



# RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Mariah Burgess

Date: 6/2/20

Starting Location and Time: Crofton Boat Ramp (7:30 AM)

Ending Location and Time: Palmyra Boat Ramp (1:30 PM)

Weather: Overcast to mostly sunny Recent Precipitation: Rainfall for the week was <0.5"

USGS Gauges: Palmyra 3.5 ft (685 ft<sup>2</sup>/sec)

Water Color: Crystal clear Water Odor: None Air Temp: 75° F

DO: 4 ppm pH: 7 Turbidity: 10 JTU Water Temp: 68° F

Water Testing Location: Palmyra Boat Ramp

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## Land Use:

Both the Crofton and Palmyra boat ramps are owned and managed by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VADGIF). Beginning on July 1, 2020, anyone using these ramps will be required to have an access permit from VADGIF.

The majority of the land along this stretch is private, and also kept forested and in a natural condition. Fluvanna's Pleasant Grove Park encompasses almost 1.5 miles just upriver of the take-out and includes a beach access area at the river.

## Wildlife Sightings and Plant Life:

Osprey, muskrat, smallmouth bass, sunfish, mallard duck pair,

## People Interactions:

I saw some fishermen in kayaks and some families enjoying the beach area at Pleasant Grove.

## Litter and Pollution:

I observed a little trash on the bottom of the river and some white foam just downstream of the Crofton boat ramp.

## Hazards:

None to note



Overall Summary:

This is a beautiful, serene, calm stretch of river with little to no rapids. The water level was moderate and made for a nice, half-day fishing trip.

Actions Needed – level of priority (1 highest/5 lowest):

- 2 – Contact VADGIF regarding the erosion at Palmyra boat launch (see Figure 6)
- 2 – Update the kiosks at Crofton and Palmyra with relevant information. Contact VADGIF about maintaining the area around the information kiosk to make it more inviting.

Images:



Figure 1a-b: Bank erosion along river left just downstream of the Crofton boat ramp.



Figure 2: Foam seen along the river left bank.



Figure 3: Smallmouth bass caught on a Kreelex streamer fly.



Figure 4: Tires along river right



Figure 5: Fisherman snags another smallmouth





Figure 6a-b: Boat ramp at Palmyra is being impacted by erosion



Figure 7: View downstream