Monday Cast live · Nov 16–18, 2026

Weather
National Weather Service forecast for Lake DeSmet area

Lake DeSmet

Wyoming
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18, 2026 · Mountain Time · Walleye

BITE ODDS · THIS CAST

3/10 — Poor odds

0 2 4 6 8 10

PRESSURE	STORMS	WIND	SKY / RAIN	BASS STAGE	CROWD
− Unsettled · 18°F swing	+ No lightning	− Up to 18 mph · open-water chop	− Rain up to ~59%	+ Fall transition	+ Weekday · lighter traffic

WEEK Early-week setup on this water — highs **43–61°F**, lows **23–36°F**, rain chance up to **~59%**. Story is the wet stretch — bite windows ride the rain timing, not the calendar.

THREE-DAY WEATHER

MONDAY NOV 16

61° F high

LOW	36°F
SKY	Partly Sunny
WIND	S 2–6 mph
RAIN	~0%
SUN	7:04 AM / 4:38 PM

Frame: Cold start — let the sun warm the shallows; the better bite often comes later in the day.

TUESDAY NOV 17

58° F high

LOW	31°F
SKY	Mostly Sunny then Slight Chance Rain Showers
WIND	S 5 mph
RAIN	~59%
SUN	7:05 AM / 4:37 PM

Frame: Wet day — fish the front side of the rain; slow down and stay close to cover after it passes.

WEDNESDAY NOV 18

43° F high

LOW	23°F
SKY	Rain And Snow Showers Likely
WIND	NW 5–18 mph
RAIN	~59%
SUN	7:06 AM / 4:36 PM

Frame: Wet day — fish the front side of the rain; slow down and stay close to cover after it passes.

Window: Mon–Wed · Air: S → NW · Bite window: dawn + last light

HOW TO FISH THIS WEATHER

MORNING

- Shallow cover, points, creek mouths
- **First light (7:04 AM MST) → ~9 AM**
- Use any ripple as cover

MIDDAY

- Shade lines, docks, deeper edges
- Electronics for bait height first
- Slow down once the sun is overhead

EVENING

- Revisit shallow shade as sun drops
- Topwater if the surface lays down
- Weekday traffic is lighter — work quiet pockets

FALL TRANSITION **Walleye plan: Fish rock and gravel 10-25 ft at low light; jig and minnow or troll stickbaits, moderate.**

BIOLOGY

BASS STAGE

Walleye are in the fall transition — following bait into creeks and onto flats as water cools.

Basis: estimated water ~52°F — 75-day observed air record (NOAA ACIS) lagged for a lake (14-day response); no water-temperature gauge on the lake; air record trending rising

NATURAL FORAGE

Yellow perch school along edges and feed on small insects and baitfish. What's on the menu: perch, other small fish and insects.

ALSO BITING

Lake DeSmet also holds trout; trolled spoons and crankbaits over open water, or worms from shore, can produce in fall. Lake trout are present in the deeper water; jigged spoons over fish you mark can find them.

PRESSURE

Weekday traffic — lighter than the weekend. Fish early, give ramps and swim areas room.

DAM & WATER — CONFIRM BEFORE YOU LAUNCH

FIXED Dam-controlled water. No shared generation/level feed this cycle — check the agency page the morning you fish; releases and pool levels change daily. Stay outside buoyed restricted zones.

ITEM	NOTE	SOURCE
Permit / regs	Check current Wyoming Game and Fish regulations for Lake DeSmet before you keep any fish.	

ACCESS — BANK / KAYAK / BOAT

BANK

Cast a jerkbait or shallow minnow bait over the rocks in low light, or fish a jig tipped with a minnow or a nightcrawler off the bottom. For yellow perch, a small jig tipped with a piece of worm works well along edges, and trout take spoons or worms on a slip-sinker rig.

KAYAK

Light wind all three days makes this a good week to kayak Lake DeSmet, though it's a big reservoir, so stay near shore. Launch from Monument Point or Mikesell-Potts, and work rocky points and edges with a jig and minnow or a small crankbait for walleye, or a small jig for perch.

BOAT

Launch at Monument Point or one of the free ramps at Mikesell-Potts. For walleye, work rocky points and breaks early, dragging a bottom bouncer with a nightcrawler harness, jigging a minnow, or trolling crankbaits along the drop-offs. As the sun gets high, move deeper along the same breaks.

LURE BOX

TOP

Shallow minnow bait cast over rocky points at dusk. Slip bobber with a leech or minnow on calm evenings. Surface action is limited, so focus lower in the water.

MID

Crankbait trolled along rocky breaks early and late. Jerkbait worked along rocky shoreline in low light. Swimbait on a light jighead along points and edges.

BOTTOM

Bottom bouncer with a nightcrawler harness along breaks. Jig tipped with a minnow on main-lake points. Blade bait snapped off the bottom on deeper edges.