



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NORFOLK DISTRICT
FORT NORFOLK
803 FRONT STREET
NORFOLK VA 23510-1011

CENAO-ZA

12 June 2025

COMMANDER'S POLICY MEMORANDUM WRD 25-02

SUBJECT: Norfolk District Policy on Camping; Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing; and Explosives, Firearms, Other Weapons and Fireworks on the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway and Gathright Dam Water Resources Projects

1. Reference Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter III, Part 327 (36 CFR Part 327).

2. Purpose: To establish policy with regard to camping; hunting, trapping, and fishing; and explosives, firearms, other weapons and fireworks in accordance with 36 CFR Part 327, and in particular Sections (§) 327.7, 327.8, and 327.13 on two of the Norfolk District's Water Resource Projects: the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) and Gathright Dam. The property boundaries of these Projects are depicted on the enclosed maps. All other requirements of 36 CFR Part 327 remain in full force and effect where applicable to these water resource development projects.

3. Description of the Norfolk District Water Resource Projects:

a. Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway: The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) project within the Norfolk District Civil Works area of responsibility is approximately 3,100 acres with boundaries consisting of the Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal (ACC) and the Dismal Swamp Canal (DSC). The AIWW-ACC, first authorized under the River and Harbor Act of 19 September 1890, is a 12-foot-deep channel with widths of 90 feet inland cuts and 125 feet to 250 feet river cuts. The AIWW-ACC project also consists of a drawbridge at North Landing, Virginia, and a navigation lock and support facility at Great Bridge, Virginia. The AIWW-DSC, first authorized under the River and Harbor Act of 3 March 1899, is a 10-foot-deep channel and 100-feet-wide in Deep Creek and Pasquotank River, a channel 6-feet-deep and 50-feet-wide in the Dismal Swamp, and a channel 10-feet-deep and 80-feet-wide in Turners Cut. The AIWW-DSC project also consists of one highway drawbridge and navigation lock at Deep Creek, Virginia; one highway drawbridge and navigation lock at South Mills, North Carolina; and three water control structures. The property boundaries of the AIWW-ACC and AIWW-DSC are depicted below on Figure 1.0 and Figure 2.0, respectively. Larger maps of the properties are enclosed.

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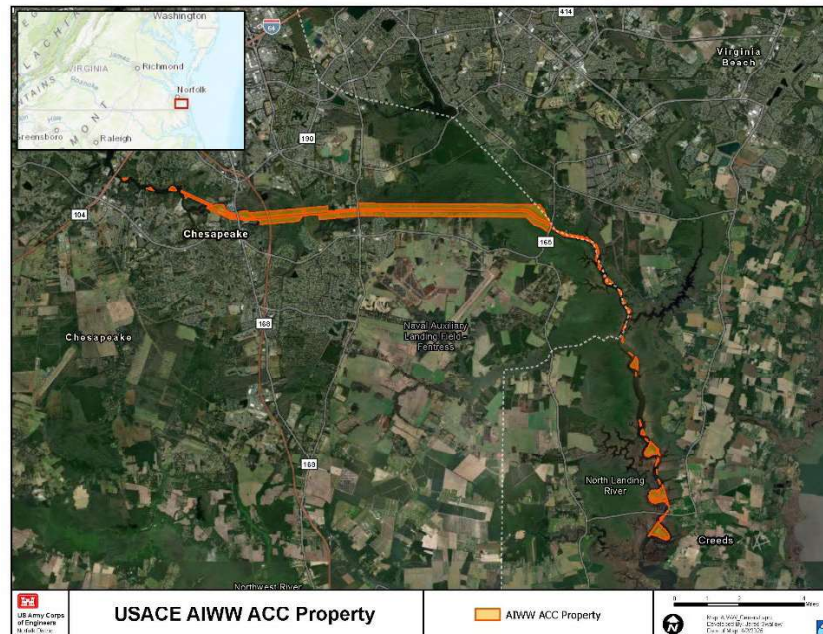


