

AGENDA

Board of Wildlife Resources
Law Enforcement Committee
7870 Villa Park Drive, Board Room
Henrico, Virginia 23228

October 21, 2026

2:00 pm

OR

Following adjournment of the Finance Committee

Committee Members: Mr. Will Wampler, Chair, Mr. James Maclin, Vice Chair, Mr. Woody Woodall, Mr. Lynwood Broaddus, Mr. Michael Formica

DWR Staff Liaison: Colonel John Cobb

1. Call to Order and Welcome
Mr. Wampler
2. Approval of August 19, 2026, Meeting Minutes
Mr. Wampler
3. Public Comment – Non-Agenda Item
Mr. Wampler
4. Sportmen's Reward Fund and Wildlife Crime Watch
Colonel John Cobb
5. Law Enforcement Chief Update
Colonel John Cobb
6. Director's Report
Mr. Ryan Brown

Final Action

7. Chair's Report
Mr. Wampler
8. Additional Business/Comments
Mr. Wampler
9. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2027
Mr. Wampler
10. Adjournment
Mr. Wampler

Draft Meeting Minutes
Law Enforcement Committee
Board of Wildlife Resources
7870 Villa Park Drive - Board Room
Richmond, Virginia 23228

August 19, 2026
2:00 pm

Present: Mr. James Maclin, **Acting Chair**, Mr. Will Wampler, **Chair**, (Virtual), Mr. Woody Woodall, Mr. Lynwood Broaddus, **Absent:** Mr. Michael Formica; **Board Members in attendance:** Ms. Laura Walters, Mr. Jon Cooper, Ms. Marlee Dance; **Executive Director:** Mr. Ryan J. Brown; **Deputy Directors:** Ms. Becky Gwynn and Mr. Darin Moore; **Director's Working Group:** Mr. George Braxton, Colonel John Cobb, Ms. Stacey Brown, Ms. Shelby Crouch, Mr. Paul Kugelman, Mr. Bob Smet.

Mr. Maclin, Vice Chair, conducted the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:10 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair noted for the record that there was a quorum present for the meeting.

Meeting Minutes: The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2026, committee meeting. Mr. Broaddus made a motion to approve the May 20, 2026, meeting minutes, and Mr. Woodall seconded the motion, The board secretary called a Roll call vote. Ayes: Maclin, Woodall, Broaddus, Wampler

Public Comment – Non-Agenda Item: The Chair called for Public Comment – Non-Agenda Item.

- Gary Kimberlin spoke regarding big game hunting with dogs (P)
- Judge Charlton spoke regarding law enforcement pertaining to hound hunting (V)

The Chair thanked our speakers for their comments.

VCP Honor Guard Program: The Chair called on Senior Officer James Hale.

Senior Officer James Hale and the Officers who are on the VCP Honor Guard Program marched in Uniform into the meeting, Senior Officer James Hale explained and had a video showing the importance of the Honor Guard Program and the History of the Program.

Law Enforcement Chief Update: The Chair called on Colonel Cobb for an update.

Colonel Cobb reported:

1. Requested Current CPO Vacancy Map (Provided)
 - Since FY27 Budget was approved, 8 sworn officers have left the agency
 - Results in Sworn Officer Vacancy Credits of \$900,320 in current budget
2. W3 Basic Law Enforcement Academy (15th Class)
 - Our 10 Recruits are doing well and are set to graduate on September 3
 - With part of their 15-week Field Training Program during Hunting Season
3. Field Communication Initiatives in 2026 (Update)
 - Command Staff Presentations (2 hours) w/Q&A at In-service Trainings
 - Mission Success and Organizational Improvement Survey
 - Leadership Work Session (2½ days) with all Supervisors and Managers
 - Command Staff Follow-up Presentations w/Q&A at all Region Meetings
 - Officer Wellness Survey coordinated by Agency Human Dimensions
 - Third PBA Quarterly Meeting this year (July 29); Recent Topics included:
 - Career Progression Program (CPP)
 - Loss of Overtime and Holiday Pay
 - CPO Staffing Pressure / Vacancies
 - Vehicle and Boat Fleet Needs
 - Proactive Project Tracker (Commitments)
 - In addition, continued VCP Rollcall Monthly Newsletters and Spot Recognition Program including Colonel's Lunch Meetings (68 Total)
4. VCP Annual Report 2025 has been published and is available
 - Highest number of investigative cases (7,551) over the last five years
 - 70% increase in arrests in only a one-year period from 2024 to 2025
5. Will be honored with the AFWA 2026 LE Conservation Award
 - For our teamwork efforts to create and operationalize the North American Wildlife Law Enforcement Accreditation (NAWLEA) Program

