

New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn

Week of April 4, 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.

REMINDER FOR ALL ANGLERS: The new license year begins April 1. Be sure to renew and pick up a copy of the Rules and Regulations before heading out on your next trip.

CATCHES OF THE WEEK:

Navajo Lake: On March 28, Cory Elledge of Farmington caught and released a 9 pound 4 ounce largemouth bass. He was using a 3/8 ounce chatterbait. Photos are posted in ABQs March photos.

Elephant Butte: On April 5, RJ Brewer of Las Cruces caught a 5.46 pound largemouth. He was fishing the Kids of the Southwest BASS Youth tourney. Photos are posted in ABQs April photos.

Heron Lake: On April 5, Henry Rodarte of Albuquerque caught a 9 pound lake trout. He was trolling a rainbow bomber.

Navajo Lake: On April 5, Makeyan Kalmbach, age 10 of Farmington caught a 12.5 pound northern pike and a 7 pound northern pike. She was trolling a crank bait in 15 feet of water.

Santa Rosa Lake: On April 5, Franco Vallejos of Albuquerque caught a 5.5 pound largemouth bass. He was using a black jig in about 2 feet of water.

NORTHEAST AREA

CHARENTE LAKES: We had no reports from anglers this week.

CIMARRON RIVER: Water flow below Eagle Nest Lake as of Monday was .22cfs. Trout fishing was slow.

CLAYTON LAKE: Trout fishing was good using night crawlers and Pistol Petes. We had no reports on other species.

CONCHAS LAKE: Fishing for white bass was fair using crank baits and grubs. A few walleye were taken on minnows, crank baits and grubs. A few catfish were taken by anglers using stink baits. We had no reports on other species.

COYOTE CREEK: Trout fishing was slow with a few fish taken on salmon eggs.

EAGLE NEST LAKE: Trout fishing from the bank continued to be quite good this past week using assorted power baits, salmon eggs, Pistol Petes and spinners. The lake is open for launching boats.

LAKE MALOYA/

LAKE ALICE: Trout fishing at Lake Maloya was good using rainbow and pink power bait. We had no reports from Lake Alice. Fishing pressure this past week was very light.

MCALLISTER LAKE: Closed due to high golden algae content.

MAXWELL LAKE 13: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using garlic and salmon peach power baits, worms and spinners. We had no reports on other species.

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

MORPHY LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using salmon eggs, power bait, worms, Pistol Petes and wooly buggers.

PECOS RIVER: Water flow near the town of Pecos on Monday was 91cfs. Trout fishing on the upper river was fair using night crawlers, copper john barrs, prince nymphs and salmon eggs.

RED RIVER: Water flow below the hatchery was 61cfs. Trout fishing was fair using copper john barrs, salmon eggs, wooly buggers and bead head hares ears.

RIO GRANDE: The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 727cfs. Fishing on the upper Rio was slow.

SPRINGER LAKE: Fishing continued to be slow for all species this past week. Fishing pressure was very light. The lake has filled and boats can be launched.

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

NORTHWEST AREA

ABIQUIU LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using crank baits, minnows, tubes and spoons for walleye. A few smallmouth bass were taken by anglers using worms, tubes and crank baits. We had no reports on other species.

ALBUQUERQUE

AREA DRAINS: Fishing on the Bernalillo, Albuquerque and Peralta Drains was fair using gold spinners, copper john barrs, worms and salmon eggs for trout. We had no reports from the other drains.

BLUEWATER LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species with a few trout taken on salmon eggs, corn and worms.

CHAMA RIVER: Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 547cfs and 527cfs respectively. Fishing was slow at both locations.

COCHITI LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using crank baits and chigger craws for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. A few northern pike were taken by anglers using spinner baits and crank baits. 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: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using Pistol Petes, spoons, power bait and salmon eggs. Anglers reported good success from boats and from the bank.

HERON LAKE: Bank fishing near the spillway and by the La Laja boat ramp was fair-to-good using salmon eggs, power bait and spinners for trout. One decent size lake trout (see catches of the week) was taken by an angler trolling a rainbow bomber.

