



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Bartlett: Likely Storms Mon–Tue, Jojoba Launch & Sunny Wednesday Points

Bartlett Reservoir · Cave Creek RD / USFS Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026 bank / kayak / boat

Highs ~83° → ~80° → ~84° (PSR) AZ clocks · monsoon-edge midweek

Release boards thin at evening pull Soft recreational · no named trail event pulled

Bartlett sits under the same monsoon-edge pattern as the Valley chain — likely storms Monday and Tuesday, then a sunny Wednesday. Pack a rain shell, launch early at Jojoba when open, and let the first clean point after a cell show you where the bait pushed.

● MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

NWS Phoenix (PSR) band pin for **middle** paints this Friday–Sunday **Cast** window. At pull: Mostly clear, with a low around 73. East wind around 6... Local clocks on this water run Arizona (no DST) — dawn windows shift with the angler.

FRIDAY OCT 2

99°F sunny · night ~73°F mostly clear.
Winds 0 to 9 mph. Fish dawn and last light first when skies harden.

SATURDAY OCT 3

99°F sunny · night ~72°F mostly clear.
Winds 2 to 6 mph. Fish dawn and last light first when skies harden.

SUNDAY OCT 4

98°F sunny · night ~75°F mostly clear.
Winds 5 to 14 mph. Fish dawn and last light first when skies harden.

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

Mostly fair pattern favors **dawn and dusk**.
Midday fish slide deeper or under shade unless current or wind moves bait. Period themes this pull: Mostly Clear / Sunny.

Day cards from the locked weather-band representative pin (middle), pulled Friday morning for the Fri–Sun window. Check live dam boards before you idle over a seam.

● GENERATOR SCHEDULE CHEAT SHEET

SRP / Bartlett public release boards were **thin as a full Fri–Sun unit calendar at evening pull**. Confirm SRP and USFS Cave Creek notices before you idle near dam-end structure.

REACH	FRI–SUN NOTE	FAILOVER
Main lake / Verde arm	Storm runoff can stain arms after Mon–Tue cells. Elevation and ramp status at Jojoba rule access.	USFS Jojoba Boating Site · SRP lake pages
Dam-end restricted water	Boards thin for unit timing. Fish legal points and brush outside posted lines.	Posted signs · on-water observation

Soft bite notes with quiet releases: points, brush piles, and docks early; deeper brush and ledges mid-day. If water is moving at a dam face, look for bait stacked on the first legal current break — still outside every restricted line. Confirm ramp depth before you back a deep-V when elevation has been swinging.

Practical pre-launch check: elevation vs last trip, ramp status on park/USFS/NPS notices, and a glance at any release remark. Birds and bait on the graph beat an empty calendar.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Primary public bank access through **USFS Jojoba / Bartlett** day-use areas — fees and parking verify live. Work riprap, brush, and shaded pockets at first light before the sun hardens the flat.

Shared: hydrate; storm cells can end a bank session fast. Stay out of dam-restricted zones and private marina slips. Afternoon open riprap is brutal even when highs sit in the low 80s.

Confirm day-use hours before you lock the truck. Soft midweek pressure until sunny Wednesday — leave margin to get off exposed banks before wakes and recreation stack the corridor.

KAYAK

Launch at Jojoba Boating Site when open; confirm ramp and parking vs elevation before you strap the boat. Fish creek arms and brushy pockets away from main-lake traffic after mid-morning.

Wind on Bartlett's open water can end a kayak day early on storm days — have a bailout shoreline. PFD on every trip.

After a cell passes, check stained pockets along the first clean edge.

Wednesday's sunny reset favors longer point casts if the chop lays down overnight.

BOAT

Plan: **first light--~9 AM AZ** on points and brush; late morning docks and shade; mid-day deeper structure with electronics. Launch early at **Jojoba Boating Site** when open — confirm ramp status before you trailer.

Soft current language only near legal dam-end structure. Soft midweek pressure under storms; sunny Wednesday traffic rises. Mark bait height at dawn before the first cast.

If cells build Monday–Tuesday, leave open fetches for protected arms. Carry a dedicated topwater rod for dawn birds so you are not retieing when bait shows on the first pass.

● LURE BOX

TOP

Walking bait in bone / sexy shad at dawn on main-lake points. Poppers over brush when the surface is slick Wednesday. Buzzbait black/blue along storm-stained edges after Monday–Tuesday cells.

MID

Spinnerbait white/chartreuse on windy points. Squarebill citrus on riprap and marina rock. Soft swimbait on a jighead for suspended fish over deeper brush when the sun is high.

BOTTOM

Green pumpkin creature Texas-rigged in brush. Brown/orange football jig on point drops. Carolina-rigged lizard when fish slide out after the morning flurry.

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Late September at Bartlett is a post-summer / monsoon-edge transition. Largemouth still relate to points, brush, and docks. Storm edges can turn the bite on; the sunny rebound puts fish on shade by late morning.

