Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Hamilton Lake area

Hamilton Lake

Indiana

Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Central Time · Largemouth

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

Strong odds

9/10

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	+ 5–10 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **52–59°F**, lows **31–41°F**, rain chance up to **~0%**. Story is light and bait position — dawn and last light carry the window.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

52° F high

LOW	31°F
SKY	Areas Of Fog then Mostly Sunny
WIND	SW 0–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	—

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

55° F high

LOW	34°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	S 0–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	—

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

59° F high

LOW	41°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	S 5–10 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	—

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (first light CST) → ~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 ~56°F — statewide median of 23 lake estimates from the observed air record (NOAA ACIS) — no coordinates on file for this lake; no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

NATURAL FORAGE

Pressure on Hamilton Lake should stay lighter than a weekend, but the Steuben County public ramp corridor still sees after-work spinning rods.

ALSO BITING

Largemouth share the same outside weed edges you are fishing for bluegill on Hamilton Lake — keep a stickbait or compact jig ready as a bonus cast, but do not abandon the panfish plan on the cold dawn.

PRESSURE

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

WATER BOARD — LAKE CHEAT SHEET

FIXED Natural / small-impoundment water — no generation table. Check access rules and level notes with the managing agency before you go.

ITEM	NOTE	SOURCE
Permit / regs	Indiana DNR regulation summary — confirm the current card.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Start on the posted shoreline at the Hamilton Lake public access ramp (Steuben County), then fan out along the walk-in banks beside the concrete ramp parking and any open public shoreline you can reach without crossing private docks. Keep a compact spinner or soft stickbait ready if a largemouth flashes on the same edge.

KAYAK

Launch from the Hamilton Lake public concrete ramp and stay inside a short paddle of the public shoreline for this window. Pack a light panfish rod for jigs and a medium rod with a small spinnerbait or weightless stickbait for any largemouth that share the same edge.

BOAT

Run out from the Hamilton Lake public concrete ramp (Steuben County) and keep the plan compact — this is a natural lake, not a big reservoir run. Graph the first clean outside weed edge and any short drop you can see from the ramp corridor before you idle the whole basin.

LURE BOX

TOP

No topwater slot on file for this water — stay mid / bottom.

MID

A tiny crank or spinner for covering outside grass. A weightless stickbait in green pumpkin for shared largemouth water. A compact spinnerbait for the light south breeze.

BOTTOM

Pack small 1/16–1/8 oz jigs in natural perch and bluegill colors. One light drop-shot for clear midday water on the first break.