

THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

WIRELINER

FEBRUARY 2019



What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Steve Harding and Carl Herring on Crappie Fishing

Fishing Tips: Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries, Conservation Police Officer Bonnie Brazier, and Conservation Police Officer Chris Smith

Fishing Reports:

- Lynnhaven River; Rockfish, Red Drum
- Chesapeake Bay; Rockfish

Angler Interest:

- Black Sea Bass Season opens for February
- Mid-Atlantic Sports & Boat Show
- Marine Resource Education Program (MREP)

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

Though the fishing weather isn't promising this time of year there's a lot going on around Hampton Roads! We've got the 66th Mid-Atlantic Sports & Boat show the second weekend (Feb 8-10) at the Virginia Beach Convention Center and in early March the Fishing Flea Markets in Chesapeake and Poquoson.

This month for the second year, Black Sea Bass Season will open for February only. Similar to last year you'll need a VMRC permit for the early season. See the Anglers Interest section for more info.

Thanks to Captain Austin Hayne with *FINAO Sportfishing*, we've got another Full Day 4-person Cobia Charter available for raffle. We'll start selling raffle tickets at the Boat Show and continue to the April meeting when Captain Hayne will draw the winning ticket.



Guys, want more fishable days this year? Don't forget Valentines Day, February 14th...

- Will

Meeting

Guest Speaker: Crappie Fishing

We're very pleased to have Carl Herring and Steve Harding joining us to share their expertise catching Crappie.



In 1981, Carl held the world record for his 4 lb 8oz Black Crappie caught in Kerr Lake. They can be caught year-round in our area, Crappie are fun to catch and great to eat. Join us on Monday, February 11th and learn from two exceptional anglers on how to catch Black and White Crappie.

Important:

Date of next meeting - Monday, 11 February at 7pm

Location:

[Teppanyaki Buffet & Grill](#)

7525 Tidewater Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505

Publishers NOTES

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NAC OFFICERS

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Club Calendar

February

Fri-Sun, Feb 8-10th, Mid-Atlantic Sports & Boatshow
- Va Beach Convention Center

Mon, Feb 11th, Norfolk Anglers Club Meeting 7:00pm

March

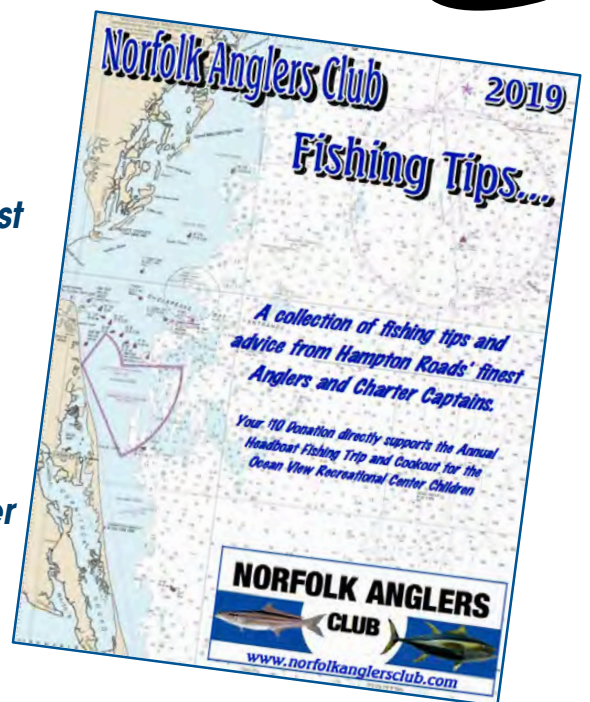
Sat, Mar 2nd, NAC Awards Banquet (Private Event)

Sat, Mar 9th, GBFA Fishing Flea Market

Sat Mar 16th, Poquoson Fishing Flea Market

We're rolling out the 2019 Fishing Tips booklets at the Mid-Atlantic Boat Show. It's an information packed booklet with fishing tips from the areas best Charter Captains and Anglers. New for this year are pages of GPS locations for many of the areas fishing hot spots.

Best of all, your \$10 donation goes toward supporting the East Ocean View Community Center Annual Children's Headboat Trip and Cookout.





The Norfolk Anglers Club was honored to have Conservation Police Officer Chris Smith and Conservation Police Officer Bonnie Braziel join us for our January Club meeting. Drawing on their law enforcement experience they shared their insights on issues facing anglers in Virginia and offered advice on a variety of topics.

DGIF's Fish Stocking program stocks catchable-size trout in more than 180 waters (stream sections and lakes) from October to June each year. The Northwest River Park Lake is one of DGIF's "Urban Fishing Program" locations where trout are stocked an average of five times from November 1st through April 15th. Anglers are required to have a Freshwater License AND a Trout License (Nov 1 - Apr 30).


