FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Elephant Butte area

Elephant Butte

New Mexico

Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Mountain Time · Largemouth

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	− Up to 16 mph · open-water chop	+ Clear / sunny (~11%)	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **62–63°F**, lows **43–45°F**, rain chance up to **~11%**. Story is wind — pick banks the breeze is hitting and keep crossings short.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

62° F high

LOW	44°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SSE 1–9 mph
RAIN	~5%
SUN	6:40 AM / 5:06 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

62° F high

LOW	45°F
SKY	Partly Sunny
WIND	S 2–16 mph
RAIN	~11%
SUN	6:41 AM / 5:05 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

63° F high

LOW	43°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SSW 1–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:42 AM / 5:05 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING
- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:40 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 **Largemouth plan: Follow shad into the backs of creeks and flats 1-10 ft; spinnerbait, squarebill and topwater at a fast pace.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

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

Basis: estimated water ~57°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

Sunfish and crayfish fill out the menu around rock and flooded brush.

ALSO BITING

White bass bust shad along the mud line and off main-lake points on calm mornings. A small chrome spoon, an inline spinner, or a white swimbait on a light jighead covers them.

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
Elephant Butte Reservoir	No generation schedule posted by the operator for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 4,316.20 ft (Sat 11/14); daily average release (Reclamation) 4 cfs (Sun 11/15)	the operator
Permit / regs	Park day-use hours run 6 a.m.	
Clarity	Expect a stained north end and a mud line where river water meets the lake; bait and bass work that edge.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Shore anglers have the most options near the south end. Work the rocky shoreline around Hot Springs Landing, the Lions Beach day-use area, and the safe edges around Marina del Sur, staying clear of the active ramp lane.

KAYAK

This is the best kayak week of the fall: near-zero wind all three days and a freshly reopened launch. Put in at Marina del Sur or carry in from the Lions Beach shoreline where the park allows it, and paddle the protected pockets along the south basin.

BOAT

Launch only at the Marina del Sur main ramp, with four-wheel drive and a spotter, and idle the first few hundred yards because old debris is still near the surface. Rock Canyon and Monticello stay closed. Start at dawn on flooded brush in the south-basin coves with a spinnerbait or squarebill, then follow up with a Texas rig.

LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait (bone, shad) — calm dawn over flooded brush. Buzzbait (white or black) — stained pockets near the inflow. Popper — slick marina and cove edges at sunset.

MID

⅜-oz spinnerbait (white/chartreuse) — the mud line and brushy points. Lipless crank (chrome or red craw) — clear side of the color change. Squarebill (shad or craw) — rock and brush in 2–6 ft.

BOTTOM

Texas-rig craw or creature (green pumpkin, black/blue in stain) — flooded cover. Ned rig or wacky stick bait — glass-calm midday, pressured edges. Football jig or drop-shot — first channel swing off main-lake points.