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

JEMEZ WATERS: Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 38cfs near Jemez Springs. Trout fishing on the Jemez, East Fork and Cebolla was good using small red and green copper john barrs, bead head pheasant tail nymphs, parachute adams, spinners 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 fair using crank baits and jigs for smallmouth bass. The best reports came from anglers fishing the San Juan arm. Fishing was good using jigs for crappie in La Jara, Negro Andy and Bancos canyons. Fishing was fair using crank baits, jerk baits, worms and swim baits for northern pike. A few trout were taken by anglers using power bait and worms. 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 516cfs. Trout fishing through the Quality Waters was fair using pheasant tail nymphs, zebra midges, San Juan worms, red annelids and streamers. Fishing through the bait waters was fair using night crawlers, salmon eggs, spinners and jerk baits.

SANTA CRUZ LAKE: Trout fishing was good using power bait, salmon eggs, worms, spoons and spinners.

TINGLEY BEACH: Trout fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was good using Pistol Petes, 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.

BILL EVANS LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using power bait, salmon eggs, worms and corn. We had no reports on other species.

BURN LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using salmon eggs, power bait and worms.

CABALLO LAKE: Fishing for white bass was good using crank baits, grubs and spinners. We had no reports on other species.

ELEPHANT BUTTE: Fishing was good at the upper end of the main lake using shad and cut bait on trotlines for channel catfish. Several cats were also taken by anglers using stink baits and cut bait over baited holes. Fishing was fair using crank baits, spoons and grubs for white bass. There was good white bass action near the Black Bluffs, Kettle Top and Rock Canyon. Fishing was slow-to-fair using minnows, crank baits, grubs, jigs and senkos for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. A few walleye were caught by anglers using minnows, small jigs and grubs. Fishing was fair using live bait for striped bass.

ESCONDIDA LAKE: Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait, worms, salmon eggs and Pistol Petes.

GILA RIVER: Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 70cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

LAKE ROBERTS: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using wooly buggers, salmon eggs, worms and power bait. Fishing for bass was fair using worms. Fishing was good using stink baits for catfish.

PERCHA DAM: Fishing was fair-to-good using grubs, minnows and crank baits for walleye. We had no reports on other species.

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

RIO GRANDE: Water flow below Elephant Butte on Monday was 1,560cfs. Fishing below Elephant Butte was fair using white and chartreuse grubs and minnows for walleye and a few white bass. Fishing below Caballo was fair using grubs and crank baits for walleye. 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. Over the past weekend anglers reported slow conditions on Saturday but excellent fishing Sunday. Fishing on Bonito Creek was fair using salmon eggs.

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

BOTTOMLESS

LAKES: Trout fishing was slow.

BRANTLEY LAKE: Anglers are to practice catch and release for all fish here as high levels of DDT were found in several fish. Fishing for all species was slow.

CARLSBAD

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

GRINDSTONE

RESERVOIR: Trout fishing was good using Pistol Petes, salmon eggs and power bait.

JAL LAKE: Trout fishing was slow.

LAKE VAN: Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait, worms, Pistol Petes and salmon eggs. Fishing pressure was very light.

PECOS RIVER: Water flow on Monday below Sumner Lake was 103cfs. Fishing was slow for all species.

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

RUIDOSO RIVER: Water flow at Ruidoso on Monday was 11cfs. Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using salmon eggs and small bead head nymphs.

SANTA ROSA LAKE: Fishing was fair using Rat-L-Traps, black jigs and tubes for largemouth bass. Fishing was fair using crank baits, grubs and tubes for walleye and crappie. A few catfish were taken by anglers using worms and minnows. We had no reports on other species.

SUMNER LAKE: High winds, a series of fronts and muddy water slowed fishing this past week. Fishing pressure was very light and the action was slow for all species.

Stocking Report:

Crews stocked 21,932 rainbow trout averaging 9.4 inches in length in the following waters: ANIMAS RIVER, AZTEC POND, BLACK RIVER, BONITO LAKE, BRAZOS RIVER, CARLSBAD MUNICIPAL LAKE, CHAMA RIVER-Above and Below El Vado, LAGUNA DEL MADRE-Burns

Lake, LAKE ALICE, LAKE MALOYA, LAKE ROBERTS, MAXWELL LAKE 13, RAMAH LAKE & SAN JUAN-Below Quality Waters.

In addition, crews stocked 78,162 fingerling rainbow trout in Eagle Nest Lake.