Figure 1.0 - AIWW-ACC Property Boundary Map

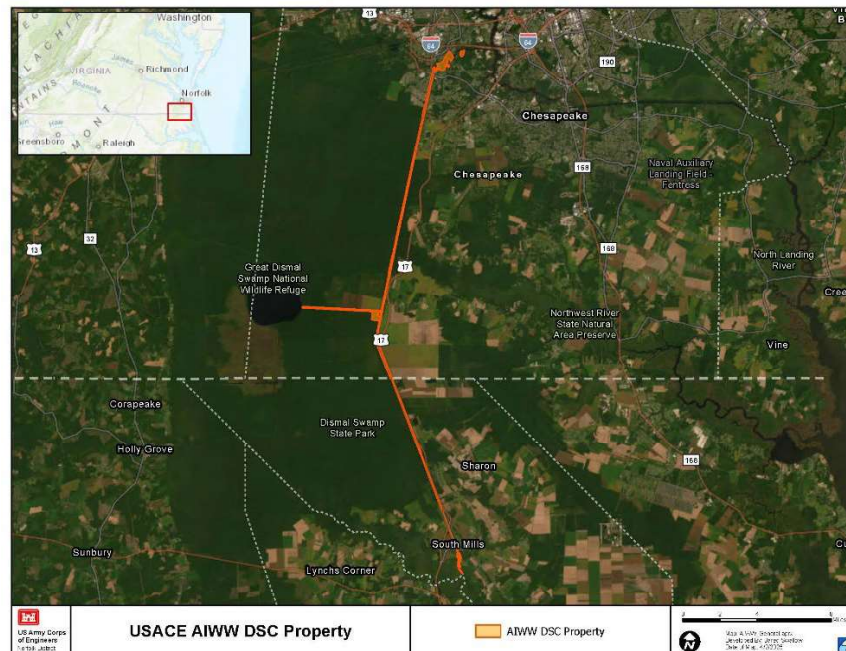


Figure 2.0 - AIWW-DSC Property Boundary Map

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b. Gathright Dam: Gathright Dam is approximately 250 acres located on the Jackson River in Alleghany County, Virginia. Congress authorized construction of the dam and reservoir in the Flood Control Act of 1946, to provide protection of industrial, commercial and residential properties along the Jackson and James Rivers, with immediate impact on Covington, VA, located about 20 miles downstream. The construction of the dam began in 1974 and was completed in 1979. The dam is a rolled rock fill embankment with a compacted earthen clay core, outlet works, and an emergency spillway located at the right abutment. The embankment is 1,310 feet long with a height of 257 feet. The width is 32 feet at the top of the dam with a maximum width of 1000 feet at its base. The property boundary of Gathright Dam is depicted on Figure 3.0 below and a larger map is enclosed.

