

New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn

Week of April 25, 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 April 22, Harold Westall of Logan caught a 6.94 pound walleye. He was using a chartreuse marabou jig. On April 26, Earl Conway of Albuquerque caught a 5.5 pound largemouth bass. He was using a sweet beaver in shallow water.

Elephant Butte Lake: On April 26, Dan Rice of Albuquerque caught a 4.90 pound largemouth bass. He was using a tube. On the same day John Hayes of Albuquerque caught a 4.88 pound largemouth bass.

Heron Lake: On April 21 Jack Martinez of Albuquerque caught a 13 pound 4 ounce lake trout. He was using a swim bait. On April 24 Skip Arnold of Albuquerque caught a 10 pound 2 ounce lake trout. He was using a red and white flat fish. On April 25 Bill White of Edgewood caught a 12 pound eight ounce lake trout. He was using a blue big mac. On the same day Will White of Albuquerque caught a 10 pound 4 ounce lake trout. He was using a rainbow bomber.

NORTHEAST AREA

CHARENTE LAKES: Fishing was fair-to-good using power bait, salmon eggs and spoons for trout.

CIMARRON RIVER: Water flow below Eagle Nest Lake as of Monday was 52cfs. Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using spinners, wooly buggers, worms and copper john barrs.

CLAYTON LAKE: Trout fishing was very good using extra scented power bait, Pistol Petes, Colorado spoons and night crawlers. Dee Culbert of Texpline, TX caught a limit of 16-to-18 inch trout while Lucas Earle of Clayton landed two that were 18 inch twins. We had no reports on other species.

CONCHAS LAKE: Surface temps this past week ranged from 54-to-57 degrees. Walleye fishing was fair using spinners, minnows, crank baits and grubs. Fishing for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass was slow-to-fair using tubes, senkos, jerk baits and chigger craws. A few crappie were taken by anglers using minnows and jigs.

COYOTE CREEK: Trout fishing was good using salmon eggs, copper john barrs, bead head hares ears and small spinners.

EAGLE NEST LAKE: Trout fishing was good using Kastmasters, Pistol Petes, power bait and salmon eggs. A few perch were taken by anglers using worms.

LAKE MALOYA/

LAKE ALICE: Trout fishing was rated as fair-to-good at both lakes. The water was off color and spoons and spinners worked better than the power bait and home made dough baits.

MCALLISTER LAKE: Closed due to high golden algae content.

MAXWELL LAKE 13: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

MORPHY LAKE: Trout fishing was very good using salmon eggs, power bait, wooly buggers, Pistol Petes and spinners.

PECOS RIVER: Water flow near the town of Pecos on Monday was 577cfs. Trout fishing was slow due to the high runoff.

RED RIVER: Water flow below the hatchery was 179cfs. Trout fishing was slow-to-fair near the hatchery using night crawlers, wooly buggers and salmon eggs.

RIO GRANDE: The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 1,600cfs. Fishing was slow for all species. A few trout were taken by anglers using night crawlers and wooly buggers.

SPRINGER LAKE: Fishing continued to be slow for all species this past week. Fishing pressure was very light.

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 very good using minnows, grubs, jerk baits and crank baits for white bass. Fishing was fair-to-good using jerk baits, crank baits, spinner/worm combinations, grubs and jigs for walleye. Fishing was good using minnows and jigs for crappie with most of the action up the Canadian arm of the lake. Fishing was fair-to-good using jerk baits, senkos, sweet beavers, chigger craws and jigs in 2-to-6 feet of water for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Fishing for catfish was slow.

NORTHWEST AREA

ABIQUIU LAKE: Fishing was fair-to-good using crank baits, tubes, grubs and minnows for walleye. Fishing for smallmouth bass was fair-to-good using tubes, craws, crank baits and jerk baits. A few brown trout were taken by anglers using crank baits and minnows.

ALBUQUERQUE

AREA DRAINS: Fishing the Corrales Drain was fair using worms for bluegill. We had no reports on other species or from other drains.

BLUEWATER LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species. A few trout were taken on power bait and spinners.

CHAMA RIVER: Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 892cfs and 1,110cfs respectively. Trout fishing was slow in both areas.

COCHITI LAKE: Fishing was fair using jigs, worms, chigger craws and crank baits for smallmouth bass, largemouth bass and northern pike. Royce Scheetz of Santa Fe reported a good morning bite using brown jigs for largemouth bass and pumpkin/blue flake worms for smallmouth and pike. A few white bass were taken by anglers using crank 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 spoons.

FENTON LAKE: Trout fishing from the bank and from boats was very good using black and olive wooly buggers, Pistol Petes, spoons, power bait and salmon eggs.

HERON LAKE: Fishing for lake trout was fair using an assortment of swim baits and crank baits at 27-to-35 feet and fishing near the island. Fishing for rainbow trout was fair using spoons, spinners and power bait.