Officer Braziel shared, each year boaters are needlessly injured by boaters operating a vessel under the influence of drugs or alcohol. She advised, the same Blood Alcohol Concentration of 0.08% that applies to operating a motor vehicle applies to boating. So always have sober skipper onboard and operating the vessel.

She also stressed wearing a personal floatation device (PFD) saves lives! Anglers should remember that Type V Inflatable PFDs count towards the vessel safety requirements only if they're worn.

The City of Norfolk requires a boat permit for anyone boating on city-owned lakes. Lake Wright, Lake Whitehurst (Little Creek Reservoir West), Little Creek Reservoir (Little Creek Reservoir East), Lake Smith, Lake Lawson, Lake Taylor, Lake Prince, Lake Burnt Mills, and Western Branch Reservoir are all part of the city's reservoir system. Permits may be purchased by mail, at the Dept of Utilities, or at Oceans East Bait & Tackle. Officer Smith added Decals must be displayed on the left side bow of the vessel in plain view and outboard motors are restricted to those not exceeding 12 horsepower.

**CITY OF NORFOLK
2019 BOAT PERMIT**

WANTED



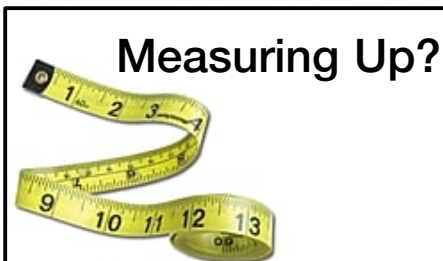
Northern Snakehead

Generally tan in appearance, with dark brown mottling; body somewhat elongated; long dorsal and anal fins; jaws contain numerous canine-like teeth

Last seen: Potomac and Rappahannock River systems, multiple reservoirs in the James River watershed

Snakeheads caught and kept must be killed and reported to DGIF. DGIF asks that all snakeheads caught be killed if possible.

Snakeheads are an unwanted non-native species that competes with native Virginia species and disrupts natural aquatic systems.



Just about all Anglers have one of those adhesive tape measures stuck to the boat somewhere for measuring your catch. Officer Smith cautioned that they've found on occasion some don't reflect accurate measurements. He recommended anglers check their adhesive tape measure against a metal tape just to be sure it's correct. He added, most of the measurements you find on coolers are off as well.

Report Wildlife Violations

Wildlife Crime Line: **1-800-237-5712**

or email: **WildCrime@dgif.virginia.gov**

Provide as much information as safely possible; What happened, Where, When, Who or a description of vessel, vehicle, or person. Vessel Registration or Vehicle License numbers are crucial, photos or video are extremely valuable.

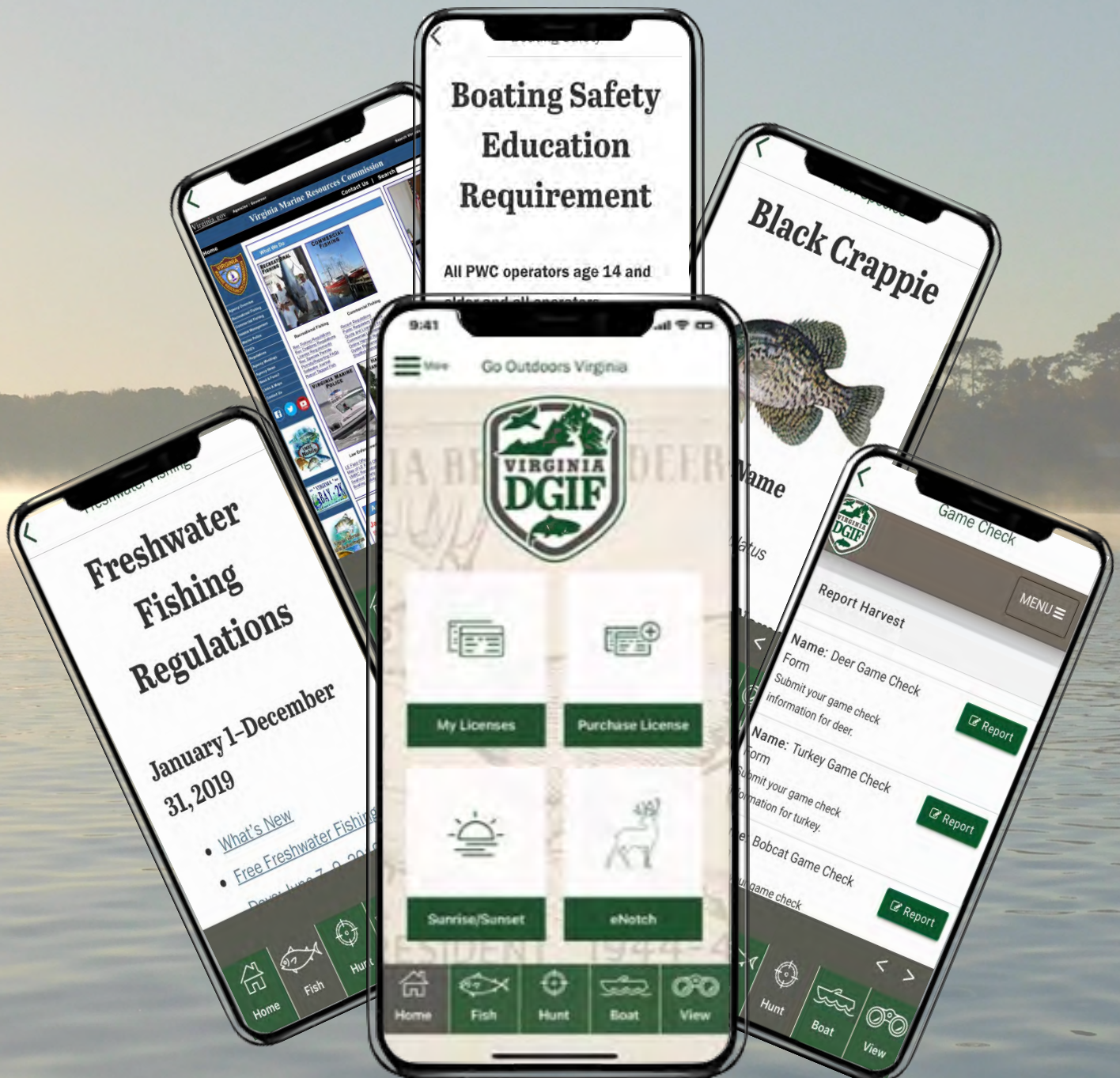
Don't let others *unlawfully* target and take Virginia's wildlife.

