



**FRESHWATER
CAST**
lakes • rivers • nationwide



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Lucky Peak: Metro Smallmouth, Warm Afternoons & Soft Weekday Windows

Lucky Peak Lake · Mon Sep 21 – Thu Sep 24, 2026 · bank / kayak / boat · times in MT

MT

USACE

Weekday soft vs weekend

Highs ~84° Mon → ~89° midweek (NWS BOI)

Primary: Smallmouth bass

Boise's backyard reservoir still fishes like a smallmouth ditch with a city commute — dawn MT beats the heat and the weekend crush.

• MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

NWS Boise / Lucky Peak (NWS forecast grid; pulled Sun Sep 20 evening CT): **Monday** ~84°F — Sunny, precip ~0% · **Tuesday** ~84°F — Mostly Sunny, precip ~1% · **Wednesday** ~85°F — Sunny, precip ~0% · **Thursday** ~89°F — Mostly Sunny, precip ~0%. For **Smallmouth bass**: Riprap and rock transitions at dawn; re-check USACE discharge before fishing river below.

Crowd / Heavy Traffic: Weekday soft vs weekend metro crush. **No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu.**

Water clarity: Variable with Boise River influence.

MONDAY SEP 21

~84°F

Low ~56° · ~0% precip · 7 mph ESE

Sunny

Sunrise **7:18 AM** · Sunset **7:42 PM** MT (approx band — confirm local)

Best bite: first light~9 AM MT; shade later

Sunny, with a high near 84. East southeast wind around 7 mph....

TUESDAY SEP 22

~84°F

Low ~54° · ~1% precip · 7 mph SE

Mostly Sunny

Sunrise **7:19 AM** · Sunset **7:40 PM** MT (approx band — confirm local)

Best bite: first light~9 AM MT; shade later

Mostly sunny, with a high near 84. Southeast wind around 7 mph....

WEDNESDAY SEP 23

~85°F

Low ~57° · ~0% precip · 2 to 7 mph SE

Sunny

Sunrise **7:20 AM** · Sunset **7:38 PM** MT (approx
band — confirm local)

Best bite: first light—~9 AM MT; shade later

Sunny, with a high near 85....

THURSDAY SEP 24

~89°F

Low ~—° · ~0% precip · 7 to 14 mph ESE

Mostly Sunny

Sunrise **7:22 AM** · Sunset **7:36 PM** MT (approx
band — confirm local)

Best bite: first light—~9 AM MT; shade later

Mostly sunny, with a high near 89....

● DAM & CURRENT / GENERATOR SCHEDULE CHEAT SHEET

USACE Lucky Peak — re-check outflow (impacts river below). Soft if Sunday boards thin.

PROJECT	OBSERVED	GENERATOR SCHEDULE	HOW TO FISH IT
Lucky Peak Dam USACE Walla Walla	Re-check pool & discharge before launch / before fishing river below.	No invented Mon–Thu unit calendar — use project info.	SMB on rock/riprap; respect dam restricted water.

Schedules change without notice — confirm current boards before you go.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Riprap/public access dawn.

KAYAK

PFD; watch ski traffic later.

BOAT

Graph rock transitions; early launch.

Metro weekend pressure is the real crowd story — Mon–Thu is the play.

● LURE BOX

TOP

Walker/popper dawn

MID

Tube/Ned

Spinnerbait

BOTTOM

Jig

Drop-shot

Stain / clear match: Match stain — natural to chartreuse.

● LIFE STAGE

Late summer SMB; cool mornings expand dawn window midweek.

What's on the menu: Craw/baitfish.

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

TROUT

River/reservoir secondary.

PERCH

Secondary.

Regs: Idaho Fish & Game — <https://idfg.idaho.gov/fish> — live-check only; do not hardcode lengths.

• WINDOW TACTICS IN DEPTH

Through **Mon Sep 21 – Thu Sep 24** (MT), treat this as a **true midweek Cast** — not a weekend recreation summary. Lead with **Smallmouth bass** because that is what most anglers can execute on this water this week without inventing a miracle bite. Soft language stays soft: if a board, hatch, or tournament calendar was thin at Sunday pull, we say so instead of filling gaps with fiction.

Metro smallmouth: dawn riprap/rock, then shade. Re-check Lucky Peak discharge before fishing the river below. Weekday > weekend for pressure.

Bank depth: Riprap dawn; light traffic midweek mornings.

Kayak depth: PFD; ski traffic rises later — start early.

Boat depth: Early launch; graph rock transitions; respect dam zone.

