

NEW MEXICO FISHING REPORT

This fishing report, provided by Bill Dunn and the Department of Game and Fish, has been generated from the best information available from area officers and anglers. Conditions encountered after the report is compiled may differ, as stream, lake and weather conditions alter fish and angler activities.

CATCHES OF THE WEEK:

Bluewater Lake: Carlos Lopez, 76, of Albuquerque, caught and released a 30-inch tiger musky March 4. He was fishing for trout and using PowerBait. He felt some light pressure, noticed a little movement in his bait from a crawdad or small trout and then the muskie hit.

Cochiti Lake: Wayne Garcia of Albuquerque, caught and released a 20-inch northern pike March 3. He was using a Berkley swim shad.

Morphy Lake: Angelico Chavez of Las Vegas, NM, caught a 20-inch rainbow trout March 2. He also caught an 18-inch trout on March 1 and released several smaller fish. He was using brown and black San Juan worms.

Pecos River: Derrick Solano, 15, caught a 31-inch, 9.2-pound rainbow trout in the canyon between Terrero and the Jamie Koch Recreation Area March 1. He was fishing with his dad and using a silver Panther Martin. Daniel Carlton of Santa Fe, caught a 21-inch rainbow trout March 2. He was fishing in the Dalton area and using garlic PowerBait.

Tingley Beach: Mireya Chavez, 5, of Albuquerque, caught a 20-inch rainbow trout March 5. She was fishing with her favorite Barbie pole and using garlic PowerBait.

The following came in too late for last week's report but we felt it was definitely worth mentioning:

San Juan River: Adam Armenta caught a 23-inch, 6-pound German brown Feb 18. He was using a Matzuo jerk bait.

Tingle Beach: Sierra Flores, 13 of Rio Rancho, caught an 18-inch rainbow trout and her brother Kyle, 15, caught a 16-inch rainbow trout Feb 28. They were fishing the Central Pond and both using green garlic PowerBait.

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, age, hometown, date, and location, type of fish, length and weight if possible and bait, lure or fly used.

March 8, 2016

Northeast

Charette Lakes: Fishing was very good using PowerBait for trout up to 22 inches. We had no reports on perch.

Clayton Lake: Fishing was very good using PowerBait and homemade dough baits for rainbow trout. We had no reports on other species.

Cimarron River: Stream flows were low, but trout fishing was fair using small bead-head hare's ears and small prop flies. Fishing at the Gravel Pit lakes was slow with just a few trout caught by anglers working small nymphs along the bottom.

Conchas Lake: Fishing was good using worms and stink bait for catfish. Fishing was fair using crank baits and jigging spoons for white bass. A few walleye were caught by anglers using jigging spoons and minnows. Fishing for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass was slow but there were a few caught by anglers using crank baits. We had no reports on other species.

Cowles Ponds:

Coyote Creek: Trout fishing was slow.

Eagle Rock Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Eagle Nest Lake: Closed to ice fishing. There was some open water along the shoreline over the weekend but the lake was still about 95 percent iced over. For updated ice conditions, contact the State Park office at 575-377-1594.

Gallinas River: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Hopewell Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Lake Alice: As of Sunday, the ice was off the lake and is was open to bank fishing. We had no reports from anglers.

Lake Maloya: On Sunday, March 6, the lake has been closed to ice fishing due to unsafe and hazardous ice conditions. For updated conditions, contact the Sugarite State Park office at 575-445-5607.

Los Pinos: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Maxwell Lake 13: Fishing was good using PowerBait and homemade dough baits for trout.

Monastery Lake: Trout fishing was very good using PowerBait, Gulp eggs, egg patterns and worms.

Morphy Lake: Opened to great trout fishing March 1. Anglers reported catching several limits of trout that were up to 22 inches in length. Best baits were PowerBait, salmon eggs, worms, Pistol Petes, Fisher Chick spinners and Pistol Petes.

Pecos River: Stream flow on Monday was 77 cfs. Fishing was fair using small streamers, Panther Martin spinners, power eggs and PowerBait for trout.

Red River: Stream flow below the hatchery on Monday was 54 cfs. Trout fishing was slow.

Red River City Ponds: Open for the season March 1.

Rio Costilla: We had no reports from anglers this week. Put this one on your list for great spring fishing.

Rio Grande: Stream flow on Monday at the Taos Junction Bridge was 949 cfs. Fishing was slow to fair using Kastmasters and PowerBait for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Rio Hondo: Fishing was fair using hare's ears, copper John Barrs and zebra midges for trout.

Rio Pueblo: Fishing was slow to fair using zebra midges for trout.

