BUTTE: Fishing was fair-to-good for tournament anglers this past weekend using tubes, worms, jigs, senkos and chigger craws for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing was fair-to-good using crank baits, spoons, worms and minnows for white bass and a few walleye. We had no reports on other species.

ESCONDIDA LAKE: Trout fishing was slow.

GILA RIVER: Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 105cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

LAKE ROBERTS: Trout fishing was good using spinners, salmon eggs, power bait and wooly buggers.

PERCHA DAM: Fishing was slow for all species.

QUEMADO LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait for trout. We had no reports on tiger musky.

RIO GRANDE: Water flow below Elephant Butte on Monday was 1,220cfs. Fishing below Elephant Butte was fair using worms, grubs and jigs for walleye. A few white bass were taken on grubs and minnows. 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, wet flies under a bubble and power bait.

BOTTOMLESS

LAKES: Trout fishing was fair using power bait and salmon eggs.

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: Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait, salmon eggs and spinners.

GRINDSTONE

RESERVOIR: Michael Chavez of Roswell reported that the trout fishing was still very good this past weekend. He and two others battled the wind but caught their limits using salmon eggs.

JAL LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using salmon eggs.

LAKE VAN: Trout fishing was good using power bait, cheese, worms and salmon eggs.

PECOS RIVER: Water flow on Monday below Sumner Lake was 93cfs. Trout fishing was slow with just a few fish taken on power bait and salmon eggs. Access to the area immediately below Sumner Lake will close later this week for a water release.

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

RUIDOSO RIVER: Water flow at Ruidoso on Monday was 2.4cfs. Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using bead head nymphs, salmon eggs and worms.

SANTA ROSA LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using chigger craws, sweet beavers, senkos and crank baits for black bass. A few walleye were taken by anglers using crank baits, grubs and worms. We had no reports on other species. The water surface temperature ranged from 43-to-48 degrees. A major water release is scheduled to begin on Wednesday the 18th.

SUMNER LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species and fishing pressure was light. A water release is scheduled to start on the 19th.

Stocking Report:

Crews stocked 17,450 rainbow trout averaging 10.2 inches in length in the following waters: ALBUQUERQUE DRAIN, BELEN RIVERSIDE DRAIN, BERNALILLO DRAIN, CARRIZOZO RECREATION LAKE, CHAPARRAL PARK LAKE, CONSERVANCY PARK LAKE-aka Tingley Beach, CORONA POND, CORRALES RIVERSIDE DRAIN, EUNICE LAKE, GREEN MEADOW LAKE, GRINDSTONE RESERVOIR, HARRY MCADAMS PARK POND, JAL LAKE, PECOS RIVER-Village of Pecos to Villanueva, PERALTA DRAIN, RUIDOSO RIVER & SAN JUAN RIVER-Below Quality Waters.

In addition, crews stocked 36,108 channel catfish averaging 3.1 inches in length in SPRINGER LAKE and STUBBLEFIELD LAKE.