FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Harlan County area

Harlan County

Nebraska

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

4/10 — Fair odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
− Unsettled · 15°F swing	+ No lightning	− Up to 25 mph · unsafe chop	+ Clear / sunny (~8%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **51–66°F**, lows **40–47°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

51° F high

LOW	43°F
SKY	Mostly Cloudy
WIND	S 10–20 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:23 AM / 5:19 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

58° F high

LOW	47°F
SKY	Mostly Cloudy
WIND	S 20–25 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:24 AM / 5:19 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

66° F high

LOW	40°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SSW 10–25 mph
RAIN	~8%
SUN	7:25 AM / 5:18 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:23 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 **Walleye plan: Fish rock and gravel 10-25 ft at low light; jig and minnow or troll stickbaits, moderate.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

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

Basis: estimated water ~56°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

Natural perch, shad, and white finishes cover most sunny scenarios.

ALSO BITING

Northern pike / muskie where present. Weeds and creek mouths early.

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
Harlan County Dam & Reservoir	No generation schedule posted by USACE NWDM for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 1,932.93 ft (Mon 3:00 AM CT); observed outflow (USACE) 0 cfs (Sun 6:00 AM CT)	USACE NWDM
Permit / regs	Confirm length limits and seasons on the live state regulations page before you keep fish.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Patterson Harbor shoreline and legal public banks near the ramp are the Alma–Republican City walk-ins this week. Dawn-jig Patterson Harbor rock for walleye, then rotate to adjacent public banks as glare builds on this big USACE pool. Cool CT mornings need layers; harbor riprap gets slick — watch your footing.

KAYAK

Launch at Patterson Harbor and fish the harbor's protected water before committing to open Harlan County Lake. Work harbor points early for walleye, then ease toward the nearest public shoreline only if the breeze stays kind. This reservoir's fetch is serious — drift sock , PFD , and turn back early if waves build.

BOAT

Idle out of Patterson Harbor at dawn, graph harbor-mouth breaks and the first main-lake points, then run longer Republican River pool structure only after you mark bait. Walleye here often want windward breaks when any chop sets up — use it.

LURE BOX

TOP

Shallow cranks on riprap dawn. Walking baits if bait is high. Small swimbaits over points.

MID

Jig + minnow / soft plastic. Blade baits on seams. Moderate cranks on breaks.

BOTTOM

Crawler harness / bottom bouncer. Heavier jigs on current. Ned or drop-shot under high sun.