

New Mexico Statewide Weekly Fishing Report

NM Fishing Report prepared for ABQSportfishing.com by Bill Dunn

Week of September 19, 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.

FREE FISHING DAY SEPTEMBER 26 (not September 27 as previously stated). No license required! Take your family fishing without a license. All other fishing rules still apply.

CATCHES OF THE WEEK:

Clayton Lake: On September 14, Kathy Johnson of Clayton caught a 25 pound catfish. She was using chicken liver.

Heron Lake: On September 14, Tom Villa of Buckeye, AZ caught an 18.25 inch kokanee. He was fishing at 35 feet with a [double whammy](#) tipped with corn.

Elephant Butte: On September 17, Lawrence Rael of Albuquerque caught a 25 pound striped bass. He was trolling with an [umbrella rig](#).

Ute Lake: On September 17, Bruce Hein of Espanola caught a 6.54 pound walleye. He was using a bluegill. On September 18, Bobby Gomez of Logan caught a 5.58 pound largemouth bass.

Chama River: On September 18, John Conrad of Albuquerque caught a 20 inch german brown trout. He was using night crawlers.

Santa Rosa Lake: On September 19, Melissa Bond of Albuquerque caught a 3.15 pound smallmouth bass. She was using a [chartreuse sexy shad lipless crank bait](#).

NORTHEAST AREA

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

CIMARRON RIVER: Water flow below Eagle Nest Lake as of Monday was 8.1 cfs. Trout fishing was fair-to-good using spinners, hares ears, copper john bairs, worms and salmon eggs. Fishing at the Gravel Pit Lakes was fair using Pistol Petes, power bait and salmon eggs.

CLAYTON LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species with just a few catfish caught by anglers using worms and chicken liver. Fishing pressure was very light.

CONCHAS LAKE: Fishing was fair using Rat-L-Traps, senkos, spinner baits and worms for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Fishing was fair using liver, cut bait and minnows for catfish. 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 and crank baits.

COYOTE CREEK: Trout fishing was slow.

EAGLE NEST LAKE: Fishing from the bank was slow-to-fair using power bait for trout. Fishing was fair using worms for perch. Fishing from boats was fair trolling double whammies, kokanee killers and spinners tipped with corn for a mix of kokanee and rainbow trout. The annual Fish Fest began last Saturday and runs through noon on September 27.

LAKE MALOYA/

LAKE ALICE: Trout fishing at both lakes was good using Pistol Petes and pink and rainbow power baits for 9-to-12 inch fish.

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-to-good using worms, power bait and salmon eggs

MORPHY LAKE: Fishing was slow.

PECOS RIVER: Water flow near the town of Pecos on Monday was 52cfs. 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 60cfs. Trout fishing above and below the hatchery was good using copper john barrs, San Juan worms, spinners, worms and salmon eggs.

RIO COSTILLA: Trout fishing was fair-to-good using bead head hares ears and pheasant tail nymphs.

RIO GRANDE: The water flow Monday morning at the Taos Junction Bridge was 276cfs. Trout fishing was good using prince nymphs, 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.

STORRIE LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species.

STUBBLEFIELD

LAKE: We had no reports from anglers this week.

UTE LAKE: Fishing was fair using salt craws, creature baits, senkos, crank baits and power worms in shallow water for largemouth bass. Fishing was fair using slab spoons and crank baits for white bass. A few walleye were caught by anglers using bluegill, spoons and crank baits. Fishing was fair using live bait and cut bait for catfish. Fishing for bluegill was fair using worms.

NORTHWEST AREA

ABIQUIU LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using senkos, tubes, power worms and crank baits for smallmouth bass. Fishing was slow-to-fair using spoons, crank baits and spinner/night crawler rigs for walleye. We had no reports on other species.

BLUEWATER LAKE: Fishing was slow but a few tiger musky were caught by anglers using jerk baits, spinners and top water lures.

BRAZOS RIVER: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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

CHAMA RIVER: Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 141cfs and 253cfs respectively. Trout fishing below El Vado was slow-to-fair using night crawlers.

COCHITI LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using jerk baits, crank baits and senkos for smallmouth bass.

Fishing was slow-to-fair using crank baits, grubs and worms for small white bass and bluegill. We had no reports on other species.

