

New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn

Week of March 28, 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:

Ute Lake: On March 25, Matthew Ogas Jauriqui of Roswell caught a 4 pound smallmouth bass. He was using minnows.

Elephant Butte: On March 22, Dustin Starr of Artesia caught a 5 pound 8 ounce smallmouth bass. He was using a junebug craw in 3 feet of water.

Ute Lake: On March 25, Matthew Ogas Jauriqui of Roswell caught a 4 pound smallmouth bass. He was using minnows.

Lake Roberts: On March 29, Nick Jordan Lemme caught a 19 inch rainbow trout. He was using power bait.

Sumner Lake: On March 28, Bob Lechel of Los Alamos caught a 4 pound eight ounce largemouth bass. He was using a black and blue jig with a black and blue chigger craw trailer in less than 6 feet of water.

Santa Rosa Lake: On March 29, Ed Derr of Los Alamos caught a 6.5 pound walleye. He was using a white spinner bait.

Cochiti Lake: On March 29, Jim Moore of Albuquerque caught a 35 inch 10 pound northern pike. He was using a chigger craw and fishing in 3 feet of water on the east side of the lake.

NORTHEAST AREA

CHARENTE LAKES: Tout fishing was slow. Fishing pressure was very light.

CIMARRON RIVER: Water flow below Eagle Nest Lake as of Monday was .2cfs. We had no reports from anglers.

CLAYTON LAKE: Fishing was very good using worms and extra scented power baits for trout up to 15 inches. We had no reports on other species.

CONCHAS LAKE: Fishing for white bass was good using crank baits, minnows and grubs. Fishing was fair using dough bait and liver for catfish. A few smallmouth bass and largemouth bass were caught by anglers using jerk baits, chigger

craws and senkos. We had no reports on other species. Fishing pressure was very light.

EAGLE NEST LAKE: Trout fishing from the bank was very good this past week as several anglers reported catching limits. They were fishing the main lake area and the Six Mile area and were using assorted power baits, salmon eggs and spinners. The lake is open for launching boats.

LAKE MALOYA/

LAKE ALICE: Trout fishing at Lake Maloya was very good using power bait, corn, home made dough baits, salmon egg/corn combinations and salmon eggs. Lake Alice was covered with a thin layer of ice and was unsafe for fishing. The area received 12-to-14 inches of snow over the weekend but the roads are clear.

MCALLISTER LAKE: Closed due to high golden algae content.

MAXWELL LAKE 13: Trout fishing was slow but there were a few good fish taken by anglers using power bait and spinners.

MONASTERY LAKE: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using Pistol Petes, spinners, salmon eggs and power bait.

MORPHY LAKE: Opens for the season April 1.

PECOS RIVER: Water flow near the town of Pecos on Monday was 120cfs. Trout fishing was fair using bead head hares ears, prince nymphs, salmon eggs and night crawlers.

RED RIVER: Water flow below the hatchery was 68cfs. Trout fishing was fair using worms, salmon eggs, wooly buggers and bead head hares ears.

RIO GRANDE: The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 1,000cfs. Fishing on the upper Rio was slow.

SPRINGER LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species. The lake has filled and boats can be launched.

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

STUBBLEFIELD: Fishing was slow for all species.

UTE LAKE: Fishing was good using chicken liver and dough baits in shallow water for catfish. Bad weather kept anglers off the lake for most of the week. Fishing pressure was very light.

NORTHWEST AREA

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

ALBUQUERQUE

AREA DRAINS: Fishing on the Bernalillo, Corrales and Peralta Drains was fair using spinners, dead chickens, parachute adams, worms and salmon eggs for trout. We had no reports from the other drains.

BLUEWATER LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species.

CHAMA RIVER: Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 541cfs and 790cfs respectively. Fishing was slow at both locations.

COCHITI LAKE: Fishing was fair using crank baits, chigger craws and jigs for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. A few northern pike were taken by anglers using spinner baits and chigger craws. Fishing for catfish was slow but there were a few taken by anglers using stink baits and minnows. We had no reports on other species.

