

MSSA FREDERICK CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Working to Provide a Unified Voice to Preserve and Protect the
Rights, Tradition and the Future of Recreational Fishing!
No Unity, No Voice, No Fish



The Official MSSA Frederick Chapter VHF Channel is 71

President's Message

I can't believe Summer is coming to an end already. The kids are back in school, and Labor Day weekend has just passed. The weather never really did turn Summer hot, but it hasn't stop many of our members from a successful Season of fishing.

And the fun is just beginning for our Chapter. This coming weekend, we will have our annual Chapter crab feast. This is certain to be a good time, as we will be steaming bushels of crabs, smoking chicken, and making home-made French fries. And everyone in attendance is welcome to bring a dessert tray, or any other food items you would like to share.

Then we will be getting ready to head to Harker's Island, NC for the annual "Tackle the Mackerel" tournament. This is my personal favorite event. As many as 20 boats and crews will make the trip, and take over the Harker's Island Fishing Center for a week long tournament to see who can land the largest King Mackerel, as well as Spanish Mackerel and Amberjack calcuttas.

And sandwiched in between, is the MSSA Flounder tournament. So as you can see, the Summer may be fading, but the fun is still going strong. Come out and see what makes the Frederick Chapter the best Chapter in all of the MSSA!

Tight lines,
Jim

Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017
Food Service begins at 6:15 PM
Meeting at 7:00 PM

Speaker: Matt Marceron from US Blues Chesapeake Charter fishing will be here to speak about late Summer Spanish Mackerel and Fall trolling patterns. He is open to having a question and answer session with his 1st mate too

Vendor: Wayne from catch-All Tackle will be here with all of your King Mackerel needs

Dinner Menu:

Hot Turkey Sandwiches with Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Steamed Vegetables
Salad
Dessert

Attendance at August Meeting: 36

Raffle Winners:

Stephanie Hurt- Binoculars
Roy Butler- Spreader Bar
Justin Fleming- Fishing Pliers
Porter King- Bust Em Baits
Walt Shaw- Bust Em Baits
Jim Bremer- Dehooker, sunglasses
Brian Buckman- Fishing Lures
Ed Susa- King Mackerel Lures & Towel
Emory Connor- Air Pump & Cutting Board

50/50 Raffle:

Emory Connor \$57

Directions To Meeting at the Frederick Moose Lodge: - [Map](#)

From Frederick, take **I-70** east to **exit 56** (Rt. 144W). Turn slight right onto MD-144. Go 0.8 miles to 828 E. Patrick St. on the left

Important New Chapter Policy

As many of you know, the MSSA Frederick Chapter is host to a number of events and tournaments. The Chapter does not use any of these events as fundraisers. As a matter of fact, the exact opposite is true. During our tournament series, the Chapter does not keep a single cent of the registration fees. And while the Crab Feast and the Dinner Dance are paid events, the entry fees do not cover the costs of these events. Instead, the MSSA Frederick Chapter adds significant funds to each of these events, to enhance their value to our members.

The extra funds for these events come from our fundraisers. Consider these numbers... Our Chapter has 225 registered members, of which there are over 100 active members at any time. During our most recent fundraiser, we requested every member sell 5 tickets. We should have easily sold out of tickets. But that did not happen. And after the final tally was reached, the tickets that WERE sold were sold by a total of 33 members. That means less than 1/3 of all active members participated in supporting the Chapter.

So the Board has adopted a new policy. In November, we will begin the next Fundraiser for the Chapter. It will again be a Raffle. The raffle fundraiser will end in February, and at that time all ticket sales will be tallied. Here is the important part. In order to register as Captain for any of the Chapter tournaments, or attend either the Dinner Dance, or Crab Feast, you **MUST** sell/buy 5 raffle tickets OR donate \$100

to the Chapter in addition to the regular entry fees.

Every member of the MSSA Frederick Chapter is welcome to attend every regular Chapter meeting, and receive the benefit of our Guest Speakers, and Vendor's specials. But to participate in the events that the Chapter adds funds, we need to make sure everyone is doing their part.