After comments and questions, The Chair thanked Colonel Cobb for his update.

Director's Report: The Chair called on Executive Director Ryan Brown for his Director's Report.

- The Director thanked the CPO's who serve on VCP Honor Guard
- Commented about new CPO graduation on Thursday, September 3, 2026, remarked what a highlight it is to watch the Officers be sworn and starting their new career with DWR.

After comments and questions, The Chair thanked Director Brown for his report.

Chair's Report: Mr. Maclin asked if anyone had any other comments, he announced the next meeting will be Wednesday, October 21, 2026, and adjourned the meeting at 2:45 pm.

Mr. Edmunds asked how the methodology of complaints on hound hunting was progressing,

Major Shuler commented that Law Enforcement has created a draft hound hunting complaint form that has been reviewed by the Law Enforcement Division and would allow people to make hound-related complaints via the Agency website instead of contacting the communications center, if Law Enforcement decides to go this route. Further, Major Shuler has worked with the Outreach Division, and they capable of making the form work from a technical perspective. The form has not yet been reviewed and approved by the Director's Office.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Frances Boswell



Loudon

 City and County Boundaries

Region 1

DWR - Lenée Pennington, GISP - 10/13/2026 2:49 PM



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Wildlife Resources

David L. Bulova
Secretary of Natural
and Historic Resources

Ryan J. Brown
Executive Director

To: Members of the Board

From: Major Ryan M. Shuler 

Date: October 21, 2026

Subject: LE Committee Report on Hound Hunting Related Data

This memorandum provides an overview of hound–hunting–related data the Law Enforcement Division collected between January 4, 2026, and September 30, 2026.

The attachments are as follows:

- Hound Call-for-Service Workflow
- HDOGS & HVDOGS Call-for-Service Counts by Jurisdiction
- HDOGS Complaint Data Overview
- HVDOGS Complaint Data Overview
- Map – Call by County
- Map – Hot Spot

HDOGS Incident Code (No Violation of Law): This call type will be used when the complaint does not involve a violation of the law, such as hunting dogs running at large on private property.

HVDOGS Incident Code (Violation of Law): This call type will be used when a hunting-related violation involving a hunting dog is reported. For example, a hunter retrieving his dog while carrying a firearm on prohibited property.

Complaint Data:

- DWR received a total of **2379** hunting-related complaints from 01/04/2026 to 09/30/2026
 - Complaints without a violation (HDOGS): **238**
 - Species reported being chased were deer: 61
 - Species reported being chased were bear: 8
 - Involved dogs running across property w/o permission: 222
 - Complaints with a violation (HVDOG): **41**
 - Species reported being chased were deer: 7
 - Species reported being chased were bear: 8
 - Involved dogs running across property w/o permission: 18

2025		2026	
Total Hunting CFS	2067	Total Hunting CFS	2379
HDOGS (no violation)	245	HDOGS (no violation)	238
HVDOGS (violation)	53	HVDOGS (violation)	41

*The table displays the YOY difference for the same time period.

*The information in this report may change due to the resolution of currently pending matters



Department of Wildlife Resources
VIRGINIA CONSERVATION POLICE

7870 Villa Park Drive, P.O. Box 90778, Henrico, VA 23226-0778



Hound Hunting Complaint Call for Service and Case Reporting Workflow

Step 1. Complaint Received

A complaint involving a hunting dog is received by:

- Communications Center
- Conservation Police Officer directly

Result: A Call for Service (CFS) must be created for ALL complaints involving hunting dogs.

