Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Pittsburg / First Connecticut Lake area

Pittsburg / First Connecticut Lake

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

8/10 — Strong odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
~ 11°F swing	+ No lightning	+ 5–5 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~1%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **38–49°F**, lows **23–34°F**, rain chance up to **~1%**. Story is light and bait position — dawn and last light carry the window.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

38° F high

LOW	23°F
SKY	Cloudy
WIND	NW 0–5 mph
RAIN	~1%
SUN	6:44 AM / 4:15 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

46° F high

LOW	34°F
SKY	Partly Sunny
WIND	W 0–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:45 AM / 4:14 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

49° F high

LOW	30°F
SKY	Partly Sunny
WIND	W 0–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:46 AM / 4:13 PM

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

Window: Mon–Wed · Air: NW → W · Bite window: dawn + last light

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:44 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 ~45°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: Smelt lead the menu by a wide margin. As the water cools, smelt and salmon both move toward the shoreline and river mouths.

ALSO BITING

Lake trout in the deep water; smallmouth on rock as a change-up. Brook trout in the rivers between the lakes.

PRESSURE

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

gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

DAM & WATER — CONFIRM BEFORE YOU LAUNCH

FIXED Dam-controlled water. No shared generation/level feed this cycle — check the agency page the morning you fish; releases and pool levels change daily. Stay outside buoyed restricted zones.

ITEM	NOTE	SOURCE
Permit / regs	Carry a valid NH license and respect posted no-wake and restricted areas.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Start at the posted public access on First Connecticut Lake off Route 3 and the public shoreline near the dam areas where fishing is allowed — verify posted rules and stay off private camps. Only fish if the rain eases, and stay on protected shore. Cast a small spoon or spinner along the drop-offs near the access.

KAYAK

Kayaks are a -only plan this week. Launch from a posted public access and stay close to shore in protected coves; the rain and gusts and the cold make the open water dangerous in a small boat. Troll a small spoon or streamer along the shoreline drop-offs.

BOAT

Launch from the First Connecticut Lake public ramp and idle every pad. Stay off the open lake in the rain and gusts. Troll smelt-profile spoons and streamers along the drop-offs in 15–30 ft once the wind eases.

LURE BOX

TOP

Small spoon — silver or gold, near surface dimples. Inline spinner — first light along drop-offs. Streamer on a fly rod — smelt patterns along shore.

MID

Trolled smelt-profile spoon — 15–30 ft. Soft baitfish on a light jighead. Small swimbait — smelt or perch tones.

BOTTOM

Jigging spoon — when fish mark deep. Weighted streamer / leadcore — midday. Light tube — for smallmouth on rock.