



*Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor  
Josh Kurtz, Secretary  
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary*

## **Maryland Department of Natural Resources Showcases Their Police Aviation Unit**

Natural 1 is Maryland Natural Resources Police's eye in the sky. The agency's helicopter is an essential tool when it comes to carrying out maritime and rural search-and-rescue missions, conservation law enforcement patrols, homeland security operations, and more across Maryland's nearly half-million acres of public lands and 17,000 miles of waterways.

Equipped with industry-leading technology including an advanced infrared camera system, augmented reality mapping software, video recording devices, TrakkaBeam searchlight, and communication systems, the aircraft is fully furnished to provide rapid emergency response for the state of Maryland and its residents.

NRP's Aviation Unit has been extraordinarily successful in recent missions, where it has helped resolve missing boater cases near the Tangier Sound, track down lost hunters in the 15,000-acre Pocomoke State Forest, locate overdue kayakers in Tuckahoe State Park, and assist a juvenile kayaker on the Choptank River who was over three miles from home at night with no communication devices.

Its law enforcement capabilities include monitoring for illegal harvesting in oyster sanctuaries and prohibited fishing areas, illegal hunting, spotlighting, illegal baiting, and much more. It also serves as an important deterrent measure.

Those who spend time on the water, in state parks, recreating on public lands, or engaging in hunting or fishing activities, are safer with NRP's Aviation Unit overhead. Natural 1 is manned by Chief Pilot, Sgt. John Buchanan, and Tactical Flight Officer, Ofc. Christian Helwig.

Below is a link to the full video.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwvyo1S\\_j2c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwvyo1S_j2c)



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