Spawning is long finished. You are fishing feed and comfort — storm edges and bait flushes early in the week, then cleaner-water point fishing by Wednesday if the basin gets a rinse and a reset. Handle fish quickly in warm afternoon water.

● FORAGE THIS WEEK

Most likely menu: threadfin shad on points and creek mouths, bluegill around brush and docks. Hatch reports are thin. Match the graph and birds.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

Crappie on brush. Catfish on deeper holes. Soft Mon–Tue pressure; Wednesday sunny traffic rises. Regs: AZGFD (confirm live).

Crowd / Heavy Traffic: No named national trail event pulled for this water Mon Sep 28 – Wed Sep 30. Soft midweek recreational pressure under storm chances; sunny Wednesday traffic rises on accessible hubs. Regs confirm live before you keep fish.

Looking ahead (next 1–3 weeks): Clearer early October favors stronger dawn topwater. Watch elevation and USFS ramp notices. Next **Cast:** Friday window Fri–Sun.

● BARTLETT MIDWEEK CRAFT NOTES

Bartlett's Jojoba launch is the Cave Creek RD hub for this product. Confirm USFS ramp and parking status versus elevation before you trailer — monsoon runoff and pool swings both matter on this Verde River storage lake.

Storm days Monday–Tuesday favor protected arms over heroic main-lake runs. If a gust front stands the lake up, slide into brushy pockets and wait for the cell to pass rather than pounding whitecaps for one more point. Wednesday's sunny reset is when longer point casts and walking baits earn their keep again.

Clarity after cells can change arm to arm. Check color at the ramp, then match lure color: darker in stain, chrome and white when the water cleans. Birds working a point at dawn remain the best free tip on Bartlett.

Electronics tip: idle a known point at 4–6 mph and mark bait height before the first cast. If shad are up, start topwater or spinnerbait; if they are down on the break, go jigs and Carolina rigs first. Re-scan after lunch when the sun is high.

Soft midweek pressure under storms is Bartlett's edge this window — sunny Wednesday still brings day-use traffic. Fish dawn like it is the whole trip, and leave a margin for the drive back down the hill before afternoon storms rebuild.

● VERDE STORAGE QUICK HITS

Bartlett's Verde River storage character means brush and timber can hold fish even when the main-lake points go quiet under high sun. After the morning point flurry fades Wednesday, rotate to shaded timber edges and dock lines before you abandon the day for town.

Storm cells Monday–Tuesday often train over the Mazatzals and spill toward the reservoir — watch the western and northern sky, not just the phone radar blob over Phoenix. A cell that looks far on the Valley radar can still put wind on Bartlett's open water in minutes.

If you fish with kids or newer anglers this window, pick Wednesday's sunny dawn over the storm days, keep the session short, and stay near the Jojoba corridor so a weather pop-up is a short run, not an adventure.

Pure-Gas.org E0 · this water

Closest Pure-Gas.org ethanol-free stations / corridor notes for this water (saved listing — stations only; listings can change; verify E0 grade at the pump if grade matters to you):

- Pilot Travel Center (verify E0) — 17405 S 40th St, Phoenix AZ 85048 · ~metro Confirm Pure-Gas
- Pure-Gas.org Arizona directory — <https://www.pure-gas.org/> · state list Desert E0 sparse

Station list from Pure-Gas.org for this water. No pump prices on this card. Confirm grade and hours on site.

● ON THE WATER THIS WINDOW

Monday and Tuesday's likely storms favor short dawn sessions on Bartlett points with a bailout arm ready. Wednesday's sunny reset is the day to lengthen the morning — walking baits on clean points, then brush and docks as the sun climbs.

Line and leader: 12–15 lb fluoro covers most jig and creature work in stain; lighter leaders when Wednesday cleans the points. Keep a spinnerbait ready for gust fronts that make a walking bait hard to work. A dedicated topwater rod saves time when birds start crashing.

USFS logistics: Jojoba ramp and parking verify live versus elevation. The hill drive eats dawn if you leave late — treat the commute as part of the plan. Pack a rain shell and spare water even when the phone forecast looks only “likely.”

Mental picture: storm-edge dawns early in the week, then a cleaner Wednesday point bite with a little more day-use traffic. Fish the sky you have, not the one you wanted.

If the Wednesday morning starts slick and calm, open with a walking bait on the first clean point you marked last trip. If a leftover breeze puts a chop on the main body, start with a white spinnerbait along the windward brush line and save the walker for the protected pocket behind it. That single weather fork covers most Bartlett mornings this window without overthinking the box.

Leave a time margin for the hill drive home before afternoon towers rebuild — a good morning on the water beats a heroic late exit through lightning.

SOURCES

NWS Phoenix (PSR) (Friday morning AZ pull) · agency lake / park / USFS / NPS pages (generation calendars thin at pull) · Pure-Gas.org station list (reuse) · AZGFD regs (live) · Trail calendars skimmed (no named event confirmed for this window).