- EL VADO LAKE:** Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait, night crawlers and spinners.
- FENTON LAKE:** Fishing was very good using dark green and black Pistol Petes, gold and red spinners and salmon egg/corn combinations for trout up to 15 inches. One group of anglers fishing from a boat reported catching and releasing 44 fish in just a few hours.
- HERON LAKE:** Bank fishing near the spillway was fair using power bait, roe sacs and spinners for trout. We had no reports from boaters.
- JACKSON LAKE:** The lake was recently stocked with rainbow trout but we have no reports from anglers this week.
- JEMEZ WATERS:** Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 54cfs near Jemez Springs. Trout fishing on the Cebolla, East Fork and the Jemez was fair using small copper john barrs, bead head pheasant tail nymphs, parachute adams and worms.
- MANZANO LAKE:** Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait and salmon eggs.
- MCGAFFEY LAKE:** We had no reports from anglers this week.
- NAVAJO LAKE:** Fishing was good using small jigs in Bancos Canyon and Uhl Canyon for crappie. Fishing was fair-to-good using swim baits, jerk baits, spinner baits and crank baits for northern pike. Most of the pike action was up the San Juan arm. Fishing was slow-to-fair using jigs, spinner baits, worms and chigger craws for black bass. The best bass action was reported by anglers fishing in La Jara Canyon. 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 510cfs. Trout fishing through the Quality Waters was fair using RS2s, pheasant tail nymphs, zebra midges, San Juan worms, red annelids, small hair jigs, and wooly buggers. Fishing through the bait waters was fair using night crawlers, hair jigs salmon eggs, spinners and jerk baits.
- SANTA CRUZ LAKE:** Trout fishing was very good using power bait, salmon eggs, corn, worms, spoons and spinners.
- TINGLEY BEACH:** Trout fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was good using Pistol Petes, spinners and garlic, green and chartreuse power baits mixed with bread. Fishing for bluegills was good using worms. Fishing at the Catch and Release Pond was good using red annelids, zebra midges, streamers and dead chickens.

SOUTHWEST AREA

- BEAR CANYON:** Trout fishing was fair using salmon eggs, power bait, corn and worms. A few fish were also taken on wooly buggers and Pistol Petes.
- BILL EVANS LAKE:** Trout fishing was fair using power bait, salmon eggs, worms 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:** Trout fishing was fair using salmon eggs, power bait and worms.
- CABALLO LAKE:** Fishing continued to be slow for all species. The water was quite murky.
- ELEPHANT BUTTE:** Fishing was good using shad and cut bait on trotlines for channel catfish up to 20 pounds. The best action was in the Monticello area in shallow water. Fishing was good using crank baits, spoons and grubs for white bass. There was good white bass action again this week near the

Black Bluffs, the Chalk Bluffs and Rock Canyon. Fishing was fair-to-good using minnows, crank baits, grubs, jigs and senkos for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Most of the bass were in less than six feet of water. A few walleye were caught by anglers using minnows, crank baits and jerk baits. Fishing was fair using live bait for striped bass to 10 pounds.

ESCONDIDA LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using power bait, worms, salmon eggs and salmon egg/marshmallow combinations.

GILA RIVER: Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 92cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

GLENWOOD POND: Trout fishing was good using power bait and salmon eggs.

LAKE ROBERTS: Trout fishing was fair using power bait, home made dough baits and salmon eggs.

PERCHA DAM: Fishing was slow-to-fair using grubs and sassy shad for white bass and a few small walleye.

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

RIO GRANDE: Water flow below Elephant Butte on Monday was 2,610cfs. Fishing below Elephant Butte was slow. Fishing below Caballo was slow-to-fair using grubs and jigs for white bass. We had no reports on other species.

SOUTHEAST AREA

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

BONITO LAKE: Opens for the season April 1.

BOSQUE REDONDO: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using Pistol Petes, salmon eggs, power bait, corn and spinners.

BOTTOMLESS

LAKES: Trout fishing was good using power bait, spinners 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

GRINDSTONE

RESERVOIR: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using salmon eggs, power bait, spinners and small wet flies under a bubble.

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

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

PECOS RIVER: Water flow on Monday below Sumner Lake was 101cfs. Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using worms and power bait. We had no reports on other species.

PERCH LAKE: Trout fishing was good using Pistol Petes, spinners and power bait.

RUIDOSO RIVER: Water flow at Ruidoso on Monday was 12cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

SANTA ROSA LAKE: Fishing was good using tubes, jigs, beavers, crank baits, chigger craws and spinner baits for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Most of the bass were caught in less than 10 feet of water. Fishing was fair using spinner baits, crank baits and tubes for walleye and a few crappie. We had no reports on other species. Surface temps this past week ranged from 49-to-51 degrees during the daytime hours.

SUMNER LAKE: Fishing was fair using tubes, jigs, craws, beavers and crank baits for black bass. Fishing was fair using crank baits, grubs, Gulp minnows and live minnows for walleye. We had no reports on other species. Surface temps over the weekend held in the low 50s.

Stocking Report:

Crews stocked 21,954 rainbow trout averaging 9.7 inches in length in the following waters: ALBUQUERQUE DRAIN, BELEN RIVERSIDE DRAIN, BERNALILLO DRAIN, BILL EVANS LAKE, BURN LAKE, CEBOLLA RIVER, CHAPARRAL PARK LAKE, CONSERVANCY PARK LAKE-aka Tingley Beach, CORRALES RIVERSIDE DRAIN, COYOTE CREEK-Near Guadalupita, COYOTE CREEK POND, EUNICE LAKE, FENTON LAKE, GREEN MEADOW LAKE, HARRY MCADAMS PARK POND, JACKSON LAKE, JAL LAKE, JEMEZ RIVER, PERALTA DRAIN & SANTA CRUZ RESERVOIR.

In addition, crews stocked 441,600 kokanee salmon fry in ABIQUIU RESERVOIR and EL VADO RESERVOIR.