Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Lake Whelchel area

Lake Whelchel

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

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

Strong odds

8/10

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
+ Mostly stable	+ No lightning	+ 3–5 mph usable ripple	+ Clear / sunny (~0%)	~ Fall transition · turnover	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **59–66°F**, lows **33–37°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	33°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	NE 0–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:02 AM / 5:20 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	33°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	NE 3 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:02 AM / 5:19 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	37°F
SKY	Sunny
WIND	NE 1–5 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:03 AM / 5:19 PM

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

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

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:02 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 ~60°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response), adjusted by 1 nearby

NATURAL FORAGE

What's on the menu / natural forage: Threadfin and gizzard shad lead wherever birds and surface activity show bait. Crawfish on rock remain a steady bottom option.

ALSO BITING

Crappie, catfish, and panfish fill mixed bags around brush and creek channels as water cools. Confirm seasons and creel on the live SCDNR page before you keep fish.

PRESSURE

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

USGS lake gauge; no water-temperature 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	Weekday traffic is usually light; park fees, permits, or hours may apply.	
Clarity	Keep a second rod ready with a swimbait when bait tips along the edges, and give stained pockets an extra cast after any overnight shower pulse before you trailer.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Start on public shoreline at Lake Whelchel Boat Ramp (SCDNR Lake Whelchel Boat Ramp, concrete, 2 lanes, Cherokee County) and stay off private docks and yards. The low light is the time to walk a shady point with a walking bait or buzzbait. Pick a bank the wind blows into if it is safe, and throw a spinnerbait or squarebill.

KAYAK

Launch at Lake Whelchel Boat Ramp and keep paddles short to points and creek mouths. If there is fog, stay close to shore, carry a light, and listen for boats. The light wind decides your day — fish protected pockets instead of crossing open water.

BOAT

Launch at Lake Whelchel Boat Ramp and spend the first hour on topwater or a waking bait along points and bait slicks, then work rock and brush with a jerkbait or football jig. Fish wind-blown points only where conditions allow;, pick apart dock shade and brush. Give kayaks plenty of room at the ramp.

LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait or buzzbait in bone or chrome on slick dawn points when bait is dimpling. Popper around dock shade. Keep a waking swimbait ready whenever birds or surfacing bait show.

MID

Spinnerbait and chatterbait in white/chartreuse or shad tones on wind-blown banks. Squarebill on shallow wood and rock. Jerkbait in natural shad colors on clearer main-lake rock once the sun is up.

BOTTOM

Football jig or creature bait in green pumpkin on rock and brush. Texas-rigged stickbait for brush and dock posts. Drop shot or Ned for tough midday spells under full sun.