Santa Barbara: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Santa Cruz Reservoir: Fishing was good using PowerBait, salmon eggs, homemade dough bait and Pistol Petes for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Shuree Ponds: Closed for the season

Springer Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Storrie Lake: Fishing was fair using PowerBait and salmon eggs for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Stubblefield Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Ute Lake: White bass fishing picked up considerably this past week as limits were reported by anglers using crank baits and jerk baits. The walleye were scattered and a few were caught in the shallows on crank baits while others were taken deep on slab spoons and blade baits. Fishing for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass was fair using crank baits about half way up the Ute Creek and Conchas arms. The water temp in those areas was several degrees warmer than the main lake. Fishing for catfish was fair using stink bait. We had no reports on other species. The surface water temp on the main lake ranged from the mid to high 40s.

Winsor Creek: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Northwest

Abiquiu Lake: Fishing was fair to good trolling crank baits and spinners at about 20 feet for trout. Anglers fishing for trout are also picking up a few walleye. Fishing for smallmouth bass was slow. We had no reports on other species.

Animas River: Water flow near Aztec on Monday morning was 563 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

Albuquerque Area Drains: Fishing on the Albuquerque Drain was good using worms and salmon eggs for trout. Anglers using worms also caught a few small bass. We had no reports on other species or from the other drains.

Bluewater Lake: Fishing was excellent using spinners Pistol Petes, PowerBait, Gulp eggs, worms and homemade dough baits for trout. Fishing for tiger musky was slow with just a few caught by anglers using spinners and swim baits. Fishing for catfish was slow. Scott Thrall of Albuquerque reported that he and his family caught 34 trout from 7 to 14 inches here March 4. Most of their fish were caught on spinners.

Brazos River: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Canjilon Lakes: Closed by the U.S. Forest Service until further notice due to danger from fallen trees.

Chama River: Monday morning water flows below El Vado and Abiquiu were 79 cfs and 79 cfs respectively. Fishing below Abiquiu was good using wooly buggers and midge patterns for trout. A few were also caught by anglers using worms. Fishing below El Vado was fair to good using wooly buggers, worms and PowerBait for trout.

Cochiti Lake: Fishing was slow for all species with just a few northern pike hooked by anglers using swim baits.

El Vado Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Fenton Lake: As the weather warms up, more and more of the lake has opened to bank fishing. Over the weekend, anglers did very well using PowerBait and salmon eggs for limits of trout. For updates on ice conditions, contact the state park office at 575-829-3630.

Heron Lake: Bank fishing was very good using salmon eggs and PowerBait for rainbow trout and kokanee. There was still some ice on the lake but it has been disappearing rapidly with the warm weather and windy conditions. Anglers should contact the State Park office at 575-588-7470 for updates.

Jackson Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Jemez Waters: Stream flow on the Jemez River near Jemez Springs on Monday morning was 197 cfs. The water was off color. Fishing was slow. We had no reports on other streams in the area.

Laguna Del Campo: Closed for the season.

Lake Farmington: Fishing was fair to good using PowerBait, Pistol Petes, Kastmasters and homemade dough bait for trout. **Nonmotorized watercraft are now allowed on Lake Farmington. Fees are \$50 for the season or \$5 daily.**

Manzano Lake: Fishing was fair to good using PowerBait, worms, Gulp eggs, salmon eggs and Pistol Petes for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Navajo Lake: Fishing was slow to fair using swim baits, jerk baits and crank baits for northern pike. Fishing was fair trolling crank baits for trout. Fishing for bass was slow but there were a few caught toward the backs of coves by anglers fishing the sunny side and using crank baits and jigs. We had no reports on other species.

San Gregorio: We had no reports from anglers.

San Juan: Water flow below Navajo Lake on Monday morning was 501 cfs with a visibility of about two feet. Trout fishing through the Quality Waters was fair to good using black and olive leech patterns, cream and red larva and dark midge pupa patterns. Dry fly fishing has been slow with just a few midges coming off in the afternoon hour. Fishing through the bait waters was fair to good using jerk baits, small Kastmasters, Super Dupers, wooly buggers, PowerBait, Gulp eggs and salmon eggs for trout. At this time, the proposed increase in flows by the Bureau of Reclamation is a three day ramp up from 500 cfs to 5,000 cfs in early May followed by 40 days at 5,000 cfs and a two week ramp down to base levels.

Seven Springs Brood Pond: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Tingley Beach: Trout fishing at the Central Pond and Youth Pond was fair using homemade dough baits, PowerBait, Pistol Petes and Fisher Chick spinners.

Trout fishing at the Bob Gerding Catch and Release Pond was fair using emergers, San Juan worms, small leach patterns and small streamers. We had no reports on other species.

Trout Lakes: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Southwest

Alumni Pond: Fishing was slow to fair using garlic PowerBait and power eggs for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Bear Canyon: Trout fishing was very good using cheese, garlic PowerBait and Pistol Petes. Fishing was slow to fair using hot dogs for catfish. We had no reports on other species.

Bill Evans Lake: Fishing was good using gold spoons, Pistol Petes, egg patterns and PowerBait for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Caballo Lake: Fishing was slow to fair using curly tail grubs and crank baits for white bass. Fishing for all other species was slow.