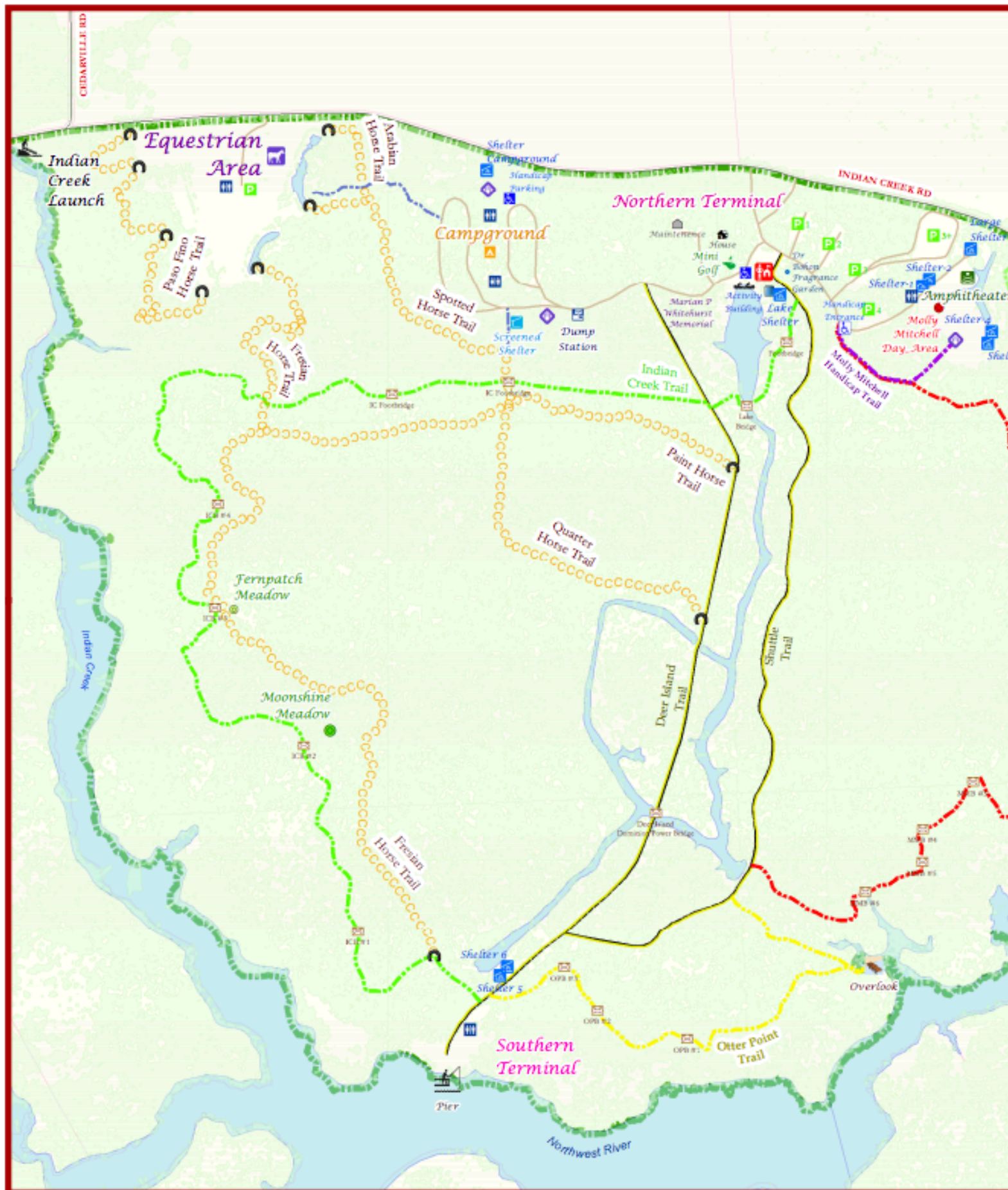


DEPARTMENT OF GAME & INLAND FISHERIES

CONSERVE. CONNECT. PROTECT.

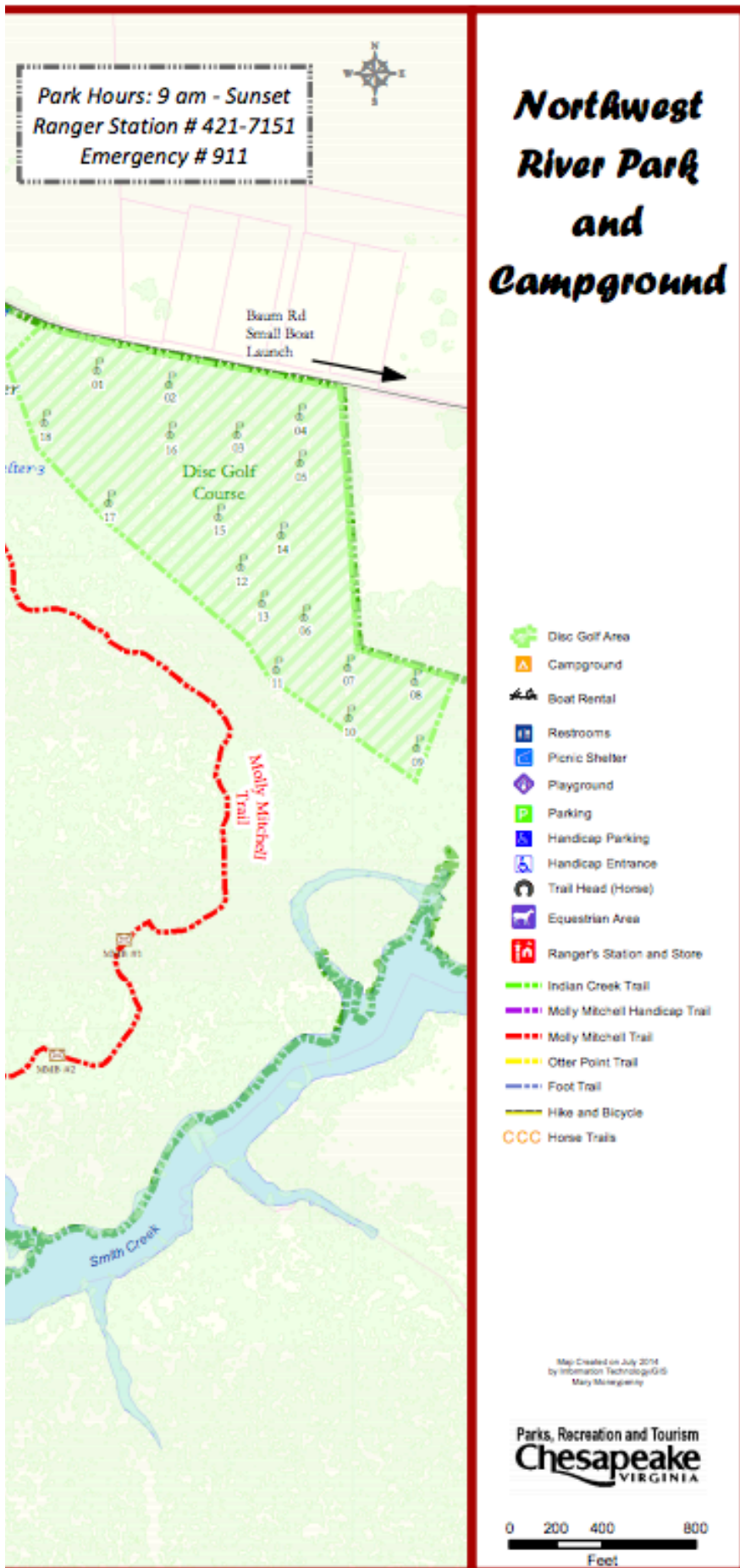
"Go Outdoors VA" is an APP available free from the Department of Game & Inland Fisheries. Officer Braziel shared that individuals can access a wide range of useful information through the APP from their phone. You can display your license information, purchase or renew your licenses, locate Boating Safety Education and Hunter Safety courses in your area. For anglers, Officer Braziel added you can look up Freshwater Fishing Regulations, review photos and descriptions of fish species in Virginia, lookup major and minor feeding times, and also link to Saltwater Regulations through the Virginia Marine Resource Commission website. The application also links to tidal and sea state information for boaters. Hunters can use the APP to locate Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) for places to hunt, look up hunting regulations, and check game online with the Dept of Game & Inland Fisheries.





