



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Shadehill: Quiet USBR pool — walleye first in northwest SD

Monday Sep 21 – Thursday Sep 24, 2026 · Shadehill Reservoir · bank, kayak & boat · Monday morning through Thursday evening focus · times CT

Window Mon–Thu CT

Primary: walleye

Gen boards thin Mon–Thu

Shadehill Dam nearly idle on tonight's bulletin. Fish structure and fall bait, not current.

● MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

****NWS**** pin forecast for Shadehill Reservoir (pulled Sun Sep 20 ~8:45–8:55 PM CT). Monday reads ****Mostly Cloudy**** (~63°F); Thursday trends ****Mostly Sunny**** (~79°F). All clock times ****CT****.

Barometer: KHEI baro blank at pull (not invented). Clarity unconfirmed — do not invent stain.

WINDOW

Mon–Thu

through Thu evening CT

PRIMARY

walleye

localized — not bass-by-default

CROWD / PRESSURE

Weekday recreational soft Mon–Thu after residual weekend traffic Monday.

No named trail event pulled for this window on this water — re-check local clubs before launch.

MONDAY

High ~63°F / night ~44°F ****CT**** · 3 to 9 mph E · PoP ~10%

Mostly Cloudy

Primary ****walleye****: fish weather pauses and forage edges — not a bass-by-default week.

TUESDAY

High ~66°F / night ~49°F ****CT**** · 10 to 22 mph SE · PoP ~0%

Partly Sunny

Primary ****walleye****: fish weather pauses and forage edges — not a bass-by-default week.

WEDNESDAY

High ~74°F / night ~51°F **CT** · 14 to 22 mph SE · PoP ~45%

Chance Showers And Thunderstorms

Primary **walleye**: fish weather pauses and forage edges — not a bass-by-default week.

THURSDAY

High ~79°F / night ~53°F **CT** · 1 to 5 mph E · PoP ~1%

Mostly Sunny

Primary **walleye**: fish weather pauses and forage edges — not a bass-by-default week.

Verify local CT sunrise/sunset at pin (~7:05–7:10 AM CT class Monday Pierre/Watertown corridor). All Cast times CT.

● GENERATOR / POOL CHEAT SHEET

Live **USACE Missouri River Basin Water Management** board pulled **2026-09-20 ~8:13 PM CT** (https://www.nwd-mr.usace.army.mil/rcc/reports/pdfs/MRBWM_Reservoir.pdf). Sunday elev/inflow/release only — **Mon–Thu hourly unit blocks not on this bulletin**; soft re-check language.

LAKE	SUN OBSERVED	INFLOW / RELEASE	NOTES
Shadehill Dam	Elev **2265.68 ft** (Δ -0.01)	In ~0 cfs · out ~21 cfs	MP ~75.8% · re-check before launch

USBR / SD GFP · SHADEHILL DAM

Primary story: **walleye**.
Secondaries: northern pike,
smallmouth bass, yellow
perch.

FAILOVER

Re-check USACE/USBR/
NWS boards before launch
— Sunday numbers age
fast.

Schedules change without notice — re-check USACE / USBR / NWS before launch.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Shadehill public access: dawn/dusk walleye first on points and riprap.

USBR dam nearly idle on Sunday bulletin — fish structure and fall bait, not current.

Do not invent release drama; soft re-check USBR/SD GFP only.

Wind-blown banks after showers if safe; NW SD weather shifts fast.

Pike and SMB honest secondaries.

Verify ramp fees and conditions live.

KAYAK

Structure and windward shorelines; near-idle dam means forage/weather plan.

First light—~9 AM CT; PFD for reservoir chop.

Avoid any restricted dam zone if release pulses appear on a re-check.

Midweek storms: take-out plan.

Soft recreational midweek.

Graph bait if present; otherwise work points systematically.

BOAT

Points, breaks, and fall bait; soft near-idle USBR language from Sun board.

Launch early; re-check Shadehill elev/in/out before midday.

Evening points when wind lays.

Clarity unconfirmed — natural/chrome first.

Soft recreational Mon–Thu; no named trail event.

Manager soft flag: near-idle release — do not invent peaking.

● LURE BOX — TOP / MID / BOTTOM

TOP

Small buzz/walker only if bait is breaking — otherwise skip topwater.

Long-bomb crank only on rare calm windows.

Whites/SMB may crash bait — keep one reaction rod ready.

MID

Shad-profile cranks and swimbaits along windward breaks.

Spinner harness + crawler where effective.

Hair jig or soft plastic on rock for SMB bycatch.

BOTTOM

Jig + minnow/plastic on points and river channel edges.

Live-bait rig off the break as nights cool.

Blade bait / hair jig when wind stands fish up.

Stain/clear: Clarity unconfirmed at pull — start natural/chrome and darken only if you see stain.

● LIFE STAGE + WHAT'S ON THE MENU

****Late summer → early fall transition.**** Cooler nights pulling ****walleye**** toward breaks and bait schools. Residual mild afternoons Wednesday–Thursday.

****What's on the menu**** (seasonal, not a dated hatch): YOY shad/minnows on mainstem; perch and invertebrates on glacial lakes. Match profile — do not invent a hatch date.

● ETHANOL-FREE FUEL NEAR THIS WATER

PURE-GAS.ORG E0 · NEAR THIS WATER

Source: [Pure-Gas.org](https://pure-gas.org) pulled Sun Sep 20, 2026 ~8:55 PM CT. **Current prices — may change; verify at the pump.**

Lemmon Iga, 19190 Us Highway 12, Lemmon, SD — ~12.8 mi · E0 listing · Ethanol-free UNBRANDED 91; GPS located from address price not listed — verify at pump

Kum & Go #2811, 306 Adams Ave, Hettinger, ND — ~27.1 mi · E0 listing · Ethanol-free KUM & GO 91; GPS located from address price not listed — verify at pump

M & D Food Shop, Us Hwy 212, Faith, SD — ~50.8 mi · E0 listing · Ethanol-free SINCLAIR 86; GPS entered by Sam price not listed — verify at pump

Farmer's Union Oil, Us Hwy 212, Dupree, SD — ~56.1 mi · E0 listing · Ethanol-free CENEX 85; GPS entered by Jonathan Lathbury price not listed — verify at pump

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

- northern pike — honest secondary this week
- smallmouth bass — honest secondary this week
- yellow perch — honest secondary this week
- Regs: [SD GFP Fishing](#) live-check only — do not hardcode inches/creel.

Regs: live-check only — never hardcode length/creel in **Cast** text.

Looking ahead (1–3 weeks): Cooler nights deepen fall bait/walleye patterns into late September. Looking ahead 1–3 weeks: watch SD GFP reports and any late-season trail announcements — none pulled for this Cast window.

Sources: NWS api.weather.gov forecast+obs · USACE MRBWM Reservoir bulletin 2026-09-20 ~8:13 PM CT · [Pure-Gas.org](https://pure-gas.org) E0 POI CSV · SD GFP regs live-check only · Drafted Sun Sep 20, 2026 ~8:55 PM CT

Freshwater Cast · shadehill · South Dakota · Monday **Cast** · Mon Sep 21 – Thu Sep 24, 2026 · drafted Sun Sep 20, 2026 ~8:55 PM CT · SD map avatar