

New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn

Week of September 12, 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:

Elephant Butte: On September 6, Page Hunter age 10 of Bosque Farms caught an 18 pound striped bass. She was using an [umbrella rig](#). On September 12 Mark Adams of Edgewood caught a 7.01 pound largemouth bass. He was using a [5 inch green and white laminated senko](#). On September 12 Brian Stangel of Albuquerque caught a 4.4 pound largemouth bass. He was using a [Gilmore jumper](#) in 1 foot of water. On September 13, Shawn Jones of Albuquerque caught a 4.75 pound largemouth bass. He was using a [brush hog](#). On September 13, Bob Lechel of Los Alamos caught a 4 pound 4 ounce largemouth bass. He was using a [Gene Larew Hoo Daddy Jr.](#)

Clayton Lake: On September 12, Gene Ziegelgruber of Amarillo caught a 5.75 pound largemouth bass. He was using artificial worms.

Heron Lake: On September 10, Clem Charlton of Albuquerque caught an 18.5 inch kokanee. He was trolling a [double whammy](#) at 35 feet.

Ute Lake: On September 12, Chris Cartwright of Amarillo, TX caught a 5.81 largemouth bass. On September 13, Pete May of Logan caught a 5.24 pound largemouth bass. Both bass were caught on plastics in shallow water.

Bluewater Lake: On September 13, Chris Chavez of Belen caught and released a 39 inch tiger musky. He was using a [3/8 ounce white Panther Martin](#).

FREE FISHING DAY SEPTEMBER 27. No license required! Take your family fishing without a license. All other fishing rules still apply.

NORTHEAST AREA

CHARENTE LAKES: Fishing for trout was fair using power bait, worms and hoppers. Fishing for perch was slow-to-fair using worms.

CIMARRON RIVER: Water flow below Eagle Nest Lake as of Monday was 14cfs. Trout fishing was good using gold spinners, stimulators, gold bead hares ears, worms and salmon eggs. Fishing at the Gravel Pit Lakes was fair using power bait and salmon eggs.

CLAYTON LAKE: Fishing was generally slow for all species with the exception of a few catfish taken on worms and liver and one largemouth bass taken on plastic worms. Fishing pressure was very light.

CONCHAS LAKE: Fishing was fair-to-good using senkos, crank baits, tubes, top water and worms for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Fishing was fair-to-good using liver, cut bait and minnows for catfish. Fishing was fair using worms and poppers for bluegill. Fishing for white bass was fair using crank baits, grubs and slab spoons. Fishing for walleye was slow-to-fair using bottom bouncer/night crawler rigs, minnows, grubs and crank baits.

COYOTE CREEK: Trout fishing was slow.

EAGLE NEST LAKE: Fishing from the bank was slow this past week. There were a few perch taken on worms but very few trout. Fishing from boats was fair trolling double whammies and spinners tipped with corn for a mix

of kokanee and rainbow trout. A few boaters also reported catching some good size perch. The annual Fish Fest begins next Saturday and runs through noon on September 27.

HOPEWELL LAKE: Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using small bead head nymphs and power bait.

LAKE MALOYA/

LAKE ALICE: Trout fishing at both lakes was fair using black with red tail Pistol Petes, stimulators and orange and rainbow power 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 fair using worms, power bait and salmon eggs. A few fish were also caught on Pistol Petes.

MORPHY LAKE: Trout fishing was slow with a few fish taken on power bait and wooly buggers.

PECOS RIVER: Water flow near the town of Pecos on Monday was 40cfs. Trout fishing was fair-to-good using flash back pheasant tails nymphs, stimulators, spinners, copper john barrs, salmon eggs and worms.

RED RIVER: Water flow below the hatchery was 56cfs. Trout fishing above and below the hatchery was good using copper john barrs, stimulators, wooly buggers, elk hair caddis, worms, spinners and salmon eggs.

RIO COSTILLA: We had no reports from anglers this week.