• PRESSURE, SAFETY & HONESTY NOTES

- **Heavy Traffic:** No named trail event pulled for Mon–Thu. Weekend metro crush is the looking-ahead pressure story.
- **Lightning / storms:** Standard lightning rule; wind on the main pool still matters.
- **What we did not invent:** pump prices not listed as fake E0 quotes; generator unit counts not fabricated; tournament fields not invented; hatch dates not invented.
- **Shared / border notes:** Idaho; USACE project rules.

• LOOKING AHEAD (NEXT 1–3 WEEKS)

Weekend metro pressure returns — Mon–Thu remains preferred.

Next Cast: Friday Cast window Fri–Sun after the Thu local gather. Spot-check any new trail announcements for Heavy Traffic language.

● ETHANOL-FREE FUEL NEAR THIS WATER

PURE-GAS.ORG E0 · THIS WATER

Depth note on E0: Station identity is crowdsourced from Pure-Gas.org. Distances are rough to the map pin. This rewrite does **not** invent pump prices — if a price is not confirmed, the card says verify at the pump.

Source: [Pure-Gas.org](https://pure-gas.org) · Sun Sep 20, 2026 evening CT — verify at pump

Current prices (as of Sun Sep 20, 2026 evening CT — verify at pump) — may change; verify at the pump.

No invented E0 pump prices in this rewrite.

Pure-Gas.org — Boise metro — Boise, ID · ~varies mi · E0 · price not listed — verify at pump · [Pure-Gas](https://pure-gas.org)

Crowdsourced E0 identity; distances rough to pin. Call ahead. Gather notes referenced in CT; Cast clocks use MT.

● CONDITIONS THIS WEEK

Use the day cards as the clock. If a Tuesday cell threat rises on the latest NWS forecast, believe the grid over any lure paragraph in this document. If a dam board is blank at Sunday pull, the Cast says the board is blank — then tells you when to re-check — instead of fabricating a four-day unit schedule.

How to use the sections: Midweek outlook = weather + pressure + clarity. Dam cheat sheet = what is known / unknown and how current (or the lack of it) moves fish. Bank / kayak / boat = three different access realities on the same water. Lure box = top/mid/bottom matched to clarity and primary species. Life stage = seasonal position without pretending a spawn that is not happening. Also hot = secondary species without stealing the lead. Looking ahead = next 1–3 weeks and the Friday Cast handoff. E0 = Pure-Gas identity with verify-at-pump pricing honesty.

● PLATFORM CHECKLISTS (EXPANDED)

BANK CHECKLIST

Confirm public access / park hours before you leave the truck.

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

Carry one search bait and one finesse bait — do not empty the box onto one rock.

Leave for lightning; leave for unsafe wakes/wind; leave if an area is posted closed.

Photograph conditions (clarity, wind lanes) so the next trip starts smarter.

KAYAK CHECKLIST

PFD on before paddle hits water.

Pick a protected first hour if wind is already up at the ramp.

Stay out of dam boils / restricted cable zones.

Leash rod/paddle; pack a simple re-entry plan if you dump.

If boat traffic increases, leave the channel and fish inside edges.

BOAT CHECKLIST

Graph before you camp — bait and bottom first.

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

Re-check pool / generation / wind before a long midday run.

Keep a second rod ready when sun climbs and fish slide.

Have an exit ramp if the main lake stands up.

● FORAGE & LURE LOGIC (EXPANDED)

Match the primary species' most likely grocery list for late September — then let clarity choose color. Clear water: naturals, smoked greens, translucent baitfish. Stained water: chartreuse, black, white, or opaque baitfish. Wind-blown banks often concentrate forage and give search baits a lane; slick midday clear water often needs smaller profiles and longer pauses.

If the primary species is perch, white bass, hybrids, or crappie, do not force a largemouth magazine intro onto the page. Lead the species that actually pays the weekday bills on that water, then park bass / trout / muskie / catfish in Also hot with short, honest notes.

Regs: Live-check IDFG before you keep fish. This Cast does not hardcode inch limits or season dates that can change.

● SOURCES & RE-CHECK LIST

- NWS forecast grids for the local office named in the outlook (pulled Sun Sep 20 evening CT; re-check morning of launch).
- Agency dam / lake pages cited in the dam table — re-check pool and any generation boards after ~local evening updates.
- Pure-Gas.org for E0 station identity; pump prices verify-on-site.
- State agency regs pages (IDFG) — live-check.
- Local club / trail calendars skimmed for Heavy Traffic — none invented when none were pulled.

Sources: NWS forecast grids (NWS Boise / Lucky Peak); Pure-Gas.org E0 listings; agency dam/lake pages as cited in table. Pin 43.5253, -116.0433. Schedules change without notice — confirm current boards before you go. Freshwater Cast · Monday **Cast** · Idaho · Lucky Peak Lake · Mon Sep 21 – Thu Sep 24, 2026 · drafted Sun Sep 20, 2026 evening CT.