Elephant Butte Lake: Fishing was slow to fair using spoons, minnows and crank baits for white bass. A few crappie were caught by anglers using minnows and small crappie jigs. Fishing was fair using shrimp and chicken liver for catfish. Fishing was slow to fair using swim baits, crank baits, jigs and tubes for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. We had no reports on other species.

Escondida Lake: Fishing was slow to fair using homemade dough baits, garlic cheese and Pistol Petes for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Gila River: Stream flow as of Monday morning was 242 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

Glenwood Pond: Fishing was very good using PowerBait and salmon eggs for trout.

Lake Roberts: Trout fishing was good using worms, homemade dough bait and PowerBait. We had no reports on other species.

Percha Dam: Fishing was fair using minnows, white sassy shad and white jigs for white bass. Fishing was fair using worms and stink bait for catfish. We had no reports on other species.

Quemado Lake: Earlier last week there was still some patchy ice on the lake but we have had no reports since then.

Rio Grande: Stream flow below Elephant Butte as of Monday morning was 0.0 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

Snow Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Young Pond: Fishing was slow with just a few trout caught by anglers using Velveeta cheese and PowerBait.

Southeast

Alto Lake: Fishing was fair to good using Pistol Petes, garlic scented PowerBait, salmon eggs and worms for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Bataan Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Black River: Stream flow at Malaga on Monday was 16 cfs. We had no reports from anglers this week.

Blue Hole Park Pond: Fishing was fair using garlic PowerBait, garlic cheese and salmon eggs for trout.

Bonito Lake: Closed until further notice by the city of Alamogordo due to fire damage.

Bosque Redondo: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Bottomless Lakes: Fishing at Pasture Lake and Devil's Inkwel was fair to good using assorted PowerBait.

Brantley Lake: Anglers are required to catch and release all fish here as high levels of pesticides have been found in some fish. Fishing was fair using crank baits, swim baits and jigs for a mixed bag of largemouth bass and white bass. We had no reports on other species.

Carlsbad Municipal Lake: Fishing was fair to good using PowerBait, homemade dough baits, spoons and Gulp eggs for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Chaparral Park Lake: Fishing was fair using worms and PowerBait for trout.

El Rito Creek: Fishing was good using Kastmasters, worms, salmon eggs and PowerBait for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Eunice Lake: Fishing was slow to fair using cheese, salmon eggs and PowerBait for trout.

Green Meadow Lake: Fishing was slow to fair using salmon eggs, PowerBait, worms and Pistol Petes for trout.

Greene Acres Lake: Fishing was good using garlic cheese, homemade dough bait, PowerBait and worms for trout.

Grindstone Reservoir: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Jal Lake: We had no reports from anglers this week.

Lake Van: Fishing was good using garlic cheese, garlic and salmon peach PowerBait, salmon eggs, homemade dough bait and Pistol Petes for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Oasis Park Lake: Fishing was good using PowerBait and Kastmasters for limits of trout. We had no reports on other species. The park will hold its 7th Annual Spring Trout Derby March 26 and 27. The derby is open to all ages. For more information, contact the State Park office at 575-356-5331.

Pecos River: Stream flow below Sumner Lake as of Monday morning was 91 cfs. Fishing was good using PowerBait, homemade dough baits and salmon eggs for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Perch Lake: Fishing was very good using PowerBait, homemade dough bait, Pistol Petes, egg patterns and San Juan worms for trout. We had no reports on other species.

Ruidoso River: Stream flow at Hollywood on Monday was 25 cfs. Fishing was fair to good using salmon eggs for trout.

Santa Rosa Lake: Windy weather over the weekend kept most boats off the water but bank anglers did well fishing for catfish. They were using worms, shrimp and stink bait. We had no reports on other species. The surface water temp ranged from the low to mid 40s.

Sumner Lake: Fishing was good using crank baits for largemouth bass and smallmouth bass. Fishing was fair to good using crank baits for walleye. We had no reports on other species. The surface water temp was in the mid 40s on the main lake and up to 51 degrees in some of the coves.

Crews stocked 106,116 triploid rainbow trout in the following waters: ABIQUIU RESERVOIR, ALBUQUERQUE DRAIN, ALBUQUERQUE DRAIN (South), ANIMAS RIVER, BEAR CANYON RESERVOIR, BELEN RIVERSIDE DRAIN, BERNALILLO DRAIN, BILL EVANS LAKE, BOTTOMLESS LAKES, CARLSBAD MUNICIPAL LAKE, CEBOLLA RIVER, CONSERVANCY PARK LAKE (aka Tingley Beach), CORRALES RIVERSIDE DRAIN, GLENWOOD POND, JEMEZ RIVER, LAKE ROBERTS, LAKE VAN, MONASTERY LAKE, PECOS RIVER (Village of Pecos to Villanueva), PERALTA DRAIN, SAN JUAN RIVER (Below Quality Waters), SANTA CRUZ RESERVOIR, STORRIE LAKE and TIGER PARK POND (Aztec).