

# New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

*NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn*

**Week of May 2, 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](mailto: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:**

**Navajo Lake:** On May 1, Andrew Orlicky caught a 24 inch and a 30 inch northern pike. He was using a #4 Blue Fox spinner.

**Santa Rosa Lake:** On May 2, Bob English of Rio Rancho caught a 3.3 pound smallmouth bass. He was using a tube. On May 3, John Chavez of Albuquerque caught a 23 inch walleye. He was fishing from the bank and using a #12 Rapala husky jerk.

**Burn Lake:** On May 3, Shawn Albert McClellan of Las Cruces caught a 36 pound 4 ounce flathead catfish. He was using cheese.

## **NORTHEAST AREA**

**CHARETTE LAKES:** Trout fishing was fair using power bait and home made dough bait and trolling spinner/worm combos and Panther Martins.

**CIMARRON RIVER:** Water flow below Eagle Nest Lake as of Monday was 31cfs. Trout fishing was fair-to-good using spinners, worms and copper john barrs.

**CLAYTON LAKE:** Trout fishing was good using extra scented power bait, Pistol Petes, Colorado spoons and night crawlers for 14-to-16 inch trout. We had no reports on other species.

**CONCHAS LAKE:** Fishing was very good using minnows, crank baits and grubs for crappie, white bass and walleye. Anglers reported catching good strings of crappie at the north end of the lake. Fishing was good using tubes, chigger craws, jerk baits, senkos and worms for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Most of the black bass were in less than 8 feet of water. Fishing was good using liver, cut bait and worms for catfish.

**COYOTE CREEK:** Trout fishing was very good using spinners, salmon eggs and power bait.

**EAGLE NEST LAKE:** Trout fishing was good using spoons, spinners, power bait and salmon eggs. Fishing was fair-to-good using worms for perch.

**LAKE MALOYA/**

**LAKE ALICE:** Trout fishing was good at both lakes for anglers using power bait and Pistol Petes. A four pound rainbow was caught this past week.

**MCALLISTER LAKE:** Closed due to high golden algae content.

**MAXWELL LAKE 13:** Trout fishing was fair-to-good using power bait, spinners, salmon eggs and Pistol Petes.

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

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

**PECOS RIVER:** Water flow near the town of Pecos on Monday was 397cfs. Trout fishing was slow due to the high runoff.

**RED RIVER:** Water flow below the hatchery was 271cfs. Trout fishing was slow but a few fish were taken by anglers using spinners and night crawlers.

**RIO GRANDE:** The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 1,920cfs. Fishing was slow for all species. A few trout were taken by anglers using night crawlers and wooly buggers.

**SPRINGER LAKE:** Fishing was fair using minnows and Rat-L-Traps for northern pike and a few largemouth bass.

**STORRIE LAKE:** Trout fishing was good using power bait, salmon eggs and worms for fish up to 14 inches.

**STUBBLEFIELD:** Fishing was fair using minnows and grubs for walleye.

**UTE LAKE:** Fishing was very good using minnows and 2 inch grubs up the Canadian arm for crappie. Fishing was good using jigs, spinner baits, jerk baits, crank baits, sweet beavers and chigger craws for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing was fair using wally divers, reef runners & bottom bouncer/worm combos for walleye. A few white bass were taken by anglers using minnows and crank baits. Fishing was slow-to-fair using minnows and cut bait for catfish.

## **NORTHWEST AREA**

**ABIQUIU LAKE:** Fishing was good using crank baits, tubes, grubs and minnows for walleye. Fishing for smallmouth bass was good using tubes, grubs, spinner baits, crank baits and jerk baits. A few brown trout were taken by anglers using crank baits, night crawlers and minnows.

**BLUEWATER LAKE:** Fishing was fair using Pistol Petes, power bait and salmon eggs for trout. Fishing for all other species was slow.

**CHAMA RIVER:** Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 1,750cfs and 1,660cfs respectively. Trout fishing was slow in both areas.

**COCHITI LAKE:** Fishing was fair-to-good using chigger craws, sweet beavers, spinner baits and crank baits for smallmouth bass, largemouth bass and northern pike. A few white bass were taken by anglers using crank baits and minnows. We had no reports on other species. The water was getting quite murky due to runoff.

**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 good using wooly buggers, Pistol Petes, power bait, worms and salmon eggs.

**HERON LAKE:** Fishing slowed for all species this past week. There were a few lake trout caught in the 3-to-7 pound class. All were caught on rainbow bombers and red and white flat fish trolled at 20-to-40 feet.

**JACKSON LAKE:** Trout fishing was good using power bait, spinners and corn/salmon egg combinations. Melvin Dalton reported the fishing here was extremely good and that the trout were taking worms in the early morning hours at Farmington Lake. Scott Harris was here with his son and hooked four rainbows on a Panther Martin.

**JEMEZ WATERS:** Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 176cfs near Jemez Springs. Fishing on the San Antonio, upper Cebolla and East Fork was fair using salmon eggs, bead head prince nymphs and copper john barrs for trout.

