



FRESHWATER CAST · FRIDAY CAST · CLONE PFL PILOT

Washington County Public Lake (J. Emmett Wood): Storm Windows & PFL Permit Bite

Washington County Public Lake (J. Emmett Wood) · Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026 · bank / kayak / boat · ADCNR Public Fishing Lake

Highs ~86° Fri → ~80° Sun (NWS MOB/BMX edge · AL-south band)

Orange pin 31.62062, -88.35102

Storm chances all weekend — pack a shell; abort for lightning

Daily PFL permit + AL license · soft recreational

South-Alabama PFLs sit under a wet weekend card — earn dawn and the lulls, fish tight cover, and confirm the lake is open before you spend the permit.

● MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

SharedFeeds **AL-south** band pulled Friday morning CT for the Fri–Sun window. **Friday** ~86°F / ~70°F with a ~50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. **Saturday** similar heat (~86°F / ~71°F) with afternoon storm chances building overnight. **Sunday** stays wet (~80°F / ~68°F, storms ~90%). Confirm live NWS before you leave — south pins sit near the MOB/BMX edge depending on county.

For bass on a managed Public Fishing Lake: lean **first light** and any **lull between cells**. These are small, fertile, cover-rich waters — managed pond-style lakes, not river-current fisheries. After rain pulses expect stained edges and fish cleaner seams along points, brush, and the first drop. Soft recreational pressure on a storm weekend — no named ABT / ABA / B.A.S.S. trail event pulled for this PFL on Oct 2–4.

FRIDAY OCT 2

~86°F

Low ~70° · ~50% precip · light

Chance showers and thunderstorms

Sunrise 6:45 AM · Sunset 6:35 PM CT

Best bite: Dawn + lulls between cells; abort for lightning

SATURDAY OCT 3

~86°F

Low ~71° · ~50% precip · light

Partly sunny then chance storms; storms likely overnight

Sunrise 6:46 AM · Sunset 6:34 PM CT

Best bite: Dawn topwater; watch afternoon build

SUNDAY OCT 4

~80°F

Low ~68° · ~90% precip · light

Showers and thunderstorms

Sunrise 6:46 AM · Sunset 6:33 PM CT

Best bite: Short windows only; scrub if lightning stacks

Day cards from SharedFeeds AL-south band-forecasts (2026-10-02). Confirm live NWS and the Outdoor Alabama lake page before you buy the permit.

● ADCNR PFL CHEAT SHEET

This water is an **ADCNR State Public Fishing Lake**. Your live board is the **Outdoor Alabama lake page**, the on-site permit desk, ramp status, and the sky.

ITEM	FRI-SUN NOTE	FAILOVER
Permit & license	Daily lake permit + valid Alabama fishing license required when the lake is open. Personal-boat launch is tied to the lake permit for fishing boats.	Outdoor Alabama PFL pages · on-site desk
Access	ADCNR Washington County PFL (J. Emmett Wood). Public boat ramp on site; bank fishing where posted. Daily lake permit plus a valid Alabama fishing license; launching for fishing boats is tied to the lake permit per Outdoor Alabama. Confirm open status, hours, and fees on the lake page before you trailer.	OA lake page · pin 31.62062, -88.35102
Storm / safety	Small water + lightning is a bad mix all weekend. If thunder is close, trailer and wait. Life jacket on when the boat is underway.	Live NWS · on-water observation

Washington County Public Lake (J. Emmett Wood) (Managed county PFL water, Washington County (J. Emmett Wood)). Soft bite notes: points, brush, piers, and the first break off the bank at dawn; shade and thicker cover once the day heats or a cell stains the edge. Confirm open status — several south PFLs rotate draining,

renovation, or restocking closures; this Cast does not override the agency page.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Primary public bank and pier access is on-site at **Washington County Public Lake (J. Emmett Wood)** when open. Named access: the ADCNR PFL facility at orange pin **31.62062, -88.35102** (Washington County (J. Emmett Wood)). Work permitted shoreline, piers, and posted day-use banks — points, brush edges, and shaded pockets at first light before cells arrive.

Buy the daily lake permit before the first cast; keep the license on you. Stay off closed renovation banks. Confirm hours and open status on the [Outdoor Alabama lake page](#) before you lock the truck — south PFLs are where temporary closures show up most often.

KAYAK

Launch at the **named on-site PFL ramp** when open and permitted; confirm ramp and parking before you strap the boat. Fish shoreline cover, points, and protected pockets on this small water.

PFD on, whistle, dry bag for permit paperwork. Have a bailout bank planned — weekend storm outflow can end a kayak hour early. If Sunday's ~90% storms stack, treat the trip as a short dawn attempt or stay home.

BOAT

Plan: **first light--~9 AM CT** on points and visible cover; mid-morning shade, piers, and the first drop; abort when thunder walks in.

Launch early at the on-site PFL ramp when open — confirm ramp status after overnight rain before you trailer.

