FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Salt River Lower Chain area

Salt River Lower Chain

Arizona
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Mountain Standard Time · Largemouth · Smallmouth

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

2/10

Stay off the water

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	− Lightning in forecast	− Up to 15 mph · open-water chop	− Rain up to ~52%	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **69–79°F**, lows **47–57°F**, rain chance up to **~52%**. Story is the wet stretch — bite windows ride the rain timing, not the calendar.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

79° F high

LOW	57°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	ESE 0–5 mph
RAIN	~10%
SUN	6:58 AM / 5:22 PM

Frame: Stable day — first-light moving bait, then slow down around shade and cover once the sun is up.

TUESDAY NOV 17

69° F high

LOW	48°F
SKY	Chance Showers And Thunderstorms
WIND	SSW 5–15 mph
RAIN	~52%
SUN	6:59 AM / 5:22 PM

Frame: Wet day — fish the front side of the rain; slow down and stay close to cover after it passes.

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

70° F high

LOW	47°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	NW 0–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:00 AM / 5:21 PM

Frame: Stable day — first-light moving bait, then slow down around shade and cover once the sun is up.

Window: Mon–Wed · Air: ESE → SSW → NW · Bite window: dawn + last light

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING
- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:58 AM MST) → ~9 AM**
- Use any ripple as cover

MIDDAY
- Shade lines, docks, deeper edges
- Electronics for bait height first
- Slow down once the sun is overhead

EVENING
- Revisit shallow shade as sun drops
- Topwater if the surface lays down
- Weekday traffic is lighter — work quiet pockets

FALL TRANSITION **Largemouth plan: Follow shad into the backs of creeks and flats 1-10 ft; spinnerbait, squarebill and topwater at a fast pace.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Largemouth are in the fall transition — following bait into creeks and onto flats as water cools.

Basis: estimated water ~66°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a river (10-day response); no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

NATURAL FORAGE

Threadfin shad are the main forage in all three lakes, and fall puts them in loose schools near points, cove mouths, and the shade of walls at dawn. Watch for surface flickers, diving birds, and bait clouds on your graph.

ALSO BITING

Yellow bass school heavily in these lakes and will hit small spoons and spinners. Walleye are present in Apache and Canyon and bite best at dawn and dusk on deeper points.

PRESSURE

Weekday traffic — lighter than the weekend. Fish early, give ramps and swim areas room.

DAM & WATER — GENERATION SCHEDULE

FIXED Dam-controlled water. No generation schedule posted by Salt River Project for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 — check the operator page the morning you fish; releases and pool levels change daily. Stay outside buoyed restricted zones.

ITEM	NOTE	SOURCE
Horse Mesa Dam (Apache Lake)	No generation schedule posted by Salt River Project for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 1,908.42 ft (Sun 11/15)	Salt River Project
Mormon Flat Dam (Canyon Lake)	No generation schedule posted by Salt River Project for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 1,605.26 ft (Sun 11/15)	Salt River Project
Stewart Mountain Dam (Saguaro Lake)	No generation schedule posted by Salt River Project for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 1,527.31 ft (Sun 11/15); reservoir release today (SRP) 8 cfs (Sun 11/15)	Salt River Project
Permit / regs	At Canyon Lake, the Boulder and Acacia day-use sites put you on rocky shoreline.	
Clarity	Expect metro boat and personal watercraft traffic after mid-morning; slow down in narrow canyon bends where visibility is short.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Saguaro offers the best shore access in the chain. Butcher Jones Recreation Site has a beach, parking, and a trail toward Peregrine Point with rocky banks and coves to fish, and the area around the Saguaro del Norte site near the main ramp gives quick access to points.

KAYAK

Tuck into the coves around Butcher Jones and work brush and shaded rock instead. On Canyon Lake, the Palo Verde boat ramp is the paddler's gateway to the quieter back canyons, where cliffs block much of the wind and the water stays clear. are the paddling days.

BOAT

Launch at first light from the Saguaro Lake ramp or Saguaro Lake Marina. Spend the first two hours on main-lake points and the mouths of coves, watching for shad flicking on the surface. Mid-morning, slide to the deeper sides of the points, steep walls, and brush.

LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait or popper in bone or shad pattern at dawn along points and canyon walls, best on calm. A buzzbait along wind-blown rock in the first hour.

MID

White spinnerbait on the windy points. Shad-colored squarebill along broken rock. A small swimbait on a light jighead for bass suspended along walls as the sun climbs.

BOTTOM

Green pumpkin Texas-rigged worm in brush. Brown football jig on point drops and ledges. Drop shot with a natural minnow-style bait for deep, clear-water bass on slick afternoons.