Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Koocanusa area

Koocanusa

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

8/10 — Strong odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Stable pattern	+ No lightning	+ 0–5 mph usable ripple	− Rain up to ~63%	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **41–47°F**, lows **32–36°F**, rain chance up to **~63%**. Story is the wet stretch — bite windows ride the rain timing, not the calendar.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

47° F high

LOW	36°F
SKY	Slight Chance Light Rain then Patchy Fog
WIND	S 1–5 mph
RAIN	~63%
SUN	7:51 AM / 4:59 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

41° F high

LOW	34°F
SKY	Patchy Fog
WIND	NNW 1 mph
RAIN	~46%
SUN	7:52 AM / 4:58 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

41° F high

LOW	32°F
SKY	Areas Of Fog
WIND	0 mph
RAIN	~9%
SUN	7:54 AM / 4:56 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:51 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 ~46°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 steady

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 USACE Seattle District 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
Libby Dam	**No generation schedule posted by USACE Seattle District for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18** Observed: pool 2,441.76 ft (Mon 4:00 AM CT); observed outflow (USACE) 5,000 cfs (Mon 4:00 AM CT)	USACE Seattle District

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Begin fishing Lake Koocanusa public shoreline near Libby / Rexford recreation access with a covering lure for rainbow trout, then camp on contact. Confirm park rules at Lake Koocanusa before you settle. Wet feet cut trips short — spare socks help.

KAYAK

Build the paddle around Protected Koocanusa shoreline pockets. Drift sock or small anchor helps hold for rainbow trout. At Lake Koocanusa, keep expectations -real.

BOAT

Run from Rexford / Libby-area public launches and main-lake points. Graph bait and rainbow trout on the first point, then a second move before high sun. On Lake Koocanusa, screenshot the ramp board the night before.

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.