and Campgrounds

1733 Indian Creek Rd,
Chesapeake, VA 23322



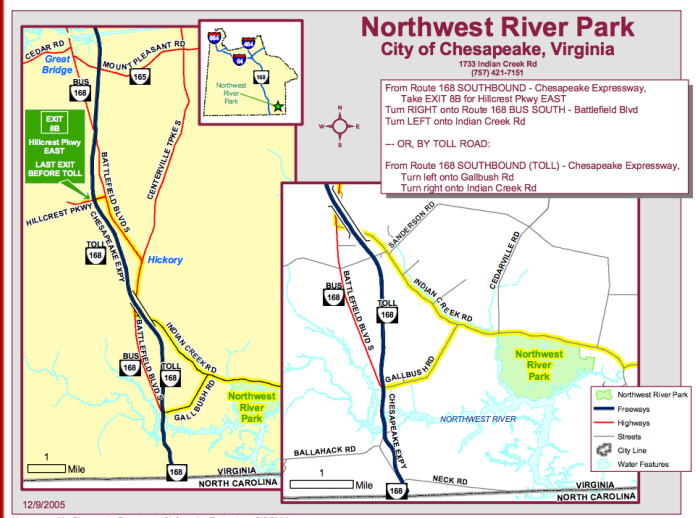
Chesapeake's Northwest River Park and Campground is a 763 acre park offering year-round boating, fishing, hiking, and other activities.

The Park offers boat & bike rentals as well as hiking trails from 3/4 mile to 2.5 miles in length.

There's a 2 acre lake that's stocked under Urban Fishing Program of the Virginia Dept of Game & Inland Fisheries (DGIF). Northwest River Park is stocked with Rainbow and Brown Trout five times from November 1st through April 15th. So far this season the lake has been stocked on November 19th, December 20th, and January 16th.

Anglers will need a Virginia Freshwater Fishing License and a Trout License (from November 1 - April 30) to fish the lake. Anglers are permitted to harvest 4 fish per person with a minimum size of 7 inches. Remember, you'll need to have your fishing license and trout license (when required) before you arrive. Northwest Park does not sell fishing licenses.

Rental fees are as follows:
Canoes – \$6/hour or \$30/day
Paddle boats – \$5 per ½-hour
Kayaks - \$10/hour
Bikes - \$5/hour



Fishing Reports...



Attached is a picture of one of the Rockfish we caught this past season. We were in the upper bay around Line 40, we trolled using live eals on side planer boards. - Lenard Duck



27 DEC: Bert Sainz and I had some fun in the Lynnhaven River on a Thursday last December catching Stripers and Redfish. We had 9 Stripers between 18 and 24 1/2 inches and a 21 inch Puppy Drum. All were caught on MR 17, and 18. We had an outgoing tide. -

- Ned Smith

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DAYTONA VISIT JANUARY 2019

Ned and I spent 2 weeks in Daytona and have nothing to show from our visit (i.e. NO FISH) except this beautiful sunset.

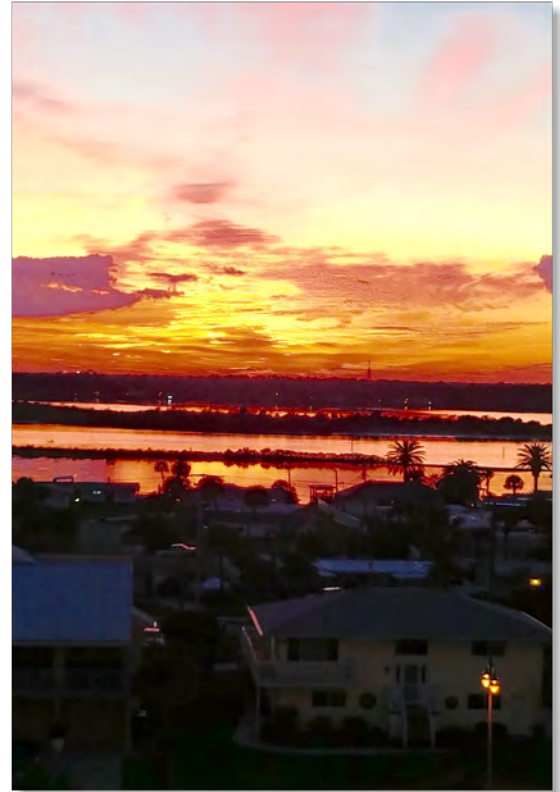
We didn't catch fish of any size because they just weren't biting. It probably wasn't a good season for fishing. We stayed with friends in their 7th floor condo on the beach in Daytona Beach Shores. Under the sunset is a picture I took from our balcony.