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

JEMEZ WATERS: Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 176cfs near Jemez Springs. With high runoff our best reports this past week came from anglers fishing the upper Cebolla. They did well using salmon eggs and copper john barrs for trout up to 10 inches.

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

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

NAVAJO LAKE: Fishing was fair using crank baits, jerk baits, chigger craws, senkos, tubes and jigs for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing was good using jigs for crappie in La Jara Canyon. Fishing was fair-to-good using crank baits, jerk baits, jigs, spinner baits and swim baits for northern pike. We had no reports on other species.

RAMAH LAKE: Fishing was slow.

SAN JUAN: Water flow below Navajo Lake as of Monday morning was 522cfs. Trout fishing through the Texas Hole and Upper Flats areas was good using small pheasant tail nymphs, wooly buggers, chamois leeches, San Juan worms, parachute adams, and red annelids. Fishing through the bait waters was fair using night crawlers, salmon eggs, hair jigs and jerk baits.

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

TINGLEY BEACH: Trout fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was slow-to-fair using Pistol Petes, and power bait mixed with bread. Fishing for bluegill was good using worms. Fishing at the Catch and Release Pond was good using midges, egg patterns, chamois leeches and small streamers.

SOUTHWEST AREA

BEAR CANYON: We had no reports from anglers this week.

BILL EVANS LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using power bait, salmon eggs, worms and corn. Bass fishing was fair using swim baits and jigs. A few bluegill were taken on worms. We had no reports on other species.

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

CABALLO LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using minnows and grubs for white bass. We had no reports on other species.

ELEPHANT BUTTE: Fishing was good using minnows for crappie. Fishing was good using minnows, grubs and crank baits for white bass. According to Steve Wysocki, night fishing for catfish had slowed over the weekend. From Friday night into Saturday they only caught 10 catfish in a 12 hour period. They were using crayfish, minnows and liver. Fishing for walleye was fair using minnows, grubs and crankbaits. Fishing was very good using tubes, senkos, worms, chigger craws, sweet beavers, grubs, jerk baits and crank baits for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. We had no reports on other species.

ESCONDIDA LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species.

GILA RIVER: Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 71cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

LAKE ROBERTS: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using spoons, power bait, wooly buggers, salmon eggs and worms. Fishing for bass was slow-to-fair using worms and crank baits. We had no reports on other species.

PERCHA DAM: Fishing was fair using chartreuse and white grubs for walleye and white bass. We had no reports on other species.

QUEMADO LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using Pistol Petes, salmon eggs and power bait. Fishing for tiger musky was fair-to-good using jerk baits.

RIO GRANDE: Water flow below Elephant Butte on Monday was 2,310cfs. Fishing below Elephant Butte was slow. Fishing below Caballo was slow-to-fair using grubs and crank baits for walleye and white bass. We had no reports on other species.

SOUTHEAST AREA

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

BONITO LAKE: Trout fishing was very good using power bait, salmon eggs and spoons.

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

BOTTOMLESS

LAKES: We had no reports from anglers this week.

BRANTLEY LAKE: Anglers are to practice catch and release for all fish here as high levels of DDT were found in several fish. We had no reports from anglers this week.

CARLSBAD

MUNICIPAL LAKE: Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait, salmon eggs, worms and spoons.

GRINDSTONE

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

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

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

PECOS RIVER: Water flow on Monday below Sumner Lake was 104cfs. Fishing was slow for all species.

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

RUIDOSO RIVER: Water flow at Ruidoso on Monday was 15cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

SANTA ROSA LAKE: Fishing was good using crank baits, grubs, minnows and 4 inch worms for crappie. Fishing was fair using chigger craws, tubes, senkos, chatter baits and crank baits for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Fishing was fair using crank baits, grubs and spinner/worm combinations for walleye.

SUMNER LAKE: Fishing was fair-to-good using grubs, crank baits senkos, tubes and spinner baits for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing was fair using minnows, crank baits and grubs for a mix of walleye, white bass and crappie. Water surface temps over the past weekend ranged from 50-to-56 degrees.

Stocking Report:

Crews stocked 13,652 rainbow trout averaging 10.2 inches in length in the following waters:

BLUE HOLE PARK POND, COSTILLA CREEK, EAGLE ROCK LAKE, EL RITO CREEK-Near Santa Rosa, ESTANCIA PARK LAKE, JEMEZ RIVER, LAKE ALICE, LAKE MALOYA, LAS HUERTAS CREEK-aka Ellis Creek, MANZANO LAKE, MONASTERY LAKE, MORA-Pecos River

Drainage, MORPHY RESERVOIR, MT VIEW PONDS, PANCHUELA CREEK, PECOS RIVER-Cowles to Village of Pecos, RED RIVER HATCHERY POND, RIO LAS VACAS, SNOW LAKE AND WINSOR CREEK.

In addition crews stocked 4,047,302 walleye fry in Conchas Lake, Stubblefield Lake & Ute Lake, 368,128 kokanee fry in Heron Lake and 96,401 rainbow trout fry in Abiquiu Reservoir.