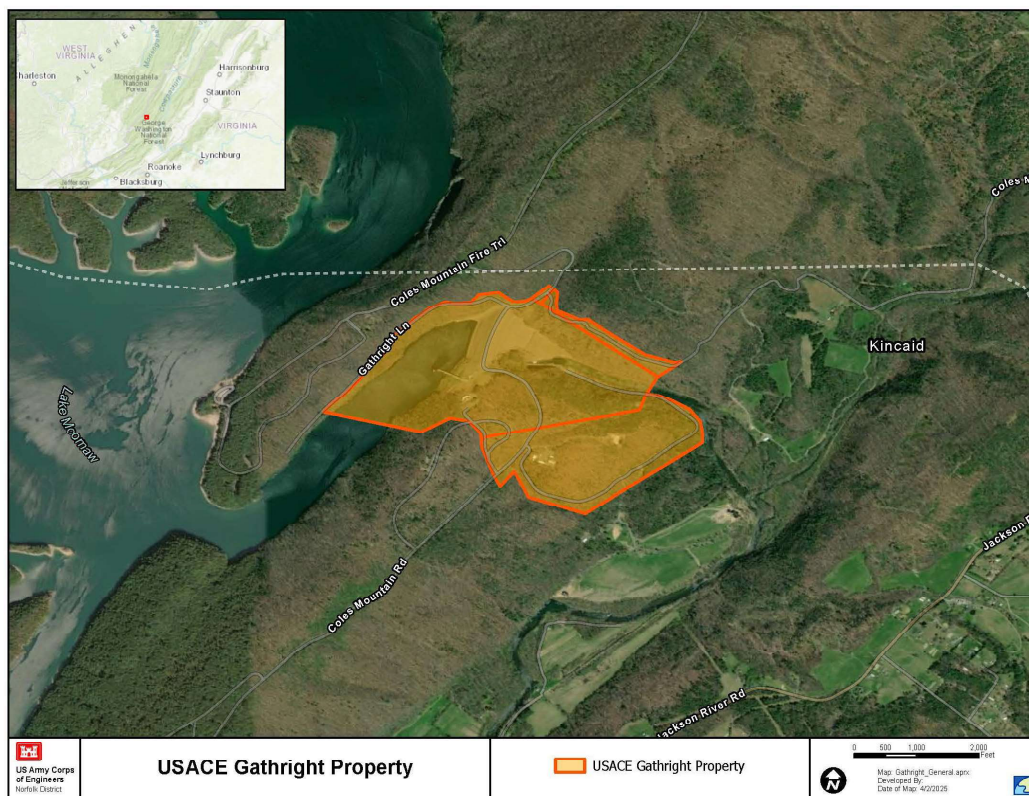


Figure 3.0 - Gathright Dam Property Boundary Map

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4. Policy pursuant to 36 CFR § 327.7 Camping: Camping along the AIWW-DSC at Lake Drummond is permitted, but this is a primitive site which requires campers to respect nature. Campers should be prepared for limited cell phone reception and stay vigilant about snakes, insects, and wildlife in the area. An emergency phone has been installed on the porch of Building No. 8 for public use. This phone can only be used to dial 911 in case of an emergency. Above the phone, there is a notice that indicates the location of the Lake Drummond Reservation, along with its latitude and longitude coordinates. Possession of firearms and other weapons is strictly prohibited, see Paragraph 6. below.

5. Policy pursuant to 36 CFR § 327.8 Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping:

a. Hunting: In order to assure the public's safety and to protect historic and natural resources, hunting is prohibited on both the AIWW and Gathright Dam projects.

b. Trapping: In order to assure the public's safety and to protect historic and natural resources, trapping is prohibited on AIWW and Gathright Dam projects.

c. Fishing: Fishing is allowed along the AIWW and Gathright Dam in areas open to the public. All state fishing regulations including licensing requirements apply.

6. Policy pursuant to 36 CFR § 327.13 Explosives, Firearms, Other Weapons and Fireworks: The possession of loaded firearms, ammunition, loaded projectile firing devices, bows and arrows, crossbows, other weapons, explosives or explosive devices of any kind, including fireworks or other pyrotechnics is strictly prohibited along the AIWW and Gathright Dam unless in the possession of a Federal, state or local law enforcement officer only.

7. Signage: Signs will be installed at all compound areas on both water resource projects. Additional signs will be installed as required to protect the public. Signs shall be in accordance with the Corps of Engineers Sign Standards Manual.

