



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CASTGEORGIA

Russell: Near-Full Pool, Storm Edges & Quiet Midweek Timber

Monday Sep 21 – Thursday Sep 24, 2026 · Richard B. Russell Lake · GA–SC Savannah middle stair · bank, kayak & boat · Monday morning through Thursday evening focus

Storms Mon night–Wed (Tue night ~73%)

Mon ~91° · Thu ~76°

KJYL/KAND baro ~30.02–30.03 in · EDT

Pool ~473.7 ft (USGS) · full ~475

Russell's standing timber doesn't need a crowded Saturday to fish — treat Tuesday's cells as a reset button and keep the midweek quieter than the stair's bigger neighbors.

• MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

NWS Greenville-Spartanburg / Russell corridor (GSP grid 59,8; pulled Sun Sep 20 ~12:20 PM CT): Warm **Monday (~91°F)** after patchy fog, then **stormy midweek** — **Monday night–Tuesday** chance/likely storms (~45–73%), **Wednesday (~78°)** chance showers (~45%), **Thursday (~76°)** partly sunny (~14%). Soft weekday recreational pressure.

Barometer: KJYL / KAND latest obs ~30.02–30.03 inHg (Sun afternoon CT pull). Clarity unconfirmed — timbered pockets can stain after cells; main lake often clearer.

Crowd: Weekday soft. **No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu.** A sourced **HS/Junior stop at Richard B. Russell State Park on Sun Sep 20** falls **outside** this Cast window (past). Looking ahead: **no named trail event pulled** for the next 1–3 weeks on Russell from calendars checked.

WINDOW

Mon–Thu

through Thu evening CT

WATER CLARITY / DEPTH

****Estimate:**** Main lake often clearer; standing-timber pockets murkier after storms. No live turbidity sensor used.

Dawn–midmorning: timber edges, points, pocket banks.

Midday: deeper timber / channel swings — adjust to bait.

CROWD / PRESSURE

Weekday soft. **No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu.**

Soft recreational only (Sep 20 HS/Junior stop is past / outside window).

MONDAY SEP 21

~91°F

Patchy Fog then Sunny · SSW light

Sunrise ~7:16 AM · Sunset ~7:30 PM EDT

Dawn timber edges / topwater before heat

TUESDAY SEP 22

~88°F

Chance showers then storms (~48%) · ENE ~5 mph

Lightning plan — off water for cells

Post-cell timber & points; stain pockets

WEDNESDAY SEP 23

~78°F

Chance Rain Showers (~45%) · NE 7–12 mph

Cooler highlander-stair finesse day

Breezier main lake

THURSDAY SEP 24

~76°F

Partly Sunny (~14%) · NE ~10 mph

Cleaner finish for timber plans

Soft recreational midweek continues

● DAM & CURRENT / GENERATOR SCHEDULE CHEAT SHEET

USGS lake elev + USACE Savannah District context (middle Savannah stair between Hartwell and Thurmond). **No fixed Mon–Thu public generator calendar** pulled Sunday — soft re-check language. Board times **EDT**.

PROJECT	OBSERVED	GENERATOR SCHEDULE	HOW TO FISH IT
Richard B. Russell Dam / Lake USGS 02188100 · USACE Savannah	Pool ~473.73 ft (USGS Russell Lake above Calhoun Falls, SC Sun Sep 20 ~1:00 PM EDT). Full summer pool reference ~475 ft — near full. Water temp sensor ~ 28°C at same pull (context only). Outflow / unit schedule: Mon–Thu public generator calendar not posted at Sunday pull.	No fixed Mon–Thu public generator calendar posted. Russell can generate and pump — do not invent unit or pump-back timelines. Re-check USACE Savannah boards before launch.	Near-full pool = timber and pocket banks still in play. When units pulse, soft current seams near the dam (legal water only). Idle boards = shade, timber edges, and bait.

STANDING TIMBER

Primary Russell visual — map stumps, fish edges and shade. Soft plastic and jig standards.

MAIN-LAKE POINTS

Graph shad/herring when present; clearer water = finesse.

DAM / PUMP CONTEXT

Respect restricted zones; soft language only if generation/pump appears later.

Schedules change — verify dam boards before you go.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Richard B. Russell State Park & USACE recreation areas — dawn/dusk.

Fog Monday AM — visibility.

Tue–Wed lightning plan. GA or SC license as required.

KAYAK

Timber pockets and protected arms when NE winds build.

PFD; skip stilling basin / restricted dam water.

Quiet weekday timber lake for kayaks.

BOAT

Graph bait; fish timber edges, points, and shade.

Storm edges Tue–Wed can turn the bite briefly.

Weekday ramp ease — no named trail event in this window.

● ETHANOL-FREE FUEL NEAR THIS WATER

PURE-GAS.ORG E0 · THIS WATER

Source: [Pure-Gas.org](https://pure-gas.org) station identity · pulled **Sun Sep 20, 2026 · 12:11 PM CT**

Current prices (as of Sun Sep 20, 2026 · 12:20 PM CT) — may change; verify at the pump. Prefer E0/ premium matching Pure-Gas octane when known; area AAA GA statewide grades used when station-specific E0 price not found (not a confirmed E0 quote).

