Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

**Weather**
National Weather Service forecast for Lookout Shoals Lake area

# Lookout Shoals Lake

North Carolina
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Eastern Time · Largemouth

**BITE ODDS · THIS CAST**

Fair odds

**7** /10

0 2 4 6 8 10

| PRESSURE | STORMS | WIND | SKY / RAIN | BASS STAGE | CROWD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| + Mostly stable | + No lightning | ~ Flat calm | + Clear / sunny (~0%) | ~ Fall transition · turnover | + Weekday · lighter traffic |

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **59–66°F**, lows **30–32°F**, rain chance up to **~0%**. Story is light and bait position — dawn and last light carry the window.

## THREE-DAY WEATHER

### MONDAY NOV 16

**59°** F high

| | |
|---|---|
| LOW | 30°F |
| SKY | Sunny |
| WIND | NNE 2 mph |
| RAIN | ~0% |
| SUN | 7:01 AM / 5:16 PM |

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

### TUESDAY NOV 17

**63°** F high

| | |
|---|---|
| LOW | 30°F |
| SKY | Sunny |
| WIND | NE 1 mph |
| RAIN | ~0% |
| SUN | 7:02 AM / 5:16 PM |

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

### WEDNESDAY NOV 18

**66°** F high

| | |
|---|---|
| LOW | 32°F |
| SKY | Sunny |
| WIND | NE 2 mph |
| RAIN | ~0% |
| SUN | 7:03 AM / 5:15 PM |

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

Window: Mon–Wed · Air: NNE → NE · Bite window: dawn + last light

## HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

### MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:01 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 **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. Possible turnover window on stratified reservoirs — the bite can go off for a few days.**

Basis: estimated water ~58°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature

### NATURAL FORAGE

**As nights drop into the mid-40s and low 50s, shad push into creek arms and onto points, and bass follow. On a dock-heavy Catawba reservoir, shade is your best friend once the sun climbs.**

### ALSO BITING

**Crappie settle onto brush and dock pilings as nights cool; small jigs or minnows work in the calm. Catfish bite cut bait along channel edges in the evening, and bluegill still feed around docks and riprap.**

### 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 — GENERATION SCHEDULE

FIXED Dam-controlled water. No generation schedule posted by Duke Energy 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 |
|---|---|---|
| Lookout Shoals Dam | No generation schedule posted by Duke Energy for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18<br>Observed: pool 836.10 ft (Mon 11/16) | Duke Energy |
| Permit / regs | Confirm length limits, creel limits, and any special rules on the live NCWRC freshwater page before you keep fish. | |
| Clarity | The upper, river-like end often runs more stained — chartreuse and white show better there — while the main lake can fish a little clearer on calm, sunny days. | |

## ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

### BANK

Start from the Lookout Shoals public ramp in Catawba County (the NCWRC boating access on this reservoir). Fish the public shoreline and riprap within walking distance of the ramp lot, not the launch lanes themselves.

### KAYAK

Launch at the same Lookout Shoals NCWRC / public ramp, then stay in the near-shore dock and cove circuit so you are not fighting main-lake wakes all day. Skip a weightless stick worm or a small jig under docks, and ride the light east-northeast breeze along the windward bank where bait lines up.

### BOAT

Trailer in at the Lookout Shoals public ramp (Catawba County) and idle out until you are clear of the ramp pocket. Run points and creek mouths at first light with a walking bait or a squarebill.

## LURE BOX

### TOP

Walking bait (shad) for schooling fish. Buzzbait along docks in the fog. Popper in calm dock shade.

### MID

Squarebill (shad or chartreuse) on riprap and points. 3–4" swimbait on a light jighead. White spinnerbait on breezy banks.

### BOTTOM

Skipping jig (green pumpkin) under docks. Wacky or Texas-rigged stick worm around posts. Shaky head on rock and riprap.