

May 1, 2019 - Cool temperatures- Trophy Smallmouth

Written by Wayne Gustaveson
Wednesday, 01 May 2019 12:23 -

Lake Powell Fish Report – May 1, 2019

Lake Elevation: 3571

Water temperature: 58-60 F

By: Wayne Gustaveson <http://www.wayneswords.com> or Wayneswords.net

Lake Powell water level is on the rise. The inflowing water (64,000 AF) has doubled and lake level came up 2 feet this week. Expect that inflowing water rate to increase even more during May. This requires caution while shoreline camping. Expect to move or retie the boat each day.

Rising water is helpful for fishing success because tumbleweeds that have collected along the shoreline will now be covered by water and provide more fish habitat. The weather was cooler this week, which slowed down angling success for bass. Water temperature dropped from the mid 60s down to 58. This happens all the time in the spring. If planning a fishing trip to Lake Powell just watch the weather report and come as the air and water temperature rises again. That temperature boost immediately enhances bass fishing success.

Big news this week is the capture of the largest smallmouth bass ever caught in Lake Powell.

On April 26, Richard Dickinson from Strawberry AZ was fishing for bass along the primary points in Wahweap Bay. He was using a Texas Rig Baby Craw. The big fish was hooked at 29 feet and played for a long time before finally surrendering. The huge bass weighed 6.1 pounds and measured 21 inches long. Richard decided to release the big female that was still full of eggs. Since the fish was not weighed on certified scales, it does not qualify for the Lake Powell record smallmouth bass. However, it was measured before release. The length of the fish was 21 inches which is 2 inches longer than the current Lake Powell record smallmouth bass caught in 2001, by Eric Inman which weighed 5 pounds 6 ounces and measured 19 inches long.

Richard Dickinson now holds the "Catch and Release" record for smallmouth bass in Lake Powell.

May 1, 2019 - Cool temperatures- Trophy Smallmouth

Written by Wayne Gustaveson
Wednesday, 01 May 2019 12:23 -

Bait fishing for stripers was still great over the length of the lake despite the recent cold weather. The main channel from the dam to Navajo Canyon was steady. On our weekly uplake sampling trip we found willing stripers in Buoy 25 Cove but did not find the school in Grotto Canyon. I suspect they were there but we did not spend enough time to locate the school.

We left Grotto and went to Rock Creek where we found stripers willing to hit trolled lures. Shallow stripers in the backs of canyons will hit rattletraps, Lucky Craft Pointers, and other baits that run 8-12 feet deep. Stripers willing to chase the shallow running baits are usually the fat, young male fish. While fishing with bait, a wide variety of stripers were caught that ranged from skinny to healthy. Stripers caught trolling were healthier but less in number.

May is walleye month at Lake Powell. Take some night crawlers along and drag plastic baits, tipped with a piece of worm, very slowly along the bottom in 10-25 feet of water. When a walleye is caught, continue to work that specific spot to catch more of the tasty, toothy fish. Walleye congregate in the same location. Find one walleye and there should be others close by.

May is the best month to catch all species of fish in Lake Powell.