

Fish Consumption Advisory for Brantley Reservoir

New Mexico Environment Department
New Mexico Department of Health
New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
New Mexico State Parks

January 2006

The State of New Mexico has determined that eating some species of fish from Brantley Reservoir in Eddy County may pose a risk to your health.

Data released by the New Mexico Environment Department and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have shown that elevated concentrations of total DDT, a banned pesticide that is a probable human carcinogen, are present in channel catfish and walleye from Brantley Reservoir. Although only a small amount of data is currently available, the concentrations of DDT are high enough to cause a health concern to people of all ages. These data suggest that **no channel catfish should be eaten at all**; these data also suggest that **no more than 4 ounces of walleye should be eaten per month**. It is unknown if other fish species are safe to eat because other fish species have not yet been tested.

The study that produced the data upon which this advisory is based was designed to be a limited screening that analyzed only one bottom dwelling fish species (catfish) and only one predator fish species (walleye). The State is in the process of collecting more data from Brantley Reservoir fish. When more data become available, this advisory may be revised. Until then, information contained in this advisory is the most current available.

For more information, call the New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau at (505) 827-2470 or toll-free at (866) 885-2997 or visit www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swqb/advisories.