FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Hillsdale Lake area

Hillsdale Lake

Kansas

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

5/10

Fair odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
− Unsettled · 13°F swing	+ No lightning	− Up to 17 mph · open-water chop	+ Clear / sunny (~8%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **58–63°F**, lows **36–49°F**, rain chance up to **~8%**. Story is wind — pick banks the breeze is hitting and keep crossings short.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

58° F high

LOW	36°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	S 2–7 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:02 AM / 5:05 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

59° F high

LOW	42°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	S 5–12 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:03 AM / 5:05 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

63° F high

LOW	49°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	S 9–17 mph
RAIN	~8%
SUN	7:05 AM / 5:04 PM

Frame: Breeziest day — use ripple on wind-blown banks and points; open-water chop is higher risk.

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:02 AM 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 ~58°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

NATURAL FORAGE

Pressure on Hillsdale should stay lighter than a weekend, but Hillsdale State Park shoreline and the Jayhawk Marina corridor still see evening traffic from the Kansas City-south corridor.

ALSO BITING

Crappie and white bass are the bonus mix when birds work open water over Big Bull channel swings or along marina points — keep a small spoon or slim crank ready, but do not abandon the largemouth timber plan.

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 USACE NWDM 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
Hillsdale Dam & Reservoir	**No generation schedule posted by USACE NWDM for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18** Observed: pool 917.55 ft (Mon 3:00 AM CT); observed outflow (USACE) 8 cfs (Sun 6:00 AM CT)	USACE NWDM

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Fish the posted banks at Hillsdale State Park, starting near Jayhawk Marina public shoreline, then walk Antioch-area recreation banks as the sun climbs.

KAYAK

Launch from Hillsdale State Park or near Jayhawk Marina and stay inside protected arms for this window. The light east breeze is perfect for a silent paddle along park timber — parallel the wood, then stake out on the outside edge once the sun clears the ridges.

BOAT

Run out from the Hillsdale State Park and Jayhawk Marina–area ramps. Graph Big Bull Creek old-channel swings and flooded timber before you burn fuel on a long dam run.

LURE BOX

TOP

One walking topwater for calm dawn shad activity.

MID

Pack a weightless stickbait in green pumpkin. A 1/2-oz spinnerbait or squarebill for the windblown rock.

BOTTOM

A compact flipping jig with a craw trailer. A Texas-rig creature for thicker park wood. A shaky head or drop-shot for clear midday water on channel swings.