FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Santa Cruz Lake area

Santa Cruz Lake

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

4/10

Fair odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	− Up to 15 mph · open-water chop	− Rain up to ~85%	~ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **53–58°F**, lows **26–35°F**, rain chance up to **~85%**. Story is the wet stretch — bite windows ride the rain timing, not the calendar.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

58° F high

LOW	31°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	SW 0–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	6:40 AM / 4:55 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

58° F high

LOW	35°F
SKY	Partly Sunny then Chance Rain Showers
WIND	S 5–15 mph
RAIN	~85%
SUN	6:41 AM / 4:54 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

53° F high

LOW	26°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	SW 0–10 mph
RAIN	~13%
SUN	6:43 AM / 4:54 PM

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

Window: Mon–Wed · Air: SW → S · 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: Slow down: steep points, channel drops and remaining grass just outside the creeks, between the fall flats and the 15-30 ft winter depth; suspending jerkbait with long pauses, jig-and-pig or blade bait crawled down the slope.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Largemouth are in the late fall transition — water under the mid-50s, so bass are sliding off the shallow flats toward steeper points and channel drops near their fall feeding areas.

Basis: estimated water ~51°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day

NATURAL FORAGE

No roster note on file for this water.

ALSO BITING

No roster note on file for this water.

PRESSURE

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

response); no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending falling

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
Santa Cruz Dam	No generation schedule posted by the operator for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: observed flow at USGS 08291000 (Santa Cruz River Near Cundiyo, Nm) 36 cfs (Mon 3:45 AM CT)	the operator

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

No bank slot on file for this water — confirm access with the managing agency before you go.

KAYAK

No kayak slot on file for this water — confirm access with the managing agency before you go.

BOAT

No boat slot on file for this water — confirm access with the managing agency before you go.

LURE BOX

TOP

No topwater slot on file for this water — stay mid / bottom.

MID

No mid-depth slot on file for this water.

BOTTOM

No bottom slot on file for this water.