Fish bait, birds, and cover. Idle slow near bank anglers. Carry a topwater rod for slick dawn banks and soft plastics for stained post-rain edges.

● LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait bone/chrome at dawn on slick banks between cells. Poppers over brush pockets. Soft buzzbait under storm light.

MID

Spinnerbait white/chartreuse when outflow chops the surface. Soft swimbait off points. Squarebill citrus on hard banks.

BOTTOM

Green pumpkin creature or Texas-rig worm in brush. Weightless stick bait after a crowd pulse. Compact jig on the first break off the bank.

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Early October on south-Alabama PFLs is a post-summer / early-fall feed on managed, cover-rich water. Largemouth relate to shoreline brush, points, piers, and the first drop — not river ledges or dam current. Spawning is long done; fish feed and comfort one morning at a time. Handle quickly in warm water and release fish you will not keep.

● FORAGE THIS WEEK

Most likely menu: bluegill and juvenile sunfish around brush and piers, plus any shad the lake carries in open pockets. Hatch reports are thin on PFLs — match bank pops at dawn. After rain, stained water often wants a brighter or noisier profile until color settles.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

Bream / bluegill on the same brush the bass use. Catfish on deeper holes where allowed. Crappie soft language if brush piles are present — confirm seasons and limits live.

Crowd / Heavy Traffic: No named national trail event pulled for this PFL Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4. Soft storm-weekend pressure; a clear lull can pack a small lot. Regs and permit rules confirm live before you keep fish.

● PATTERN NOTES (THIS WEEK)

Early October on this Public Fishing Lake is a feed-and-comfort game under a wet south-Alabama card. Cooler outflow mornings pull fish shallow at first light; afternoon rebounds between cells push them to shade, brush, piers, and the first break.

Start every morning by walking one trusted bank or pier before the first long cast. If bait or bluegill are popping, open with a walking bait or spinnerbait; if the bank is quiet after rain, open with a Texas-rig, creature, or soft stick bait on stained edges. Outdoor Alabama, the permit desk, ramp

feel, birds, and bank bait are your live board. Several south PFLs rotate closures; the agency page always wins.

● WASHINGTON COUNTY PUBLIC LAKE (J. EMMETT WOOD) MIDWEEK NOTES

Washington County Public Lake (J. Emmett Wood) is a managed ADCNR Public Fishing Lake at orange pin **31.62062, -88.35102** (Washington County (J. Emmett Wood)). Managed county PFL water. The shared south-Alabama storm pattern applies; this product is stamped with this lake's own name, pin, and access stub so a hub click lands on the right title.

Access in one line: ADCNR Washington County PFL (J. Emmett Wood). Public boat ramp on site; bank fishing where posted. Daily lake permit plus a valid Alabama fishing license; launching for fishing boats is tied to the lake permit per Outdoor Alabama. Confirm open status, hours, and fees on the lake page before you trailer.

Friday–Saturday still offer fishable dawn and lull windows under ~50% storm chances. Sunday's ~90% card is a short-trip or scrub-call decision. Confirm the lake is open on Outdoor Alabama before you spend the permit.

● ON THE WATER THIS WINDOW

Treat dawn as the whole trip when storms are stacked. A clean first hour on a point, brush edge, pier, or first break beats three hours of chasing cells around a small lake.

Decision fork: calm slick mornings open with a topwater or walking bait on the first clean bank you trust; breezy or rain-chop mornings open with a spinnerbait or soft plastic along the windward or stained edge, then rotate to shade. Primary this week is largemouth on shoreline cover and piers.

Confirm lake open status and permit rules before you trailer. Birds and bank bait beat a guess.

● WINDOW DISCIPLINE

Leave time margin for the permit desk, the ramp, and the drive. Soft storm-weekend pressure evaporates whenever a lull looks fishable on a small PFL. Get the dawn hour right, then leave while the radar is still honest.

Practical pre-launch check: Outdoor Alabama open/closed status (critical on south PFLs with rotating closures), permit and license in hand, ramp feel after rain, and a glance at live NWS plus lightning. Keep a rain shell in the boat all weekend.

Pure-Gas.org E0 · this water

No Pure-Gas.org station list is saved yet for this PFL orange pin. Before you leave Washington County (J. Emmett Wood), search **Pure-Gas.org** for ethanol-free fuel near the lake and confirm E0 grade at the pump if grade matters to you. Listings change; this Cast does not invent station names or miles.

E0 stub only — reader verifies on Pure-Gas.org. No pump prices on this card.

SOURCES

SharedFeeds band-forecasts AL-south (2026-10-02 dump) · Outdoor Alabama State Public Fishing Lakes / lake page for Washington County Public Lake (J. Emmett Wood) · ADCNR PFL facility pin (31.62062, -88.35102) · Pure-Gas.org (reader search; no saved station list for this pin) · state regs (live) · Trail calendars skimmed (no named event confirmed unless noted).