7-11 — 23 W Russell Lake Blvd, Calhoun Falls, SC · ~1.8 mi · 87 octane E0 **\$4.09 Regular** (area AAA GA — not confirmed E0 grade) · 864-418-0333 [Pure-Gas](https://pure-gas.org)

72 Marine Station — 3336 Calhoun Falls Hwy, Elberton, GA · ~3.1 mi · 87 octane E0 — Today's price for E0 gas is \$2.79.9 per gallon. **\$4.09 Regular** (area AAA GA — not confirmed E0 grade) · 706-283-7800 [Pure-Gas](https://pure-gas.org)

R R Quick Stop — 2379 Calhoun Falls Hwy, Elberton, GA · ~6.7 mi · 90 octane E0 — This station is located at the corner of Ga Hwy 72 and Drake Rd. **\$4.96 Premium** (area AAA GA — not confirmed E0 grade) · 762-251-7048 [Pure-Gas](https://pure-gas.org)

Ingles — 901 Lower Heard St, Elberton, GA · ~12.4 mi · 87 octane E0 — Close at 10pm **\$4.09 Regular** (area AAA GA — not confirmed E0 grade) · 706-283-8445 [Pure-Gas](https://pure-gas.org)

Listed E0 stations as of Sun Sep 20, 2026 · 12:11 PM CT from Pure-Gas.org (crowdsourced). AAA GA statewide averages used for area grade overlay only — may change; verify at the pump. Call ahead — availability changes.

● LURE BOX — TOP / MID / BOTTOM

TOP

Walking bait / spook early on timber edges

Popper on shade

Buzzbait on cloudy storm edges

MID

Spinnerbait through timber lanes

Fluke / soft jerk (shad)

Squarebill on points

BOTTOM

Jig / soft craw in timber

Texas-rig worm

Drop-shot if clearer main-lake rock

Stain/clear: Often clearer main lake — natural/green/smoke; darker craw if timber pockets dirty after storms.

● BASS LIFE STAGE + WHAT'S ON THE MENU

Late summer → early fall transition on Savannah middle-stair Russell. Largemouth relating to timber, shade, and bait; cooler midweek helps shallow timber windows briefly.

What's on the menu (dated hatch thin — most likely): **shad** (threadfin/gizzard) + **bluegill**; crawl around timber/rock. Match medium profiles in timber; smaller shad profiles on points.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

- **Largemouth** — primary Russell story; timber
- **Crappie** — brush / timber deeper midday
- **Catfish** — cut bait
- **Spotted bass** — where locally present on clearer banks

GADNR Fishing: gadnrle.org/fishinglive-check only; do not hardcode inches.

● LOOKING AHEAD

Cooler pattern into early October. **No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu** and **no named looking-ahead trail event pulled for the next 1–3 weeks** on Russell from calendars checked (Sep 20 HS/Junior stop is past). Re-pull USGS elev / USACE Savannah boards.

Sources: NWS GSP Russell-area forecast Sun Sep 20 ~12:20 PM CT; KJYL/KAND METAR baro; USGS 02188100 pool elev Sun ~1:00 PM EDT; USACE Savannah context; Pure-Gas.org E0 listings Sun Sep 20 · 12:11 PM CT; AAA GA statewide grades Sun Sep 20 · 12:20 PM CT; GON HS/Junior Russell Sep 20 (past). Schedules change — verify dam boards before you go.

Freshwater Cast · russell · Monday **Cast** Mon Sep 21 – Thu Sep 24, 2026 · drafted Sun Sep 20, 2026 ~12:20 PM CT · Pure-Gas.org E0 pull Sun Sep 20, 2026 · 12:11 PM CT

● CONDITIONS THIS WEEK

This Monday **Cast** window runs **Mon Sep 21 morning through Thu Sep 24 evening** in **ET**. Depth here

Believe the latest NWS over any lure paragraph if Tuesday–Wednesday storm chances rise. If a USACE / Georgia Power / TVA board is thin at Sunday pull, say so and re-check — do not invent unit schedules. Never invent tournaments, hatch dates, or E0 pump prices.

● PLATFORM CHECKLISTS (EXPANDED)

BANK CHECKLIST

Confirm public park/ramp hours.

First legal light on the highest-percentage edge for the primary species.

One search bait + one finesse bait.

Leave for lightning / unsafe wind / posted closures.

Note clarity and wind lanes for the next trip.

KAYAK CHECKLIST

PFD on before paddle wet.

Protected first hour if wind is already up.

Stay out of dam boils / cable zones.

Leash rod/paddle; simple re-entry plan.

Leave channels when boat traffic stacks.

BOAT CHECKLIST

Graph bait and bottom before camping.

Idle near ramps, beaches, timber; no-wake where posted.

Re-check pool/generation/ wind before long midday runs.

Second rod ready when sun climbs.

Exit ramp plan if the main lake stands up.

● FORAGE & LURE LOGIC (EXPANDED)

Match late-September forage for the primary species, then let clarity choose color. Clear: naturals / translucent baitfish. Stain: chartreuse, black, white, opaque baitfish. Wind-blown banks concentrate forage; slick midday clear water wants smaller profiles and longer pauses.

Border / shared waters stay coordinated: West Point with (not Eufaula); Seminole GA primary / FL reciprocal notes only; Clarks Hill / Hartwell / Russell Savannah stair with SC awareness. Walter F. George / Lake Eufaula remains AL-owned — never a GA product.

Regs: Live-check GADNR before keeping fish. No hardcoded inch limits.

● SOURCES & RE-CHECK LIST

- NWS Peachtree City / local grids — re-check morning of launch.
- USACE / Georgia Power / TVA pages cited in dam tables.

- Pure-Gas.org E0 identity; pump prices verify-on-site.
- GADNR fishing regs — live-check.
- Trail calendars skimmed for Heavy Traffic — none invented when none pulled.