



FRESHWATER CAST · FRIDAY CAST · TENNESSEE

Reelfoot: Cool Oxbow Mornings, Shallow Cover & No Turbine Story

Reelfoot Lake (natural oxbow) · Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026 · bank / kayak / boat · times **CT**

North-band NWS (Reelfoot pin): Friday storms possible ~73°, Saturday slight chance then cloudy ~73°, Sunday partly sunny ~75°.

Highs ~78–89° Fri–Sun · lows ~57–64° (NWS MEG)

Natural oxbow — state / park / USGS only

Sunny dry stretch Fri–Sun · KDYR baro ~30.00 inHg

No named trail event Fri–Sun · soft recreational

No turbines to blame on Reelfoot — when the early-fall cool-down finally arrives, it is all about shallow cover, bait, and keeping the boat off the cypress knees. West Tennessee natural oxbow gets cool mornings in the mid-50s, sunny days climbing from the upper 70s Monday into the upper 80s by Wednesday, and almost no storm chance through the Cast window. Pack sunscreen more than a rain shell, a weedless box that can live in timber all day, and a map of the stump roads before you leave the ramp.

● MIDWEEK OUTLOOK

NWS Memphis (**MEG**) grid for the Reelfoot / Obion corridor keeps northwest Tennessee in a **quiet, warming dry stretch** through the Monday **Cast** window. **Monday** opens after an overnight low near **57°F**, then sunny near **78°F**, northeast wind 0–5 mph, and almost no storm chance. **Tuesday** stays sunny near **83°F** / overnight low near **57°F** with a light southeast breeze. **Wednesday** is mostly sunny near **89°F** / overnight low near **64°F** with south wind 5–10 mph — the warmest afternoon of the three-day window. No active NWS watches or warnings for this corridor at the Sunday-night pull. Barometer at **KDYR ~30.00 inHg** (clear, ~9:56 PM CT Sun) — steady-high, not a crashing front. Looking past the **Cast** window, NWS trends toward upper 80s Thursday with rising shower chances Friday into the weekend.

For **largemouth** on this natural oxbow: lean **first light on cypress edges, grass, and shallow wood** while the air is cool, then slow down in shade as the afternoon climbs toward the upper 80s. There is **no generation story** — weather, wind, and forage drive the plan. Clarity is **unconfirmed** this pull (often stained to tea on Reelfoot — still do not invent Secchi); start darker crawl and junebug profiles and lighten only if a pocket runs clearer after the dry stretch. Soft recreational

midweek; treat Reelfoot State Park / public ramps as normal weekday traffic, not Heavy Traffic, unless a new calendar listing appears. Know the stump roads before you plane off; do not invent new cuts at speed when Wednesday south breeze stacks a chop on open pockets.

FRIDAY OCT 2

78°

high · low ~57° · ~1% storms · NE 0–5 mph

Sunny after a cool mostly-clear dawn

Sunrise **6:50 AM** · Sunset **6:45 PM CT**

Best bite: first light—~9:30 AM CT on cypress / grass; shade wood and laydowns as sun climbs; keep a weedless frog ready on mats

SATURDAY OCT 3

83°

high · low ~57° · ~0% storms · SE 0–5 mph

Sunny and dry — warmer afternoon

Sunrise ~6:50 AM · Sunset ~6:44 PM CT

Best bite: dawn shallow cover again; pick protected pockets if southeast breeze builds; midday shade wood over open flats

SUNDAY OCT 4

89°

high · low ~64° · ~0% storms · S 5–10 mph

Mostly sunny; warmest day of the window

Sunrise ~6:51 AM · Sunset ~6:42 PM CT

Best bite: earlier shallow window before heat builds; leeward cypress if south wind chops open water

● LEVEL / FLOW CHEAT SHEET

Reelfoot is a **natural oxbow**, not a peaking reservoir — there is no generation cheat sheet. Hydrology is precipitation, evaporation, and TWRA / park water-management context. Pulled **Fri Oct 2, 2026 ~6:50 AM CT PM CT: no clean live Reelfoot USGS pool gage** confirmed in this pull (nearby Hatchie gages are not Reelfoot — not used as lake level). Do not invent pool elevations. Failover: check **TWRA Reelfoot** and **Reelfoot Lake State Park** notices live before you launch. Soft weather → bite only — cover and wind matter more here than any dam schedule.

LAKE	SUN LATE OBS	GENERATOR SCHEDULE	NOTES
Reelfoot (natural)	No dam elev / discharge card — natural oxbow (state / park / USGS)	N/A — no generators	Use TWRA / Reelfoot Lake State Park notices; USGS lake gage not confirmed in this pull — do not invent elev

Cypress / shallow cover: Primary bass habitat this window — slow presentations in shade, grass edges, and wood. **Boat paths / stumps:** Stay on known roads; do not invent new cuts at speed when the graph gets busy. **Wind:** Wednesday south breeze 5–10 mph can chop open water — fish leeward cypress and protected pockets rather than fighting whitecaps on the big flats. Soft recreational Fri–Sun; confirm park fees, boat-motor rules, and gate hours live. If a local club listing appears midweek, treat it as soft recreational until a named trail event is sourced — do not invent Heavy Traffic.

