



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST · NEW MEXICO

## Navajo Cast

Navajo Lake (NM focus; NM–CO border FLAG) · Mon Sep 21 – Thu Sep 24, 2026 · bank / kayak / boat · times MT

Border FLAG NM–CO

Primary: smallmouth

Times MT

Navajo's New Mexico smallmouth rock does not wait for the weekend — fish points and tubes first light, and keep the Colorado border honest.

### • MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

**National Weather Service ABQ · Middle Mesa** — forecast gathered Sunday evening, Sep 20, 2026. All clock times below are **MT**.

Late-September high-desert pattern for the Navajo corridor. Cooler nights than southern Rio Grande storage. Day cards are the spine — re-check morning-of.

#### WINDOW

**Mon–Thu**

through Thursday evening MT

#### PRIMARY SPECIES

Smallmouth bass (primary);  
largemouth secondary

#### CROWD / HEAVY TRAFFIC

No named trail event pulled  
for Monday through  
Thursday. Soft weekday  
recreational pressure.

### MONDAY

High near **78°F** · Mostly Sunny · ~0% storm/precip chance

Wind E 0 to 5 mph

Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. East wind 0 to 5 mph.

Local clock times **MT**

### TUESDAY

High near **76°F** · Mostly Cloudy then Chance Showers And Thunderstorms · ~58% storm/precip chance

Wind SE 5 to 10 mph

A chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 76. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Local clock times **MT**

### WEDNESDAY

High near **68°F** · Chance Showers And Thunderstorms then Scattered Showers And Thunderstorms · ~64% storm/precip chance

Wind SE 0 to 5 mph

A chance of showers and thunderstorms before noon, then scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 68. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Local clock times **MT**

### THURSDAY

High near **70°F** · Chance Rain Showers then Chance Showers And Thunderstorms · ~45% storm/precip chance

Wind S 0 to 5 mph

A chance of rain showers before noon, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 70. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Local clock times **MT**

## ● DAM & POOL CHEAT SHEET

**USBR Upper Colorado / Navajo Lake (New Mexico focus)** — pool/release thin at gather.

Shared NM–CO water; this product is NM-side.

### POOL & RELEASE

Re-check USBR boards. Do not invent CFS.

### WIND

Main-lake fetch turns after mid-morning — plan lee rock.

### BORDER

Stay legal on the New Mexico side for this Cast.

Schedules change — verify dam boards before you go.

## ● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

### BANK

<strong>Shared:</strong> Hydrate; high-desert nights cool faster than Elephant Butte. Dam restricted zones off-limits. <strong>Navajo (NM):</strong> State Park / marina banks, rocky points, and posted shoreline early/late — fees verify live. Stay on the New Mexico side for this product; Colorado peer owns CO callouts.

### KAYAK

<strong>Navajo NM:</strong> Protected arms and lee shores before main-lake wind. Avoid dam discharge and main-channel rollers. PFD on; launch known NM ramps.

### BOAT

<strong>Plan:</strong> first light rock and points for smallmouth; midday deeper humps and channel swings; evening revisit shallow shade. Treat wind and any release pulse as the schedule. NM focus only — soft peer callout to Colorado if needed, no dual authorship.

## ● LURE BOX

### TOP

Walking topwater (chrome / bone) at dawn

Small popper on calm rock

Buzzbait in protected pockets

### MID

Spinnerbait (white / chartreuse)

Small crank / swimbait (shad)

Blade bait when fish suspend

### BOTTOM

Tube or ned (green pumpkin / smoke)

Drop-shot on deeper rock

Football jig (brown craw)

**Stain / clear match:** Often clearer high-desert water — lean natural / smoke / green pumpkin. Darken only if inflows dirty.

## ● BASS LIFE STAGE

<strong>Early-fall transition</strong> on Upper Colorado storage. Smallmouth remain the headline on rock; largemouth secondary in softer arms.

**What's on the menu:** Most likely <strong>crawfish</strong> on rock and <strong>baitfish</strong> on points. Match profile; keep a tube ready.

## ● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

### KOKANEE · TROUT NOTES

Coldwater secondaries exist — soft language only; this Cast stays bass-first.

### WALLEYE

Honest secondary when graph shows schools.

### CROWD / HEAVY TRAFFIC

No named trail event pulled Mon–Thu. Soft weekday pressure; weekend residual at State Park.

Regs live-link only: NMDGF freshwater creel & size limits (confirm live). NM–CO border — fish legal water only.

**Looking ahead (next 1–3 weeks):** Cooling nights next 1–3 weeks tighten rock patterns. Re-check USBR Navajo boards. Shared-water note: CO peer owns Colorado-side Cast language. Next Cast: Friday window.

### ETHANOL-FREE FUEL NEAR THIS WATER

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

**Pure-Gas.org search** — Navajo Lake / Bloomfield–Farmington corridor · ethanol-free listings · price not listed — verify at pump

Listed E0 stations from Pure-Gas.org (crowdsourced). Call ahead — availability changes. If you cannot confirm E0 at the pump, do not assume regular unleaded is ethanol-free. Station-specific pump prices were not confirmed at this gather. Do not invent a dollar amount.

**Sources:** National Weather Service forecast for the Navajo Lake / Farmington area pulled Sunday evening Sep 20, 2026; Pure-Gas.org for ethanol-free station identity; U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Upper Colorado context; New Mexico Department of Game and Fish freshwater guidance. Schedules and conditions change — verify dam boards before you go. <strong>Schedules change — verify boards before you go.</strong>

Freshwater Cast · Monday Cast · Navajo · Mon Sep 21 – Thu Sep 24, 2026 · drafted Sunday evening Sep 20, 2026