RIO GRANDE: The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 233cfs. Trout fishing was fair using hair jigs, jerk baits, orange stimulators, wooly buggers, worms and night crawlers. Fishing was slow-to-fair using wooly buggers and jerk baits for smallmouth bass. A few northern pike were taken on jerk baits, countdown Rapalas and large in line spinners.

SHUREE PONDS: We had no reports from anglers this week.

SPRINGER LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species. The lake level has dropped considerably due to irrigation release.

STORRIE LAKE: Fishing was fair using cheese, salmon eggs and power bait for trout. The best reports came from anglers fishing on the east side of the dam in the evening hours.

STUBBLEFIELD

LAKE: We had no reports from anglers this week.

UTE LAKE: Fishing was good using salt craws, tubes, senkos and power worms in shallow water for largemouth bass. Fishing was fair using drop shot rigs and tubes on points for smallmouth bass. Fishing was very good using slab spoons for white bass. Walleye fishing was a bit sporadic but several fish were caught by anglers using spoons and other trolling crank baits in 10-to-15 feet of water. Fishing was very good using minnows and cut bait for catfish. Fishing for bluegill was good using worms.

NORTHWEST AREA

ABIQUIU LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using senkos, tubes, power worms and jerk baits for smallmouth bass. Fishing for walleye was slow but a few were taken on minnows, spoons and bottom bouncer/night crawler rigs. We had no reports on other species.

BLUEWATER LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species. There were a few tiger musky hooked up by anglers using jerk baits, spinners and top water lures.

BRAZOS RIVER: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using Fish Catcher and Panther Martin spinners.

CANJILON LAKES: Trout fishing was fair using Pistol Petes, worms and power bait.

CHAMA RIVER: Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 654cfs and 669cfs respectively. Trout fishing below El Vado was fair using night crawlers and salmon eggs.

COCHITI LAKE: Fishing was fair using worms for small bluegill and white bass. Fishing was slow-to-fair using tubes, jerk baits and top water lures for smallmouth bass. We had no reports on other species.

EL VADO LAKE: Trout fishing was slow.

FENTON LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using worms, silver spinners and Pistol Petes.

HERON LAKE: Kokanee fishing was quite slow with just a few keeper size fish caught on double whammies trolled at 33-to-37 feet. Fishing for all other species was slow.

JEMEZ WATERS: Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 19cfs near Jemez Springs. Fishing on the Jemez, Guadalupe, Cebolla and the San Antonio was fair using salmon eggs, humpys, copper john barrs, royal wulffs and parachute adams for trout. Ants, hoppers, copper john barrs and parachute adams worked best for trout on the Valles Caldera National Preserve waters. There are fishing dates available to fish reaches 1, 2 and 4 on the San Antonio for September 17-27. For more info or for reservations to fish these waters or the East Fork call 1-866-382-5537 or visit on line at www.vallescaldera.gov.

LAGUNA DEL

CAMPO: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using salmon eggs and power bait under a bobber, Pistol Petes and spinners.

MANZANO LAKE: Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait.
MCGAFFEY LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using worms and liver for catfish. We had no reports on other species.
NAVAJO LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using tubes, jigs, spinner baits, top water lures, creature baits, crank baits and jerk baits for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Fishing was slow-to-fair using crank baits, spinner baits and top water lures for northern pike. The pike were scattered up the Pine arm, the San Juan arm and the main lake. Fishing for kokanee was slow-to-fair deep trolling Arnies, double whammies and kokanee killers tipped with corn. Fishing for crappie was slow but a few were taken by anglers using minnows and jigs. Fishing for trout was slow-to-fair using power bait, spinners and worms. We had no reports on other species.
RAMAH LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species. The lake level was very low.
RIO PUEBLO: Water flow near Penasco as of Monday was 14cfs. Trout fishing was fair using copper john barrs, worms and stimulators for small brown trout and rainbow trout.
SAN JUAN: Water flow below Navajo Lake as of Monday morning was 579cfs. **SPECIAL NOTE:** Effective September 15, the entire stretch of Quality Waters will be Catch and Release only waters. Trout fishing through the Quality Waters was good using annatto mays, dead chickens, WD40s, San Juan worms, sparkle worms, parachute adams, small hair jigs, chamois leeches and bead head pheasant tails. Fishing through the bait waters was good using hair jigs, jerk baits, San Juan worms, spoons, copper john barrs, salmon eggs and night crawlers.
SANTA CRUZ LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using power bait, salmon eggs, worms, spoons and spinners.
TINGLEY BEACH: Fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was very good using hot dogs and stink bait for catfish. Fishing for bluegill was good using worms. Fishing for trout in the Catch and Release Pond was slow. **SPECIAL NOTE:** The bag limit for trout on the Youth and Central Ponds has been changed from 5 per day to 4 per day and the possession limit has been changed from 10 trout to 4 trout.

