



FRESHWATER CAST · MONDAY CAST

Thompson: Big glacial bowl — walleye primary as nights cool

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

Window Mon–Thu CT

Primary: walleye

No dam gen board

Classic northeast SD transition week. Lead walleye; perch and pike ride shotgun.

● MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

****NWS**** pin forecast for Lake Thompson (pulled Sun Sep 20 ~8:45–8:55 PM CT). Monday reads ****Rain Showers then Cloudy**** (~57°F); Thursday trends ****Rain Showers Likely**** (~67°F). All clock times ****CT****.

Barometer: K6E5 baro ~30.14 in, air ~59°F at pull. 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 ~57°F / night ~44°F ****CT**** · 10 to 15 mph ENE · PoP ~80%

Rain Showers then Cloudy

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

TUESDAY

High ~62°F / night ~45°F ****CT**** · 5 to 10 mph ESE · PoP ~0%

Mostly Sunny

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

WEDNESDAY

High ~65°F / night ~49°F **CT** · 15 to 20 mph
SSE · PoP ~12%

Partly Sunny

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

THURSDAY

High ~67°F / night ~52°F **CT** · 10 to 20 mph
S · PoP ~56%

Rain Showers Likely

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

No generator schedule — glacial / natural-lake product. Weather and forage drive the window.

LAKE	SUN OBSERVED	INFLOW / RELEASE	NOTES
—	no dam board	natural / no gen	N/A

SD GFP GLACIAL

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

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

Lake Thompson public access:
dawn/dusk walleye primary as
nights cool.

Glacial / no gen — fish
weather and forage only.

Perch and pike shotgun
species along weeds and
gravel.

Wind-blown banks after
showers if safe; slick ramps
after Monday rain.

Cooler midweek widens
morning windows.

Verify SD GFP access live.

KAYAK

Weed edges and flats with
small plastics; PFD for big-
bowl chop.

First light~9 AM CT;
lightning out on open
Thompson.

No dam board — glacial
language only.

Slip-bobber perch clouds;
walleye upgrade at edges.

Midweek storms need a take-
out plan.

Soft recreational midweek.

BOAT

Graph perch/walleye; small
jigs and live bait on breaks.

Launch early; wind decides
boat control on Thompson.

Evening edges when breeze
lays.

Clarity unconfirmed — natural
first.

Soft recreational Mon–Thu; no
named trail event.

Species-honest: walleye lead,
not bass-by-default.

● 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.**

Cenex, 101 N Main, Lake Preston, SD — ~5.5 mi · E0 listing · Ethanol-free CENEX 91; GPS entered by jim bobprice not listed — verify at pump

Jake's Corner, 44111 Hwy 34, Winfred, SD — ~20.4 mi · E0 listing · Ethanol-free SINCLAIR 87 91; GPS located from addressprice not listed — verify at pump

Alsville Crossing, 45401 192nd St, Lake Norden, SD — ~25.4 mi · E0 listing · Ethanol-free SINCLAIR 87 91; GPS entered by Steve Olsonprice not listed — verify at pump

T & C's Pit Stop, 25315 Us Hwy 81 S, Salem, SD — ~29.3 mi · E0 listing · Ethanol-free CENEX 91; GPS located from addressprice not listed — verify at pump

● ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON

- yellow perch — honest secondary this week
- northern pike — honest secondary this week

- black bass — 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 E0 POI CSV · SD GFP regs live-check only · Drafted Sun Sep 20, 2026 ~8:55 PM CT

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