Step 2: Determine the Incident Code

Is a violation of the law being reported?

A. NO violation reported

- Examples:
 - Dogs running across property where they are not welcome
 - Hunter retrieving their dog on foot and not carrying a weapon (Right-To-Retrieve)
- Action: Use Incident Code: HDOGS

B. YES, a violation of the law is reported

- Examples:
 - Person(s) retrieving dogs on prohibited property while carrying a firearm
 - Tracking collar was removed from a hunting dog without the permission of the dog's owner
- Action: Use Incident Code: HVDOGS

C. Complaint involves a dog but is not related to hunting

- Examples:
 - Dog running at large on public or private property
 - General dog complaint
- Action: Use Incident Code: OMDOGS

Step 3: Hound Hunting Form Requirement

For the following incident codes: HDOGS and HVDOGS

- Action Required:
 - The Hound Hunting Form must be completed.

Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
VIRGINIA CONSERVATION POLICE

- When completing the form, all applicable categories in the call for service type dropdown must be selected (See the table below).

Step 4: Handling HDOGS and HVDOGS CFS

A. If the caller DOES NOT request officer contact

- Dispatcher will:
 - Add the Hound Hunting Form
 - Complete required fields
 - Save and close the CFS

B. If the caller DOES request officer contact

- The CPO will:
 - Contact the complainant
 - Respond to the scene if needed
 - Add the Hound Hunting Form to the CFS
 - Complete required fields
 - Save and close the CFS
 - Create a case report regardless of whether enforcement action was taken (HVDOGS only)

Call for Service Type table:

Call For Service Type	
01	Dogs running across prohibited property (no violation of law)
02	Dog retrieval (no violation)
03	Dog retrieval with firearm or vehicle
04	Trespass to hunt with dog(s)
05	Dog hunting closed season (running dogs outside season)
06	Dog traffic (hunters parking in road right-of-way, reckless driving ect.)
07	Dog injury (shot, caught in a trap)
08	Dogs bait (release dogs on a baited site)
09	Dogs chasing/injuring livestock
10	Dogs ID Tag (hunting dogs without collar/tag)
11	Dog theft (stolen dog)
12	Dog collar theft (take collar off of dog)
13	Hunting Accident while Hunting with Dog(s)
14	No Violation / Dogs on Permitted Property

January 4 – September 30, 2026
HDOGS & HVDOGS Call Counts

County/City Name	Number of Calls
Albemarle County	2
Alleghany County	1
Amelia County	5
Appomattox County	4
Augusta County	1
Bath County	2
Bland County	1
Botetourt County	1
Brunswick County	1
Buchanan County	4
Buckingham County	8
Campbell County	5
Caroline County	5
Charles City County	2
Charlotte County	10
Chesterfield County	5
Culpeper County	4
Cumberland County	4
Dickenson County	1
Dinwiddie County	2
Fluvanna County	9
Franklin County	2
Gloucester County	2
Goochland County	2
Greene County	3
Greensville County	2
Halifax County	57
Hanover County	14
Henrico County	1
James City County	1
King and Queen County	8
King William County	1
Lancaster County	1
Louisa County	11
Lunenburg County	16
Madison County	3
Mathews County	12
Mecklenburg County	6
Middlesex County	1
Nelson County	4

New Kent County	1
Northumberland County	2
Nottoway County	5
Orange County	2
Pittsylvania County	5
Prince Edward County	10
Prince George County	2
Richmond County	1
Rockbridge County	1
Rockingham County	1
Russell County	1
Scott County	4
Smyth County	2
Southampton County	11
Spotsylvania County	2
Surry County	1
Sussex County	1
Washington County	2
Wise County	1

HDOGS Data (No Violations) – January 4, 2026, through September 30, 2026

238 HDOGS complaints received during this period

**CPO/dispatcher select all that apply to each complaint for type and game. Due to this, the call for service type number and game type number can be larger than the total number of calls