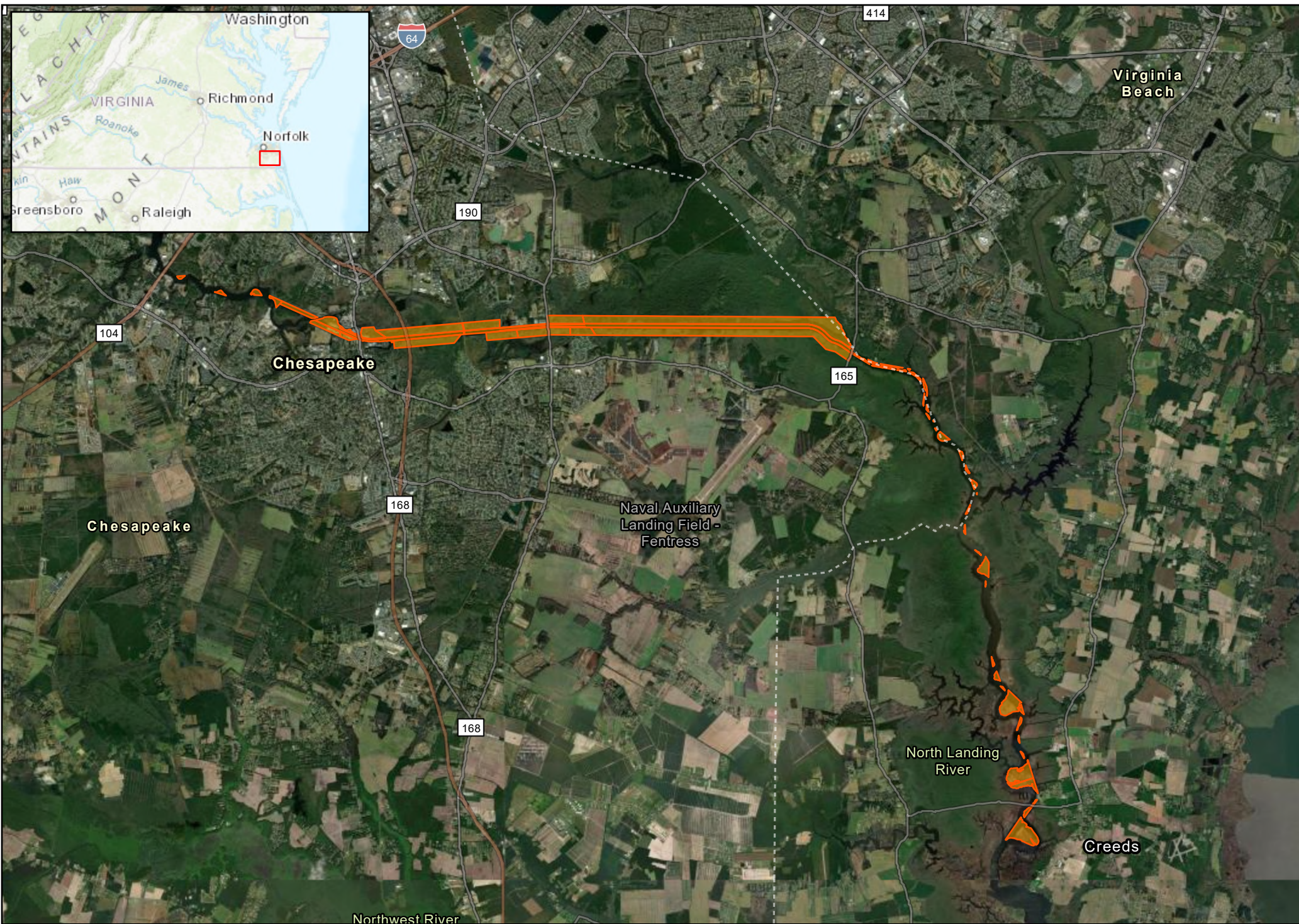
8. Duration: This policy remains in effect unless revised or rescinded.