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

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

**NAVAJO LAKE:** Fishing was good using crank baits, jerk baits, chigger craws, spinner baits, tubes and jigs for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing was fair using minnows and jigs for crappie. Fishing was good using large in line spinners, jerk baits, crank baits, spinner baits and swim baits for northern pike. We had no reports on other species.

**RAMAH LAKE:** Trout fishing was fair using power bait, worms, Pistol Petes and salmon eggs.

**SAN JUAN:** Water flow below Navajo Lake as of Monday morning was 547cfs. Trout fishing through the Quality Waters was fair-to-good using wooly buggers, parachute adams, dead chickens, small pheasant tail nymphs and little princesses. Fishing through the bait waters was fair using night crawlers, salmon eggs, wooly buggers, copper john barrs and jerk baits. Anglers can expect flows to start ramping up on May 20th and be at 5,000cfs by May 28. Flows are expected to stay at this level thru June 10 and then ramp back down to 500cfs by June 18.

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

**TINGLEY BEACH:** Trout fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was slow-to-fair using salmon eggs and worms. Fishing for bluegill was good using worms. Bass fishing was fair using tubes and small crank baits. Fishing at the Catch and Release Pond was good using leeches, lady bugs, foam ants and small streamers.

## **SOUTHWEST AREA**

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

**BILL EVANS LAKE:** Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait, salmon eggs and spinners. Fishing was good using worms for sunfish along the riprap area. We had no reports on other species.

**BURN LAKE:** Fishing was good using shrimp for crappie and largemouth bass.

**CABALLO LAKE:** Fishing on the headwaters of the lake was very good using chartreuse, green and white grubs for white bass and walleye. We had no reports on other species.

**ELEPHANT BUTTE:** Fishing was good using minnows and jigs for crappie. Fishing was good using minnows, grubs, spoons and crank baits for white bass. Fishing was fair-to-good using minnows, crank baits and bottom bouncer/night crawler rigs for walleye. Fishing was good using chigger crawl/jig combos, senkos, grubs, jerk baits and worms for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing for catfish was fair using minnows, cut bait and crayfish. A few striped bass were taken by anglers using live bait and large jerk baits.

**ESCONDIDA LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.

**GILA RIVER:** Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 65cfs. Trout fishing on the Forks was fair using bead head hare's ears, copper john barrs and worms.

**GLENWOOD POND:** We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

**PERCHA DAM:** Fishing was fair using minnows and 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 1,760cfs. Fishing below Elephant Butte was slow. Fishing below Caballo was 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 good using power bait, salmon eggs and spoons.  
**BOSQUE REDONDO:** Trout fishing was fair-to-good using power bait, salmon eggs, spinners, Pistol Petes 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:** We had no reports from anglers this week.  
**GRINDSTONE RESERVOIR:** Trout fishing was good using Pistol Petes, salmon eggs, power bait and spoons.  
**JAL LAKE:** Fishing was slow for all species.  
**LAKE VAN:** We had no reports from anglers this week.  
**PECOS RIVER:** Water flow on Monday below Sumner Lake was 100cfs. 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 3.3cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.  
**SANTA ROSA LAKE:** Fishing was very good using smallie beavers, chigger craws, senkos, tubes, grubs and jerk baits for largemouth bass. Most of the bass were in brush and in less than 6 feet of water. Over the weekend, Bob English and Jeremy Humphrey reported catching and releasing over 100 bass in the 1.5 to 3 pound range. They also reported catching one good size walleye and several big crappie. Fishing was good using grubs, jigs and minnows for crappie and walleye. A few catfish were taken by anglers using minnows, cut bait and liver.  
**SUMNER LAKE:** Fishing was good using grubs, senkos, tubes, crank baits, jerk baits and spinner baits for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing was fair-to-good using minnows, crank baits and grubs for a mix of walleye, white bass and crappie. We had no reports on other species.

## **Stocking Report:**

Crews stocked 22,507 rainbow trout averaging 10.2 inches in length in the following waters: **CEBOLLA RIVER, CIMARRON RIVER-West of Cimarron, CIMARRON RIVER GRAVEL PIT LAKES, COW CREEK, COYOTE CREEK-Near Guadalupe, FENTON LAKE, JEMEZ RIVER, JEMEZ RIVER EAST FORK, LA JUNTA CREEK, MAXWELL LAKE 13, PECOS RIVER-Cowles to Village of Pecos, QUEMADO LAKE, RAMAH LAKE, RIO LAS TRAMPAS, RIO PUEBLO, SAN ANTONIO RIVER & SEVEN SPRINGS BROOD POND.**

**In addition crews stocked 48,035 fingerling rainbow trout in Storrie Lake and 4,776,544 walleye fry in Abiquiu Reservoir, Caballo Lake, Clayton Lake, Cochiti Lake and Santa Rosa Lake.**