The weather was mild but for one day did I get to sit on the beach and read. I was able to walk about three miles a day on the great hard-packed sand.

- Michel Smith



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MAMA GOT A ROCK!

30 DEC: It's been a while since I went for a Rockfish. Well, I decided to give it a go and Katie, Kevin and I headed out of Cape Charles late in the morning for our first Rockfish trip for this year. I'm tickled to say, it was a successful trip! The fish hit on a planar and live eel. This is the 6th species citation for the year for me which also earns me the State of Virginia Expert Angler Award for 2018. Since this is my 7th time earning this award, I would like to dedicate the fish and the award to my mother because seven was her lucky number and she was my biggest fan. I know she would be very proud of me today. - Beth Synowiec

Trophy Fish

Virginia Angler Recognition Program (VARP)

On the average, Virginia anglers measure up over 6,000 trophy-size freshwater fish annually. Their accomplishments are recognized by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries through the Virginia Angler Recognition Program (VARP). Since 1963, when the program began, over 250,000 trophy fish awards have been issued. To find out more about this program go to <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing/trophy-fish/>



10th ANNIVERSARY

Fishing Flea Market

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- Fresh & Saltwater Gear
- Custom Lures
- A Variety of Boats & Trailers
- Hot Food & Cold Refreshments
- Admission \$3 (Children 12 & Under Are Free)
- **FREE PARKING**

Over 3,000 customers in the past year

March 9, 2019

8:00 am - 2:30 pm

Chesapeake Conference Center
700 Conference Center Drive
Chesapeake VA 23320



Chesapeake Conference Center

Butch - lbpocean@aol.com 757-287-0330

George - geva1963@cox.net 757-421-7333

Joe - mysteri2@cox.net 757-685-6823

You are invited to visit or join the best fishing club in Tidewater. Each month the club has a speaker to present an informative program on various local fishing topics. Check us out at www.fishgbfa.com

Or Visit facebook.com/GreatBridgeFishermansAssociation

Benefits include:

- Monthly Newsletter • Annual Awards Banquet
- Fishing Tournaments (Boat & Surf) • Special Events such as Oyster Roasts & Picnics
- Philanthropic Events to Benefit Organizations such as Hope House, Wish-A-Fish, & Sentara Nursing Home



Poquoson Kiwanis Club

**Boat Sale, Nautical Art Show,
Fishing Flea Market**

Saturday, March 16, 2019

8:00am – 1:00pm

Rain or Shine

Poquoson High School

51 Odd Road

Poquoson, VA 23662

Admission Fee: \$3 (Age 13 & up)



Activities

New & Used Boats

Boating Gear

New & Used Fishing Gear

Nautical Arts & Crafts

Refreshments & Food

*For more information send e-mail
boat-fish-art@poquosonkiwanis.org*

or visit our website:

http://www.poquosonkiwanis.org/Kiwanis/Flea_Market.html

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/PBFFM>



Winter Project... marking your anchor rode

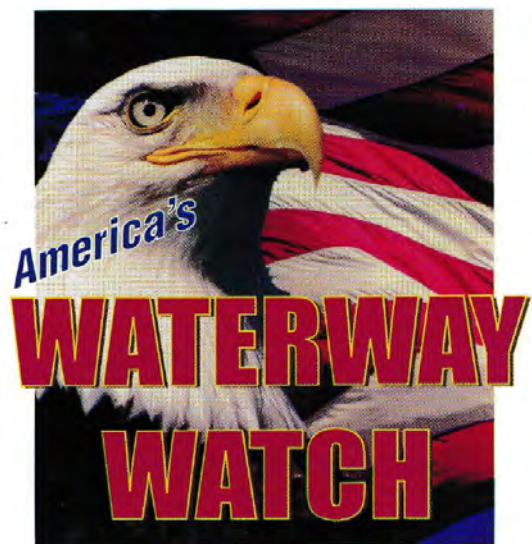


Marking your anchor rode is a quick way to know exactly how much anchor line you've let out. Too much line can result in getting your line snagged on structure as the boat drifts around as you fish.



My method was to apply a mark every 25 feet using a waterproof marking material. Paint doesn't seem to last long and will fade quickly (Done that!). I switched to Star Brite's Liquid Rope Whipping compound and it's lasted more than five years before needing to be re-applied. It's extremely durable and holds up well to the abuse my windless provides.