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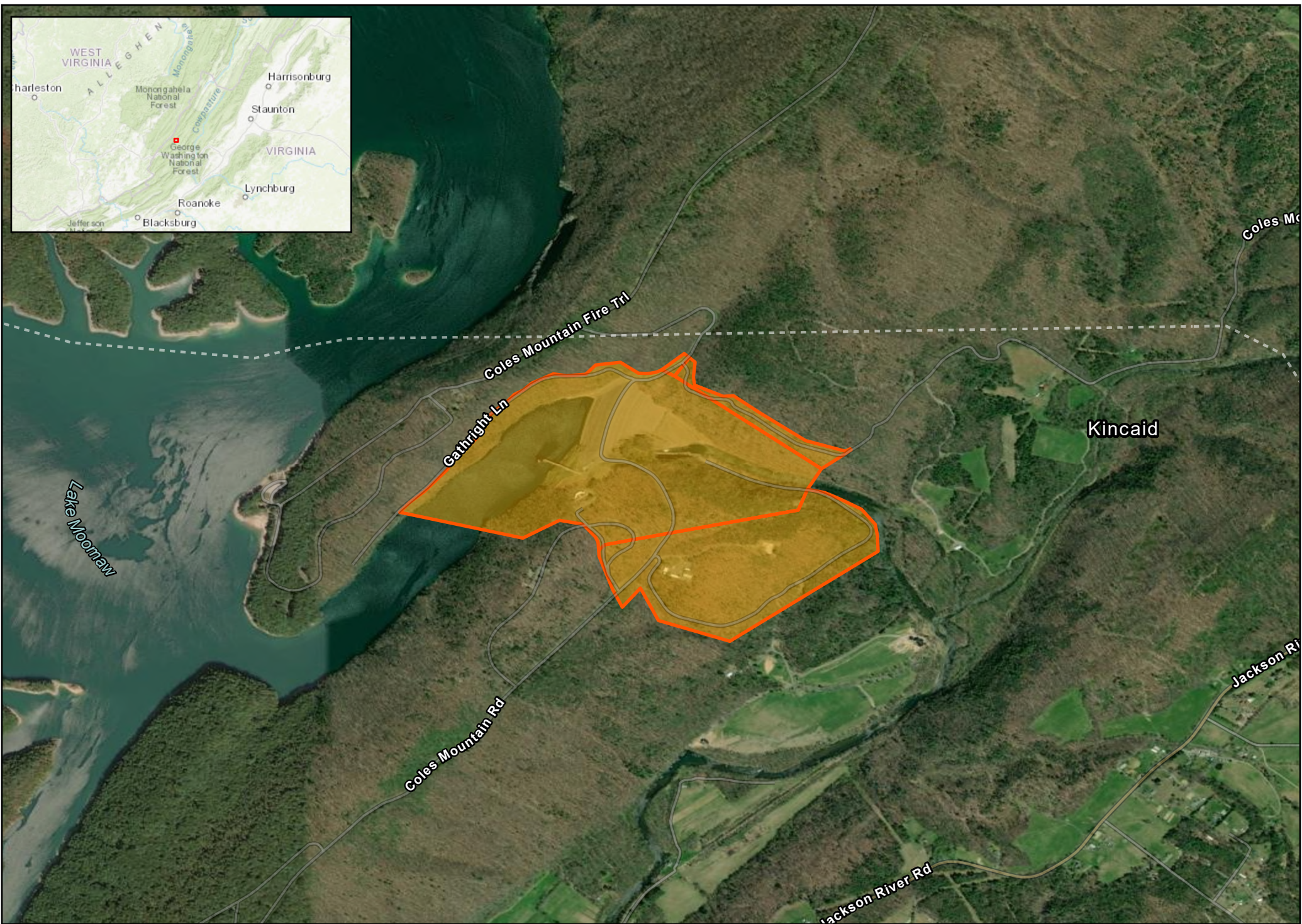
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ANTHONY C. FUNKHOUSER, PMP
LTC, EN
Commanding







US Army Corps
of Engineers
Norfolk District

USACE Gathright Property

 USACE Gathright Property

0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet



Map: Gathright_General.aprx
Developed By:
Date of Map: 4/2/2025