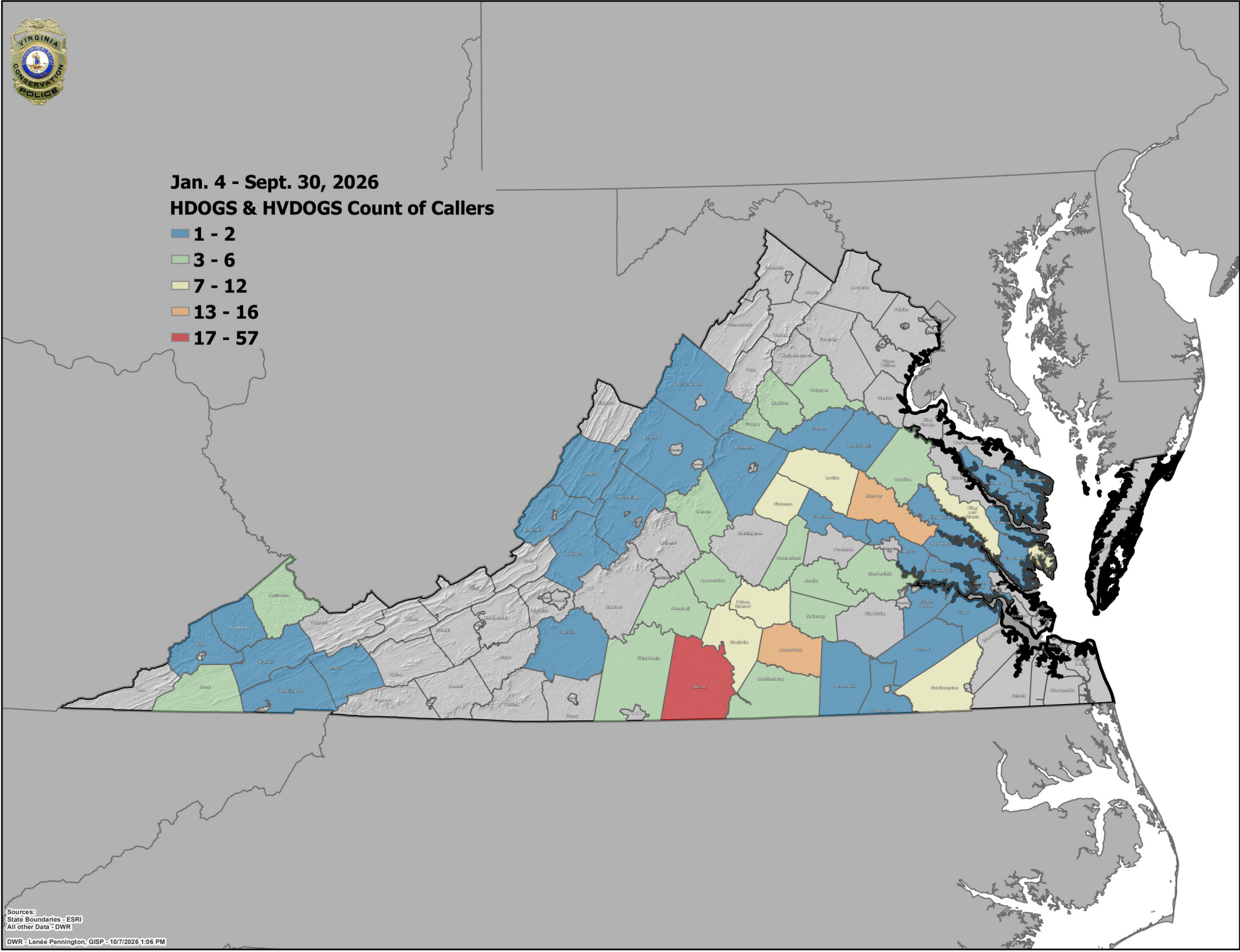
Call For Service Type	Total	Game Type	Total	Retrieval Related	Total
01 Dogs running across prohibited property (no violation of law)	222	Big Game - Bear	8	Yes	16
02 Dog retrieval (no violation)	6	Big Game - Deer	61	No	192
03 Dog retrieval with firearm or vehicle	2	Big Game - Elk	0	Unknown	30
04 Trespass to hunt with dog(s)	0	Big Game - Turkey	0	Grand Total	238
05 Dog hunting closed season (running dogs outside season)	8	Migratory - Other	0		
06 Dog traffic (hunters parking in road right-of-way, reckless driving ect.)	2	Migratory - Waterfowl	0		
07 Dog injury (shot, caught in a trap)	0	Non-Game	1	Permitted Field Trials	Total
08 Dogs bait (release dogs on a baited site)	0	Protected Federal	0	Yes	10
09 Dogs chasing/injuring livestock	3	Small Game - Coyote/Fox	24	No	190
10 Dogs ID Tag (hunting dogs without collar/tag)	1	Small Game - Fowl/Preserve	0	Unknown	38
11 Dog theft (stolen dog)	0	Small Game - Non-Migratory Birds	0	Grand Total	238
12 Dog collar theft (take collar off of dog)	0	Small Game - Other	1		
13 Hunting Accident while Hunting with Dog(s)	0	Small Game - Quail	0		
14 No Violation / Dogs on Permitted Property	6	Small Game - Rabbit	6	How Reported	Total
Grand Totals	250	Small Game - Raccoon	5	APHIS	2
		Small Game - Squirrel	0	Crimeline	121
		Threatened and Endangered Species	0	Officer	15
		Unknown	138	Other	0
		Grand Total	244	Park/DWR Office	5
				Phone	56
				SO/PD	13
				TIP 411	21
				Unknown	5
				Grand Total	238

