

New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn

Week of May 16, 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:

Conchas Lake: On May 9, Ted Blair of Portales caught a 7 pound walleye. He was using a tube at a depth of 20 feet.

Pecos River: On May 9, Steve Herrera of Santa Fe caught a 19 and 3/4 inch rainbow trout. He was fishing near the Mora and using salmon eggs.

Bluewater Lake: On May 12, Ti Piper of Sandia Park caught and released a 40 inch plus tiger musky. He was fishing from the bank and using a hot orange Mepps Cyclops.

Clayton Lake: On May 14, Vicki Wagenknecht of Colorado caught a 28 inch 11 pound walleye and a 30 inch 11 and 3/4 pound channel catfish. She was using a Bomber crank bait.

Santa Rosa Lake: On May 16, John Chavez of Albuquerque caught a 23 inch and a 25 inch walleye. He was fishing from the bank and using a Tennessee shad colored Rapala husky jerk.

Rio Grande: At Riverside below Caballo Lake on May 17, Steven Wysocki caught a 5 and 1/2 pound walleye. He was using an 1/8 ounce spin jig with a green/silver flake curly tail grub.

NORTHEAST AREA

CHARENTE LAKES: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using power bait, salmon eggs, spinner/worm combinations and home made dough bait.

CIMARRON RIVER: Water flow below Eagle Nest Lake as of Monday was 14cfs. Trout fishing was fair-to-good using spinners, worms, salmon eggs, gold bead hare's ears, caddis and copper john barrs.

CLAYTON LAKE: Fishing was good using worms, crank baits, spinners and power bait for walleye, catfish and trout. Anglers did well from boats and from the bank.

CONCHAS LAKE: Fishing was good using minnows, jigs, tubes, crank baits, jerk baits and grubs for crappie, walleye, largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Lots of fish were caught but anglers reported that most of the fish were small.

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

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

LAKE MALOYA/

LAKE ALICE: Trout fishing was good at Lake Maloya but a bit slow at Lake Alice. Best baits were power bait, home made dough baits and Pistol Petes.

MCALLISTER LAKE: Closed due to high golden algae content.

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

MONASTERY LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using Pistol Petes, elk hair caddis and salmon eggs.

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

PECOS RIVER: Water flow near the town of Pecos on Monday was 397cfs. Trout fishing was fair-to-good using copper john barrs, salmon eggs and worms.

RED RIVER: Water flow below the hatchery was 245cfs. Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using night crawlers, wooly buggers and spinners.

RIO GRANDE: The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 2,260cfs. Fishing was slow for all species.

SPRINGER LAKE: Fishing was fair using spinners, minnows and jerk baits for northern pike. We had no reports on other species.

STORRIE LAKE: Trout fishing was good using power bait, salmon eggs and worms. We had no reports on other species.

STUBBLEFIELD: Fishing was fair using night crawlers, crank baits and minnows for walleye. We had no reports on other species.

UTE LAKE: Fishing was good using bottom bouncer/worm rigs and jigs at 22-to-26 feet on the main lake for walleye. White bass fishing was very good using crank baits, jerk baits and spoons. Fishing was fair using jerk baits, senkos, chigger craws and tubes for black bass. Fishing for crappie was sporadic with a few being taken on minnows and tubes. We had no reports on other species.

NORTHWEST AREA

ABIQUIU LAKE: The lake level rose considerably over the past week and the water was stained. Fishing was fair using crank baits, tubes, jerk baits and spinner/Gulp combinations for walleye. Most of the walleye were in 2-to-10 feet of water. Fishing was slow-to-fair using jerk baits, tubes and crank baits for smallmouth bass. A few trout were taken by anglers using worms and crank baits. We had no reports on other species.

BLUEWATER LAKE: Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using worms and power bait. A few catfish were taken on Little Smokeys. A few tiger musky were taken by anglers using spinners and jerk baits.

CHAMA RIVER: Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 1,520cfs and 1,810cfs respectively. Trout fishing below El Vado was fair using night crawlers for 16-to-18 inch browns.

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

EL VADO LAKE: Fishing was slow.

FENTON LAKE: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using Pistol Petes, small spinners and wooly buggers from boats and float tubes.

HERON LAKE: Fishing was slow but a few for 4-to-7 pound lake trout were taken on jigs worked at 30-to-35 feet. We were there this past Wednesday and zeroed. Fishing for kokanee

was picking up as a few were taken on double whammies tipped with corn. Bank fishing was fair using corn and power bait for rainbow trout and small lake trout.

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

JEMEZ WATERS: Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 87cfs near Jemez Springs. Fishing here and on the San Antonio and East Fork was fair-to-good using salmon eggs, spinners, stone fly nymphs, parachute adams, royal wulffs and copper john barrs for trout.

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

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

NAVAJO LAKE: Fishing was good using minnows, jigs and grubs for crappie. Fishing was good using chigger craws, tubes, jerk baits and jigs for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Our best reports came from anglers fishing the San Juan arm. Fishing was good using jerk baits, spinner baits and crank baits for northern pike. A few trout were taken by anglers using spinners, crank baits and power bait. Crappie fishing was fair using minnows and small jigs. We had no reports on other species.