EL VADO LAKE: Trout fishing was slow.

FENTON LAKE: Trout fishing was fair using worms. A few trout were also caught on power bait and Pistol Petes.

HERON LAKE: Kokanee fishing was slow-to-fair using double whammies and yellow Panther Martins tipped with corn at 30-to-35 feet. Fishing for all other species was slow.

JEMEZ WATERS: Water flow on the Jemez as of Monday morning was 23cfs near Jemez Springs. Fishing on the Jemez, Rio Las Vacas and the San Antonio was fair using worms, copper john barrs, hoppers and parachute adams 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 through September 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

MANZANO LAKE: Trout fishing was slow.

MCGAFFEY LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species.

NAVAJO LAKE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using lipless crank baits, jigs, senkos, tubes creature baits, grubs and jerk baits for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Fishing was fair using crank baits, spinner baits, top water lures and jigs for northern pike. Fishing for kokanee was slow-to-fair deep trolling Arnies, Panther Martins, double whammies and kokanee killers tipped with corn. Fishing for crappie was slow. 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-to-good using copper john barrs, prince nymphs, worms and salmon eggs for small brown trout and rainbow trout.

SAN JUAN: Water flow below Navajo Lake as of Monday morning was 504cfs. **SPECIAL NOTE:** Effective September 15, the entire stretch of Quality Waters became Catch and Release only waters. Trout fishing through the Quality Waters was good using annatto mays, 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, spoons, copper john barrs, salmon eggs and night crawlers.

SANTA CRUZ LAKE: We had no reports from anglers this week.

TINGLEY BEACH: Fishing at the Youth and Central Ponds was fair using hot dogs, worms and stink bait for catfish. Fishing for bluegill was fair 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

BURN LAKE: Fishing was slow but a few catfish were taken on night crawlers and liver.

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

ELEPHANT BUTTE: Fishing was slow-to-fair using umbrella rigs, live bluegill and live shad for striped bass. Leroy Regalado reported catching 13 stripers over a six day period. He was using umbrella rigs. Fishing was fair using sweet beavers, brush hogs, senkos, tubes, jigs, jerk baits and creature baits for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Most of the largemouth bass were in shallow water and on or near main lake points. Fishing was fair using live bait and crank baits in the coves for white bass. Fishing for catfish was fair using minnows, cut bait, dough bait and liver.

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

GILA RIVER: Water flow on the Gila as of this past Monday was 182cfs. 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: We had no reports from anglers this week.

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 934cfs. Fishing was slow-to-fair using night crawlers, minnows and liver for catfish, carp and an occasional white bass. 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 in the morning hours was fair using power bait, corn, spinners and salmon eggs.

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 good using salmon eggs, power bait, spoons and Pistol Petes.

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

LAKE VAN: Fishing was slow-to-fair 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 .59. Fishing was slow.

PERCH LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species.

RUIDOSO RIVER: Water flow at Hollywood on Monday was 7.1cfs. Trout fishing was slow.

SANTA ROSA LAKE: Fishing was fair using crank baits, spinner baits, tubes and jig-n-craws for smallmouth and largemouth bass. Anglers fishing for bass also caught a few walleye and 2 pound crappie. We had no reports on other species.

SUMNER LAKE: Fishing was slow for all species. Fishing pressure was very light.

Stocking Report:

Crews stocked 20,953 averaging 10.1 inches in the following waters: ANIMAS RIVER, AZTEC POND, BLUEWATER LAKE, CEBOLLA RIVER, CIMARRON RIVER-West of Cimarron, CIMARRON RIVER GRAVEL PIT LAKES, COSTILLA CREEK, COYOTE CREEK-Near Guadalupita, COYOTE CREEK POND, EAGLE ROCK LAKE, FISHING CLINIC WATERS, HOLY GHOST CREEK, JACKSON LAKE, JEMEZ RIVER, JEMEZ RIVER EAST FORK, LA JUNTA CREEK, LAKE FARMINGTON, MONASTERY LAKE, MORA-Pecos River Drainage, PECOS RIVER-Cowles to Village of Pecos and Villanueva to I-40, RED RIVER-Above Questa, RIO GRANDE-Middle, RIO LAS VACAS, RIO PUEBLO, SAN ANTONIO RIVER & STORRIE RESERVOIR.