My method is to use a small Green band for each 25 feet and a large Red band for each 100 feet. - Will Bransom



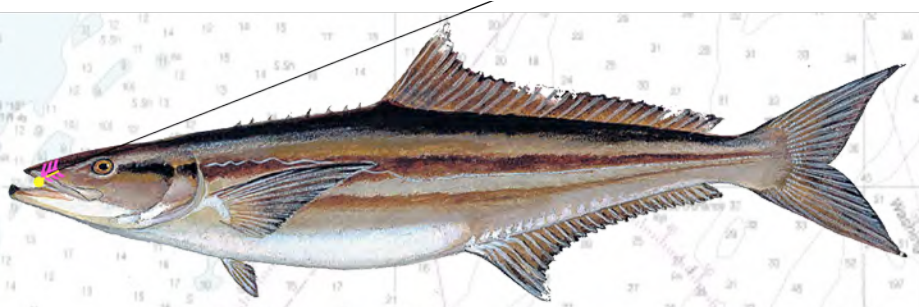
REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO

877-24-WATCH

NORFOLK ANGLERS

CLUB

www.NorfolkAnglersClub.com



2019 Season Cobia Charter Raffle

\$5

**Four Person – Full Day Charter with
FINAO Sportfishing**
(includes Mate's Tip)


Single winner drawn at April 2019
Norfolk Anglers Club meeting.
Don't have to be present to win.



Magnuson-Stevens Act OFL ABC Biomass AM Modern Fish Act ACL
 ACL FMP Addendum or Amendment?
 Conservation Equivalency

For better or worse, it's usually social media that alerts you to something amiss in your fishing world. A proposed regulation change or early season closure, sets you ablaze when all you want to do is fish. After all there's nothing wrong with your local fishing! As Recreational Anglers we often get frustrated by how change comes to fisheries management or the reason behind the regulations. Understanding the complexities of fisheries management at the federal, regional, or state level is NOT an easy task. There's a seemingly endless amount of acronyms and lengthy management plans replete with charts and graphs explaining everything, or nothing to the average angler. Whether driven by federal law, fishery management plans, or an emergent issue having a basic understanding of how the fishery management process works and what drives it is extremely important. Now more than ever, the federal, regional, and state fisheries managers want input from recreational anglers. Thankfully, the Gulf of Maine Research Institute developed the *Marine Resource Education Program* (MREP) to aid the recreational angling community in understanding fisheries management. Last March I had the chance to attend the MREP seminar and found it to be a fantastic opportunity. Exceptionally well executed, GMRI delivered the information for recreational anglers to understand the fisheries management process with representatives from the regulatory governing organizations, research institutes, fishing industry, and recreational anglers like you. The next MREP seminar is March 2019 and I encourage you to consider applying at <https://www.gmri.org/our-work/fisheries-convening/mrep-northeast>

- Captain Will Bransom





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MREP Greater Atlantic

MREP Greater Atlantic was created by fishermen, for fishermen. It provides an inside look at the fisheries science and management processes, demystifies the acronyms and vocabulary, and equips fishermen with the tools to engage in shaping regulatory action and participating in collaborative science. In a neutral setting, fishermen work through the 'how and why' of the whole process, meet the people behind agency jobs, and share important feedback from the fishing community.

The program is offered as a series of workshops that build upon each other: a three-day Fishery Science Workshop, followed by a three-day Fishery Management Workshop. Presenters are drawn from NMFS Regional Office and Science Center, the Fishery Management Councils, research institutions, and the fishing community. Workshops are designed and held as a collaborative effort, with members of the community moderating the meeting and assisting fellow fishermen to articulate issues, keeping the discussion real.

Participants leave the workshops with better understanding of how, when and where to engage effectively in fishery management.




Apply for an upcoming MREP workshop online today. You may also complete and mail in a printed application.

MREP Greater Atlantic

- Overview
- Program Goals
- Curriculum
- Experience
- Program Leadership
- Workshop Materials
- Apply

[Back to Fisheries Convening](#)

Workshops



Fisheries Science & Management for Recreational Anglers
 March 26–28, 2019
 Hanover, MD

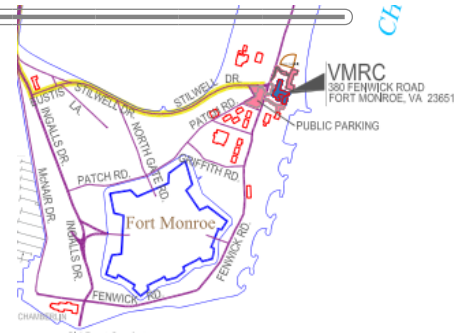
Norfolk Anglers Club

Angler Interests



Virginia Marine Resource Commission has Moved!