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

SAN JUAN: Water flow below Navajo Lake as of Monday morning was 522cfs. Trout fishing through the Quality Waters was fair-to-good using parachute adams, dead chickens, hair jigs, BWOs, red annelids, San Juan worms and wooly buggers. Fishing through the bait waters was fair-to-good using night crawlers, salmon eggs, wooly buggers and jerk baits. Ramping up of the flows has been changed. Flows will ramp up starting May 26 for one week to 5,000cfs, will stay there for one week then ramp back down to 500cfs by about June 12.

SANTA CRUZ LAKE: Trout fishing was good using power bait, salmon egg/corn combos, wooly buggers and spinners.

TINGLEY BEACH: Fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was good using worms for bluegill and tubes and crank baits for bass. Best baits for catfish were stink bait and hot dogs. Fishing at the Catch and Release Pond was good using damsels, pheasant tails and small streamers.

SOUTHWEST AREA

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

BILL EVANS LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using chigger craws and tubes for largemouth bass. Fishing was good using worms for bluegill. Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait, salmon eggs and spinners. We had no reports on other species.

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

CABALLO LAKE: Fishing at the upper end of the lake was good using grubs, tubes, crank baits, jerk baits and minnows for white bass and walleye. We received some very good reports from anglers fishing across from KOA Point. There were also a few white bass caught by anglers fishing near the dam.

ELEPHANT BUTTE: Fishing was very good using 4 inch grubs and minnows for crappie and white bass. We had some good reports from anglers fishing the Rock Canyon area and McRae Canyon. Fishing was good using minnows, grubs, bottom bouncer/night crawler rigs and tubes on the north side of Long Point for white bass and walleye. Fishing was fair using chigger craws, senkos, grubs, jerk baits and worms for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing for catfish was good using minnows, cut bait, night crawlers and crayfish. A few striped bass were taken by anglers using live bait and jerk baits.

GILA RIVER: Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 47cfs. Trout fishing on the Forks was fair using bead head pheasant tails and worms.

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

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

PERCHA DAM: We had no reports from anglers this week.

QUEMADO LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using Pistol Petes, wooly buggers, salmon eggs and power bait for 8-to-12 inch fish. Fishing for tiger musky was slow-to-fair using large black streamers.

RIO GRANDE: Water flow below Elephant Butte on Monday was 1,820cfs. Fishing below Elephant Butte was slow-to-fair using grubs and tubes for walleye and white bass. Fishing below Caballo was fair-to-good using grubs for walleye, white bass and crappie.

SNOW LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using spinners. Robert Gage of Las Cruces just reported to us that he and Tom Butler of Los Lunas fished here back on May 2nd and caught limits of trout while using red and black spinners.

SOUTHEAST AREA

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

BONITO LAKE: Trout fishing was fair in the early morning and evening hours using Pistol Petes, spinners and salmon eggs. Fishing was good using corn for carp.

BOSQUE REDONDO: 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: Fishing was slow for all species.

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

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 119cfs. 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 2.2cfs. Trout fishing was slow.

SANTA ROSA LAKE: The water turned murky from recent runoff but fishing was still good over the past weekend. Anglers did very well using tubes, grubs, crank baits, minnows and small jigs for crappie. Fishing was good using chigger craws, senkos, tubes, grubs, top water lures and jerk baits for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing was fair using white crank baits, tubes, grubs, jigs and minnows for walleye. Fishing was fair using cut bait, liver and night crawlers for catfish.

SUMNER LAKE: Fishing was fair-to-good using crank baits, jigs, tubes, grubs, minnows and bottom bouncer/night crawler rigs for 14-to-18 inch walleye. Fishing was fair-to-good using top water lures, jerk baits, tubes and crank baits for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Most of the bass caught were small. Fishing was slow-to-fair using minnows, jigs, grubs and tubes for white bass and crappie.

Stocking Report:

Crews stocked 35,686 rainbow trout averaging 10.0 inches in length in the following waters: ANIMAS RIVER, BIG TESUQUE, CHAMA RIVER-Below Abiquiu, CHARETTE LAKE-Lower, COYOTE CREEK-NE Cuba, COYOTE CREEK-Near Guadalupita, COYOTE CREEK POND, EAGLE NEST LAKE, EL PORVINOR CREEK-2115, GALLINA CREEK, GALLINAS ICE POND, GALLINAS RIVER-Near Las Vegas, GLENWOOD POND, GRINDSTONE RESERVOIR, LAKE ROBERTS, MONASTERY LAKE, QUEMADO LAKE, RAMAH LAKE, RIO DEL MEDIO, RIO EN MEDIO, RIO FRIJOLES, RIO GRANDE-Middle, RIO PUEBLO, SAN JUAN-Below Quality, TAOS CREEK-aka Rio Fernando De Taos & Vallecitos.

In addition crews stocked 270,336 fingerling kokanee salmon in El Vado Lake and Heron Reservoir and 35,590 Tiger Musky fry in Bluewater Lake and Quemado Lake.