● HOW TO FISH IT — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Start on **Reelfoot Lake State Park** day-use banks and other public shoreline access where posted — dawn and dusk first while mornings stay cool in the mid-50s. Pitch a frog, swim jig, or Texas-rig soft stick along cypress edges and grass; once the afternoon climbs toward the upper 80s, slow down in shade wood and visible laydowns. Watch for snakes on warm banks and residual humidity even on a dry high. Natural lake / no generator story — do not invent a pool elevation if a live gage was not pulled. Crappie brush near park access is an honest secondary if the bass bite pauses midday. Verify park fees, boat-motor rules posted onshore, and gate hours live before you commit the truck.

KAYAK

Favor cypress and grass lanes away from busy motor corridors when wind allows — the northeast breeze Monday is light, but Wednesday south 5–10 mph can chop open pockets. There is no dam discharge story — weather and forage drive the plan. First light—~9:30 AM CT on shallow pitching and light jigs; watch for submerged timber and stump crowns just under the surface. Wear a PFD; Reelfoot timber and a building breeze can stack trouble fast once you leave the lee. Soft recreational midweek; weekend leftovers may linger Monday near popular park launches, so launch early, leave room on the stump roads, and keep a bail-out take-out if the wind turns.

BOAT

Plan: first light—~9:30 AM CT on grass / cypress / shallow wood; relocate to leeward cover if Wednesday south wind chops open water. Launch options: **Reelfoot Lake State Park** ramps and other public access where motor rules allow — live-check no-wake zones and horsepower rules before you plan a long run across stump fields. No generation cheat sheet; say natural lake clearly and fish the cover in front of you rather than hunting a current seam that does not exist here. Evening shallow shade stays honest on the dry high; soft crowd Fri–Sun unless a local calendar listing appears. Keep a spotter on the bow when you idle new water — knees and deadheads do not care about your graph.

● LURE BOX

TOP

Hollow-body frog (black / white); popper on shade pockets; weedless walking bait over grass mats at first light.

MID

Spinnerbait (white / chartreuse); bladed jig through grass edges; swim jig through cypress lanes.

BOTTOM

Texas-rig soft stick or creature; jig craw (black-blue / junebug); wacky or Neko around visible wood.

Stain / clear match: Often stained to tea — darker craw / junebug / black-blue first; adjust if a pocket runs clearer after the dry stretch.

● BASS LIFE STAGE

Largemouth bass — early-fall transition on a natural West Tennessee oxbow. Cool nights (mid-50s into Tuesday morning) and a dry high should keep fish honest on shallow cypress, grass, and wood without locking them on a deep winter pattern — Reelfoot rarely needs one. Treat this as a **morning-shallow, midday-shade** midweek driven by cover and bait, not turbines. Crappie and bream remain honest secondary targets in the same wood; keep the bass story as the headline and the panfish box as the backup when the sun gets tall.

● FORAGE THIS WEEK

Dated hatch reports for this exact window are thin. Most-likely forage is **bluegill / bream** and **shad** in open pockets, with **crawfish** around wood and cypress knees. Frogs and jigs match bream / craw around shade; spinnerbaits and swim jigs match shad flashes along cypress edges and grass lanes when bait dims the surface at first light. Start weedless in the timber; keep a darker craw / junebug profile ready for stained wood once the sun climbs and fish slide tighter to cover.

Pure-Gas.org E0 · this water · stations listed near this water — verify E0 at the pump (no pump prices).

Bestway — 208 W Main St, Hornbeak TN · ~6.3 mi · 87 octane E0

Obion Farm Co-Op — 507 Palestine Ave, Obion TN · ~13.3 mi · 87 octane E0

Roberts-Gibson — 2701 Lake Rd, Dyersburg TN · ~19.8 mi · 87 octane E0 — The first pump at this BP station just started offering ethanol free gas

Obion Farm Co-Op — 810 Mt Zion Rd, Union City TN · ~19.9 mi · 87 octane E0

Listed E0 stations from Pure-Gas.org (crowdsourced). Availability and grade can change — verify E0 at the pump if grade matters.

Confirm live boards and access calendars the morning you launch.

Weekend recreational traffic rises by late morning on fair days — start early.

● **ALSO HOT / ALSO IN SEASON**

CRAPPIE · BREAM / REDEAR

Timber and brush for crappie; shallow shade for bream and redear when bass pause midday.

CATFISH

Cut bait on channel edges and night banks — soft secondary language on a natural lake.

CROWD / HEAVY TRAFFIC

No named trail event pulled for Fri–Sun. Soft recreational midweek; confirm Reelfoot State Park calendars live.

Regs: live-check only — [TWRA Fishing](#) · [TN eRegulations](#).

Looking ahead (next 1–3 weeks): Cooler clearer air early next week after weekend storm chances. Confirm trail calendars and live boards before the next Monday **Cast**. Next **Cast**: Monday window.

Sources: NWS [api.weather.gov](#) MEG/63,121 forecast ~Fri Oct 2, 2026 ~6:50 AM CT PM CT; METAR KDYR barometer; TWRA Fishing + Reelfoot / park notices (natural oxbow — TWRA / park / USGS only); tournament calendars checked (no Fri–Sun listing); Pure-Gas.org E0 station reuse. No clean live Reelfoot pool gage in this pull. **Notices change — confirm park and TWRA guidance before you go.**

Freshwater Cast · Monday **Cast** · Reelfoot · Fri Oct 2 – Sun Oct 4, 2026 · drafted Fri Oct 2, 2026 ~6:50 AM CT