Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Cooney area

Cooney

Montana
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Mountain Time · Trout

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

4/10 — Fair odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
~ 11°F swing	+ No lightning	− Up to 17 mph · open-water chop	− Rain up to ~80%	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **44–55°F**, lows **24–35°F**, rain chance up to **~80%**. Story is the wet stretch — bite windows ride the rain timing, not the calendar.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

55° F high

LOW	35°F
SKY	Mostly Cloudy
WIND	ESE 6 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:16 AM / 4:45 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

52° F high

LOW	32°F
SKY	Mostly Cloudy then Light Rain Likely
WIND	ESE 3–7 mph
RAIN	~80%
SUN	7:18 AM / 4:44 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

44° F high

LOW	24°F
SKY	Slight Chance Light Snow then Partly Sunny
WIND	WNW 6–17 mph
RAIN	~23%
SUN	7:19 AM / 4:43 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:16 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 **Trout plan: Target inflows and shoreline drop-offs as water cools; spoons, spinners and streamers, moderate.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

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

Basis: estimated water ~51°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 rising

NATURAL FORAGE

Small natural profiles and flash in moderation fit clear sunny water.

ALSO BITING

Low-light rock and deeper breaks. Yellow perch.

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 the operator 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
Cooney	No generation schedule posted by the operator for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18	the operator
Permit / regs	Stay outside dam restricted buoys, idle past bank anglers on the park shoreline, and confirm ramp congestion on warm afternoons when day-use traffic rises.	
Clarity	Cool Mountain air and clear water make leaders and light tippets matter more than lure color.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Cooney State Park shoreline and legal dam-face banks outside restricted markers are the trout walk-ins this week. Dawn-spoon or small spinner along park rock, then slide toward the dam face as light spreads — stay outside closed markers. Cool Mountain air and clear water make leaders and light tippets matter more than lure color.

KAYAK

Launch at Cooney State Park and fish the protected park shoreline before drifting toward open water. Trout stack near the dam face and points on sunny days — keep moves quiet and presentations small. Light winds favor a kayak here; still wear a PFD and carry a drift sock if any canyon breeze builds.

BOAT

Idle out of the State Park ramp at first light, graph the dam-face break and near-park points for trout, then make short hops rather than long runs on this compact reservoir. Clear sunny water wants lighter line and smaller profiles once the sun is high.

LURE BOX

TOP

Small spoons at dawn. Inline spinners near the dam. Dry flies on calm mornings.

MID

Nymphs and soft hackles. Small jigs under a float. Light spoons mid-depth.

BOTTOM

Heavier spoons under high sun. Egg patterns near inflow. Slow retrieves on the bottom.