HVDOGS Data (Violations) – January 4, 2026, through September 30, 2026

41 HVDOGS complaints received during this period

**CPO/dispatcher select all that apply to each complaint for type and game. Due to this, the call for service type number and game type number can be larger than the total number of calls

Call For Service Type	Total	Game Type	Total	Retrieval Related	Total
01 Dogs running across prohibited property (no violation of law)	18	Big Game - Bear	8	Yes	11
02 Dog retrieval (no violation)	3	Big Game - Deer	7	No	24
03 Dog retrieval with firearm or vehicle	8	Big Game - Elk	0	Unknown	6
04 Trespass to hunt with dog(s)	7	Big Game - Turkey	0	Grand Total	41
05 Dog hunting closed season (running dogs outside season)	12	Migratory - Other	0		
06 Dog traffic (hunters parking in road right-of-way, reckless driving ect.)	0	Migratory - Waterfowl	0		
07 Dog injury (shot, caught in a trap)	0	Non-Game	0	Permitted Field Trials	Total
08 Dogs bait (release dogs on a baited site)	1	Protected Federal	0	Yes	3
09 Dogs chasing/injuring livestock	0	Small Game - Coyote/Fox	4	No	32
10 Dogs ID Tag (hunting dogs without collar/tag)	0	Small Game - Fowl/Preserve	0	Unknown	6
11 Dog theft (stolen dog)	2	Small Game - Non-Migratory Birds	0	Grand Total	41
12 Dog collar theft (take collar off of dog)	3	Small Game - Other	0		
13 Hunting Accident while Hunting with Dog(s)	0	Small Game - Quail	0		
14 No Violation / Dogs on Permitted Property	2	Small Game - Rabbit	1	How Reported	Total
Grand Totals	56	Small Game - Raccoon	10	APHIS	0
		Small Game - Squirrel	0	Crimeline	9
		Threatened and Endangered Species	0	Officer	14
		Unknown	14	Other	0
		Grand Total	44	Park/DWR Office	3
				Phone	6
				SO/PD	6
				TIP 411	3
				Unknown	0
				Grand Total	41