SOUTHWEST AREA

BEAR CANYON: Fishing was slow for all species.
BILL EVANS LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species.
BURN LAKE: Fishing was fair using worms and liver for catfish.
CABALLO LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair trolling and casting crank baits and using grubs and minnows for white bass and a few walleye. Fishing was slow-to-fair using cut bait and dough bait for catfish. We had no reports on other species.
ELEPHANT BUTTE: Fishing was fair using umbrella rigs, live bluegill and live shad for striped bass. Fishing was fair-to-good using spoons, crank baits, jigs and grubs for white bass. Fishing was fair using brush hogs, senkos, tubes, top water lures, jigs, jerk baits and creature baits for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Most of the largemouth bass were in shallow water. Fishing for catfish was fair using minnows, cut bait and liver. We had no reports on other species.
ESCONDIDA LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using liver, night crawlers and dough baits for catfish. We had no reports on other species.
GILA RIVER: Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 105cfs. Fishing on the Forks and on the main river was slow.
GLENWOOD POND: We had no reports from anglers this week.
LAKE ROBERTS: Fishing was slow-to-fair using liver for catfish. Fishing for all other species was slow.
PERCHA DAM: Fishing was slow for all species.
QUEMADO LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using jerk baits for tiger musky. Fishing for trout was slow.
RIO GRANDE: Water flow below Elephant Butte on Monday was 929cfs. Fishing was slow-to-fair using worms, minnows and liver for catfish. We had no reports on other species.
SNOW LAKE: Fishing was slow.

SOUTHEAST AREA

BATAAN LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species.
BONITO LAKE: Trout fishing was slow-to-fair using power bait, corn, spinners and salmon eggs.
BOSQUE REDONDO: Fishing was slow-to-fair using night crawlers, liver, dough bait and hot dogs for catfish. We had no reports on other species.
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 using salmon eggs, corn, power bait, worms, spoons and Pistol Petes.

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

LAKE VAN: Fishing was fair-to-good using liver and night crawlers for catfish.

OASIS PARK POND: Fishing was fair using worms, liver and dough baits for catfish.

PECOS RIVER: Water flow on Monday below Sumner Lake was 1,540cfs. Access to fishing below Sumner Lake was closed due to the high water release from the lake. Expect this area to open later in the week.

PERCH LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species.

RUIDOSO RIVER: Water flow at Hollywood on Monday was 9.5cfs. Trout fishing was slow.

SANTA ROSA LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species. The lake level was reduced to about 19,000 acre feet this past week. The boat ramp remains open but anglers are advised to using caution.

SUMNER LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species.

Stocking Report:

Crews stocked 63,512 averaging 9.0 inches in the following waters: CHAMA RIVER-Above El Vado, CLAYTON LAKE, EAGLE NEST LAKE, RED RIVER-Above Questa, SAN JUAN RIVER-Below Quality & SANTA CRUZ RESERVOIR.

In addition, crews stocked 5,046 Rio Grande fingerling cutthroat trout in the following waters: HIDDEN LAKE, LOWER TRAMPAS LAKE & UPPER TRAMPAS LAKE.