Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

**Weather**
National Weather Service forecast for Bays de Noc area

# Bays de Noc

Michigan
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Eastern Time · Smallmouth

## BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

**7** /10 — Fair odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

| PRESSURE | STORMS | WIND | SKY / RAIN | BASS STAGE | CROWD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| + Mostly stable | + No lightning | − Up to 15 mph · open-water chop | + Clear / sunny (~3%) | + Fall transition | + Weekday · lighter traffic |

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **50–53°F**, lows **37–45°F**, rain chance up to **~3%**. Story is wind — pick banks the breeze is hitting and keep crossings short.

## THREE-DAY WEATHER

### MONDAY NOV 16

**50°** F high

| | |
|---|---|
| LOW | 37°F |
| SKY | Sunny |
| WIND | SW 5–15 mph |
| RAIN | ~3% |
| SUN | 7:45 AM / 5:10 PM |

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

### TUESDAY NOV 17

**52°** F high

| | |
|---|---|
| LOW | 41°F |
| SKY | Sunny |
| WIND | SW 10 mph |
| RAIN | ~2% |
| SUN | 7:47 AM / 5:09 PM |

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

### WEDNESDAY NOV 18

**53°** F high

| | |
|---|---|
| LOW | 45°F |
| SKY | Mostly Sunny |
| WIND | SW 10–15 mph |
| RAIN | ~1% |
| SUN | 7:48 AM / 5:08 PM |

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

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

## HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

### MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:45 AM EST) → ~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 ~50°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature

### NATURAL FORAGE

**What's on the menu: No dated forage report turned up for this exact window. Gobies, perch, small baitfish, and crayfish are the usual fall foods on the Bays de Noc rock, and bait balls or diving gulls near a point show where fish are feeding.**

### ALSO BITING

**Walleye · pike. Walleye: the Bays de Noc are a premier fall walleye fishery, with low-light trolling and jigging along weed edges, reefs, and river mouths.**

### PRESSURE

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

gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

## 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 |
|---|---|---|
| Clarity | Best bite: mid-morning through afternoon on wind-touched rock and reef edges; best day is the calm day, so use it to cover water: swimbaits, jerkbaits, and tubes across rock flats and reef edges in the clear water, then settle on any area holding fish with drop-shots and Ned rigs. | |

## ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

### BANK

The Gladstone Marina area and nearby public waterfront, plus the Aronson Island and North Shore access areas in Escanaba, give walk-in anglers legal shoreline on Little Bay de Noc. The light northwest breeze make it the best bank day, with clear water that lets you see rock and weed edges.

### KAYAK

Kayakers can launch from posted public access at Kipling or Gladstone Marina on Little Bay de Noc, or Garden Bay on Big Bay de Noc, and should treat both bays as open Great Lakes water. Is workable on the lee side of points. Wear a PFD and cold-water layers, and tell someone your route and return time.

### BOAT

Launch at Gladstone Marina, Kipling, Rapid River Mouth, Aronson Island, Farmers Dock, Ford River Mouth, or Garden Bay, Nahma, and Fayette on Big Bay. Use the calm to idle rock flats and reef edges in 8–20 feet with electronics, then work tubes, drop-shots, and swimbaits on the schools you find. Stay in the lee and fish early.

## LURE BOX

### TOP

The calm, sunny afternoon gives a walking bait or popper a real shot over shallow rock. The warmth is another good topwater window on calm points.

### MID

Soft swimbaits, jerkbaits, and spinnerbaits across rock flats and weed edges. The calm favors a slower jerkbait; the wind favors a swimbait or spinnerbait.

### BOTTOM

Tubes, Ned rigs, and drop-shot minnows on rock, reef edges, and the first drop. A football jig covers deeper reefs once fish slide out after cold nights. Stain / clear match: Low river flows and calm water should keep both bays clear, so lean on natural goby, perch, and green pumpkin colors on light line.