FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for American Falls Reservoir area

American Falls Reservoir

Idaho

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

3/10

Poor odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
− Unsettled · 16°F swing	+ No lightning	− Up to 18 mph · open-water chop	− Rain up to ~100%	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **41–57°F**, lows **28–37°F**, rain chance up to **~100%**. Story is the wet stretch — bite windows ride the rain timing, not the calendar.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

57° F high

LOW	37°F
SKY	Mostly Cloudy
WIND	E 8–13 mph
RAIN	~32%
SUN	7:24 AM / 5:07 PM

Frame: Cold start — let the sun warm the shallows; the better bite often comes later in the day.

TUESDAY NOV 17

41° F high

LOW	28°F
SKY	Rain And Snow Showers
WIND	SW 10–17 mph
RAIN	~100%
SUN	7:25 AM / 5:06 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

41° F high

LOW	31°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny then Chance Rain Showers
WIND	S 7–18 mph
RAIN	~81%
SUN	7:26 AM / 5:06 PM

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

Window: Mon–Wed · Air: E → SW → S · Bite window: dawn + last light

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:24 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 **Smallmouth plan: Go subsurface and a notch slower: edges of drop-offs, rocky points and bluff ends between the fall flats and the 20-40 ft winter depth; jerkbait with pauses, small jig or hula grub on the bottom, blade bait ripped off the bottom on points.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Smallmouth are in the late fall transition — water in the low-to-mid 50s, so they are staging on drop-off edges, points and bends between their summer spots and the deep wintering holes.

Basis: estimated water ~49°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day

NATURAL FORAGE

Smallmouth use points at dawn, and yellow perch school on flats once the sun is up. Bird activity over the flats can give away perch schools before you look at the graph.

ALSO BITING

Smallmouth bass — primary; rock, points and riprap. Yellow perch — deeper flats; great for kids and the frying pan.

PRESSURE

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

response); no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

DAM & WATER — GENERATION SCHEDULE

FIXED Dam-controlled water. No generation schedule posted by Bureau of Reclamation 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
American Falls Dam	No generation schedule posted by Bureau of Reclamation for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18	Bureau of Reclamation
Confirm	Idaho Fish and Game fishing rules	idfg.idaho.gov
Permit / regs	Regulations: check current Idaho Fish and Game rules before keeping fish.	
Clarity	Water clarity / depth.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Bank anglers can fish riprap and rock near the American Falls Dam area and from public access at Seagull Bay, Willow Bay and Massacre Rocks State Park. Start early with a spinnerbait or a tube along the rocks, then switch to a jig or a drop-shot as the sun climbs.

KAYAK

Mornings are the best paddle windows before the afternoon breeze. Launch at Seagull Bay or Willow Bay and work rocky shoreline with a tube or a Ned rig. Wear a PFD every minute, carry a windbreaker and turn back early if whitecaps build on the open reservoir.

BOAT

American Falls fishes like a big, open irrigation lake with rock, flats and current near the dam. At first light, run points from Seagull Bay toward the dam and the Massacre Rocks shoreline with a spinnerbait, crankbait or tube. As the sun climbs, work deeper rock and perch flats with a drop-shot, a jig or a small spoon.

LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait along points at dawn. Popper on calm pockets. Buzzbait on rippled banks.

MID

Spinnerbait or crankbait on rock. Small swimbait on points. Tube on riprap.

BOTTOM

Drop-shot on deeper rock. Jig or spoon on perch flats. Football jig on channel edges.