FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Brownlee–Hells Canyon area

Brownlee–Hells Canyon

Oregon
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Pacific Time · Smallmouth

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

6/10 — Fair odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Stable pattern	+ No lightning	− Up to 15 mph · open-water chop	− Rain up to ~98%	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **43–49°F**, lows **30–36°F**, rain chance up to **~98%**. Story is the wet stretch — bite windows ride the rain timing, not the calendar.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

49° F high

LOW	36°F
SKY	Widespread Rain Showers
WIND	NNW 2–8 mph
RAIN	~98%
SUN	6:46 AM / 4:20 PM

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

TUESDAY NOV 17

48° F high

LOW	30°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny
WIND	NNW 8–15 mph
RAIN	~22%
SUN	6:47 AM / 4:19 PM

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

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

43° F high

LOW	34°F
SKY	Widespread Rain And Snow Showers
WIND	ESE 2–7 mph
RAIN	~95%
SUN	6:48 AM / 4:19 PM

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

Window: Mon–Wed · Air: NNW → ESE · Bite window: dawn + last light

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING
- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (6:46 AM PST) → ~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 ~53°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day

NATURAL FORAGE

Baitfish are along the rock and in current seams. What's on the menu: Shad, small baitfish and crawfish are the main forage, with deeper holes holding cats and sturgeon forage.

ALSO BITING

Smallmouth bass — primary; rock, riprap and points. Channel catfish — deeper holes; cut bait.

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. Generation schedule and flows below are copied from the operator as posted at the Cast pull — schedules change; re-check the operator page the morning you fish. Stay outside buoyed restricted zones.

ITEM	NOTE	SOURCE
Hells Canyon Dam	Mon 11/16: 4 AM - midnight MST 8,760 cfs · Tue 11/17: 12 AM - 4 AM MST 8,760 cfs · Wed 11/18: schedule not posted yet — Idaho Power IPC Flow Monitor (Hells Canyon projected release) Observed: pool 1,683.79 ft (Sun 1:00 AM CT); Hells Canyon Dam outflow (Idaho Power) 8,730 cfs (2026-11-16 01:00 MST)	Idaho Power
Brownlee Dam	No generation schedule posted by Idaho Power for Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18 Observed: pool 2,062.93 ft (Mon 1:00 AM CT)	Idaho Power
Confirm	Idaho Fish and Game fishing rules	idfg.idaho.gov
Permit / regs	Regulations: check current Idaho Fish and Game rules before keeping fish, and follow sturgeon catch-and-release rules.	
Clarity	Water clarity / depth.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Bank anglers can fish riprap and rock from Woodhead Park and Copperfield Park, and from other signed Idaho Power recreation sites along the Idaho shore. Start early with a spinnerbait or a tube along the rocks, then switch to a jig or a drop-shot as the sun climbs.

KAYAK

Launch at Woodhead Park or Copperfield Park and work rocky shoreline with a tube or a Ned rig. Wear a PFD every minute, and give powerboat traffic plenty of room in the main channel. Pack a windbreaker and drinking water.

BOAT

Brownlee fishes like a long, stained canyon lake with rock, current and deep holes. At first light, run riprap and points from Woodhead toward the upper reservoir with a spinnerbait, crankbait or tube. As the sun climbs, work deeper rock and channel edges with a jig or a drop-shot.

LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait along riprap at dawn. Popper on calm pockets. Buzzbait on shaded banks.

MID

Spinnerbait or crankbait on rock. Small swimbait on points. Tube on steep banks.

BOTTOM

Jig or football head on deeper rock. Drop-shot on channel edges. Cut bait for channel cats.