The Virginia Marine Resource Commission has relocated their offices to Fort Monroe. Their new location is 380 Fenwick Road, Bldg. 96, Fort Monroe, VA 23651



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) meeting in Arlington, VA

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission will hold their winter meeting in Arlington, Virginia. The Commission will meet February 5-7, 2019. The meeting will be held at the The Westin Crystal City, 1800 Eads Street · Arlington, Virginia, 22202 · Phone: 703.486.1111. Preliminary agenda items include; considering approval of the proposal for 2019 recreational measures for Scup & Black Sea Bass and a progress update on the development of Draft Amendment 1 to the Cobia FMP.



66th Mid-Atlantic Sports & Boat Show, February 8-10, 2019

If you've been thinking of buying a boat or upgrading what you currently have, now is the time to buy! All the big dealers will be under one roof, ready to show you their stock and make a deal. Whether you want to see the latest and greatest 2019 models or want a great deal on an unused 2018, you don't want to miss this chance to check them all out.

Friday Feb 8 (noon - 8:00 pm), Sat Feb 9 (10:00 am - 8:00 pm), and Sun Feb 10 (10:00 am - 5:00pm)
Virginia Beach Convention Center



MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) meeting in Virginia Beach

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council planned to hold their winter meeting in Virginia Beach but have cancelled citing the government shutdown as the reason. The Council is considering rescheduling some of the planned agenda items for a shorter meeting tentatively scheduled for March 6 and 7 in Virginia Beach.

Norfolk Anglers Club Food Drive.....We never stop collecting



Foodbank
of Southeastern Virginia
and the Eastern Shore

The Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore was pleased to receive the non-perishable food items we've been collecting at the meetings. As a club, we can certainly do more for those who could use our help.

Items always in need; Lean Canned Protein (Peanut Butter, Tuna, Chicken, Turkey, Beans), Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Fruit Preserves and Dried Fruit, Whole Grains (Pasta, Oatmeal, Rice, Crackers), Other Meals (Stew, Boxed Meals, Canned Pasta), and Baby Products (Formula, Baby Food, Diapers, and Wipes).

We'll have a box for your donations at the door. So take a moment while you're out shopping to pick up a few of the items and bring them to the meeting. We'll take care of getting them to the Food Bank. Thank You for all you've contributed so far.

Angler Interests



Virginia Marine Resource Commission action on Black Sea Bass season



The Virginia Marine Resource Commission met on January 22nd and voted to establish a February 1-28 Black Sea Bass season and modify the recreational Black Sea Bass permitting requirements. As was done in 2018, a permit will be required for the February 2019 season. The permit is already available FREE and online from VMRC at <https://webapps.mrc.virginia.gov/public/mpermits/index.php> and comes with a requirement to notify VMRC of a planned Black Sea Bass trip before or immediately after the start of the trip. Unlike 2018, this year's permit is issued to the vessel with required reporting by the Captain of the vessel for all persons onboard.

Another change from the 2018 season is that the recreational harvest taken or estimated to be taken in February 2019 will count toward the recreational harvest for 2019. VMRC Fisheries Management Division Staff reported at the commission meeting that just over 400 anglers were issued a permit in 2018, that 64 trips were reported with 9 of those trips being sampled by MRC survey. During the 2018 February season 2,715 Sea Bass were harvested recreationally equating to 6,459 pounds. In 2018 the amount of Sea Bass harvested during the early season were not counted toward the recreational harvest allowance however, in 2019 they must be.

To account for an estimated 6,459 pound harvest in February, Fisheries Managers calculate an Average Daily Landings (by weight) during the season and then use that daily landing weight to calculate how many days would need to be closed during the regular season. As many Anglers know, Sea Bass fishing varies throughout the season and by applying the Average Daily Landings, Fisheries Managers account for the months when Sea Bass landings were good and factor for the months when it wasn't. So, shown below is how an estimated 6,459 pound Sea Bass harvest might be accounted for in numbers of closed days during the regular Sea Bass season.

May - June: 14 Days of closure would be required to account for 6,459 pounds

July - August: 29 Days of closure

September - October: 23 Days of closure

November - December: 41 Days of closure

The minimum size (12.5") and possession limit of 15 fish per person/per day is planned for the 2019 season. The Commission will likely hold a later discussion regarding the number of days of closure required during the May-December 2019 Sea Bass season.



Virginia Marine Resource Commission request for Public Hearing on Towing Fish

The Commission approved a request to advertise for a February Public Hearing to amend regulations (4 VAC 20-740-10 ET SEQ) pertaining to the snagging of fish to include a prohibition on the towing of Cobia or Striped Bass.

Towing of fish means a cable, rope, line or other similar material with one end attached to a vessel, the other end secured to a harvested fish and placing the fish in the water when the engine of vessel is running and in gear.

Prompting this action were recent reports that the practice of "Towing" fish may have been used on Striped Bass during a tournament to enhance water weight gain or to keep them alive to high grade their catch.

This issue will likely be a discussion item at the February 26th Commission meeting.