HDOGS & HVDOGS Count of Callers

3 - 6

7 - 12

13 - 16

17 - 57

Sources:
State Boundaries - ESRI
All other Data - DWR

DWR - Lenée Pennington, GISP - 10/7/2026 1:06 PM

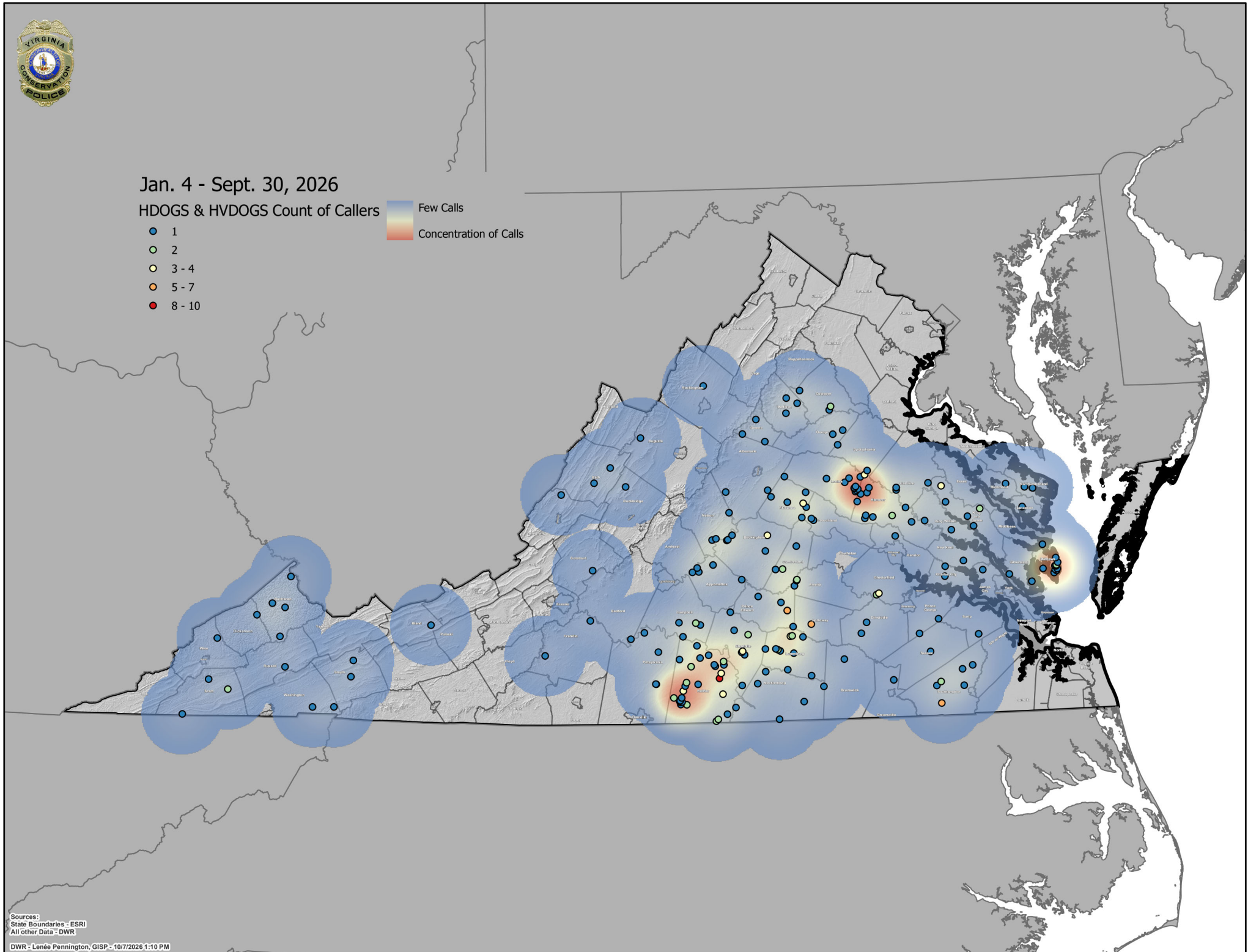


Jan. 4 - Sept. 30, 2026

HDOGS & HVDogs Count of Callers

- 1
- 2
- 3 - 4
- 5 - 7
- 8 - 10

Few Calls
Concentration of Calls



Sources:
State Boundaries - ESRI
All other Data - DWR

DWR - Lenée Pennington, GISP - 10/7/2026 1:10 PM