Fishing Reports

Maryland DNR Fishing Report

Maryland Weekly Fishing Report Overview

August 30, 2017

This is Erik Zlokovitz filling in for Keith Lockwood on the weekly fishing report. As I write this report, there is a disturbance bringing in some rain and winds along the mid-Atlantic coast, but it is nothing compared to the historic flooding being experienced now by the folks in the Houston area, southeast Texas and western Louisiana. The weather forecast here in Maryland is fair to good for the next few days, with rain in the forecast Saturday. We may be entering into a slight cooling pattern, which means that fishing will gradually shift into early fall mode. Take your kids out fishing at least one more time before school starts

Before we get into this week's fishing report, I wanted to remind everyone that they can submit their own fishing reports and photos to the Maryland Angler's Log. To post a report, please email your name, hometown, photos, location information and additional content for your report. All information is optional, but encouraged. New reports are posted daily during the busy fishing seasons. You can see our most recent Angler's Log here.

In the upper bay, there have been reports of striped bass starting to show in their upper bay fall areas. Some anglers are having success with striped bass around Poole's Island by slow trolling with live eels. Many anglers

from the extreme upper bay (north of Poole's Island) have been running south to the Rock Hall and Chester River area to find better fishing. The white perch in the upper bay are in shallow water, at water depths ranging from 6 to 10 feet. The larger striped bass have come from shallow structure as well. The Susquehanna River has a reliable striped bass and smallmouth bass bite early and late in the day.

There is still a large chumming fleet working the area around Baltimore Light off the mouth of the Magothy River. There are a lot of throwbacks, but the persistent anglers are still finding their limits of fish over 20 inches. Small bluefish continue to mix into the action in this area. Trollers are catching some fish on red plastic hoses (surgical tubes).

The middle bay region has produced good fishing for striped bass with a combination of live-lining, trolling and casting. The False Channel at the mouth of the Choptank continues to be a hot spot for live-lining spot for striped bass. Breaking fish are being spotted from Kent Island south to the Choptank mouth on the eastern shore and Tolley Point, Thomas Point and West River mouth on the western shore. These tend to be fast moving schools of smaller striped bass and there may be bluefish and Spanish mackerel mixed in with the breaking schools of striped bass during late August and September.

Bottom fishing for a mix of white perch and spot with a few small croakers tossed in has been good in areas from Kent Island south to the Choptank and in most tidal rivers where good hard bottom can be found. Peeler crab and shrimp have been working well for white perch and croaker, bloodworms will work especially well for the spot. Spot have also been abundant around Hackett's Bar, Dolly's Lump and the bay bridge area off Annapolis.

We have exciting news from the lower bay region! A new state record sheepshead (for Chesapeake Division) off South Marsh Island in the Holland Straits area, near Tangier Sound. Dave Alveberg caught the 13.73-pound record breaking fish Aug. 17, in roughly

4 feet of water off Gunbarrel Point on soft crab bait.

In addition to the new state record sheepshead, the lower bay region is still producing exciting fishing opportunities for cobia and red drum. The cobia continue to be found from the Middle Grounds north to the Target Ship and chumming and baiting with live eels and chunk baits has been the most popular way to fish for cobia. Red drum are caught while trolling large spoons and also when casting to breaking fish with spoons and leadhead jigs dressed with bucktail, plastic trailers and skirts.

Striped bass reports have been better than last summer in the lower bay and Potomac region. They have been found in the lower Potomac River near St. Georges Island, Piney Point area along the steep channel edge and on the channel edge at Cove Point. Live-lining spot has been the most popular way to catch them but some folks are having luck with jigging and trolling. Some anglers have been casting to the fish around Cedar Point Light.

There have been good trolling opportunities in the shipping channel for a mix of bluefish and Spanish mackerel. Trolling with small spoons (size 0 or 1, Huntington Drones, Tony's and other small spoons of similar design) behind inline weights or planers has been the best way to get down to the fish. If the fish are not breaking, then look for bait balls or suspended fish on your depth finder.

Bottom fishing has been good on both sides of the lower bay for a mix of species. Bloodworms have been the bait of choice although some report good success with artificial bait called Fishbites. White perch are being caught on peeler crab and shrimp along with croakers, kingfish and a few blowfish.

The Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative has been active in the bay this summer with various reef construction projects. Here is the end-of-summer update from Mike Malpezzi, the artificial reef coordinator for the [Maryland Department of Natural Resources](#):

"This summer the Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative was busy placing material at three artificial reef sites in Chesapeake Bay. Three deployments of concrete road barriers, deck slabs and pilings totaling roughly 2,200 tons were placed in the southeast corner of the Love Point site around 39° 03.975' N, 76° 17.370' W. At the Tilghman Island site 140 reef balls with oyster spat were placed in a line running east to west near the southwestern edge of the site, centered around 38° 41.330' N, 76° 22.730' W. This project was a partnership between Maryland Coastal Conservation Association, Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative. At the Plum Point site approximately 100 tons of corrugated steel baffle wall panels and concrete pilings were placed in a "fallen domino" pattern in the southern portion of the site at 38° 35.743' N, 76° 29.319' W."

Before we get into the crabbing, freshwater and ocean sections, here is the weekly bay forecast summary from the team at **Click Before You Cast. Weekly Bay Fishing Conditions Forecast Summary (Aug. 30-Sept. 6, 2017) Click Before You Cast Weekly Bay Fishing Conditions Forecast Summary** – Maryland's surface water temperatures have dropped 3-4 degrees in the last several days and recent and forecasted windy conditions will aid in bay mixing, resulting in changing conditions. These changes will result in cooler, more well-oxygenated waters for gamefish to search for food. Lots of Maryland waters will have adequate oxygen from surface to bottom so start your search just above the "Do not fish below this depth." Expect reduced water clarity from higher than normal flows for many streams and river mouths along interstate 95 and east of that location as a result of localized storms earlier in the week. Tidal currents will be increasing between now and Wednesday as we approach the next

full moon Wednesday. Submerged aquatic vegetation are at their maximum seasonal coverage right now so be sure to focus on these grass beds which are near channel edges as great places to find hungry gamefish looking for prey.

For the full weekly fishing conditions summary and more detailed and up-to-date fishing conditions in your area of the bay, be sure to check out Eyes on the Bay's **Click Before You Cast**.

Since this is a new feature for Chesapeake Bay anglers, drop us a line with comments or suggestions.

Recreational crabbers are finding that crabbing action has slowed down in the Severn and Magothy rivers. You may find some better success by running trotlines further south in the West/Rhodes complex and the Deale area, but you have to put in a lot of time and effort.

On the freshwater scene we continue to get reports of largemouth bass, carp and snakeheads in the Angler's Log. The catch and release trout management waters in western and central Maryland continue to offer fun summertime fishing through the dog days of August with fly fishing gear and a chance to catch and release large brown and rainbow trout.

The fishing scene at Ocean City continues in late summer mode in the Coastal Bays and ocean. Kingfish are being caught in the surf along with spot on bloodworms, small bluefish are being caught on finger mullet and cut bait. A few flounder are also being caught in the surf on squid as well as blowfish. At the inlet, sheepshead and the occasional triggerfish are being caught along the jetty rocks on sand fleas. Flounder can be found in the inlet and the Route 50 Bridge area, but the larger flounder are found offshore. Some anglers are finding that small bucktails and Gulp plastics will out fish the traditional minnows and squid baits in the back bays. Bluefish and a few striped bass are being caught at night by those casting lures such as Gotcha plugs, or drifting live eels, or spot. Outside the inlet, larger flounder are being found on the inshore shoal areas and farther offshore at the wreck and reef sites. Sea bass fishing at the inshore wreck sites has been fair and very good out beyond the 30-fathom line to the canyons. On some days, the

sea bass bite better, while on other days, the flounder bite better. On the offshore scene, the mid-Atlantic marlin tournament has wrapped up and the general reports show improved marlin action since early August. There have been numerous white marlin and blue marlin releases near the Washington and Wilmington canyons along with some nice yellowfin tuna and large dolphinfish (mahi-mahi) also coming into the docks. Chicken dolphinfish can often be found near sea bass and lobster buoys near the canyons.

Virginia Beach Action

Weekly Sportfishing Rundown - Labor Day Report
01 Sep 2017

The Labor Day weekend will have a rough start as the remnants of Harvey roll through, but Monday could offer a nice break in the weather. The fall fishing trend is off to a great start, with plenty of shallow water, inshore, and offshore action available, but with hurricane season approaching its peak, anglers are watching tropical developments closely. Fall's main players such as spot, speckled trout, and puppy drum, are beginning to draw more interest, while the summer favorites such as flounder, cobia, and red drum are staging to leave local waters.

Schools and pods of cobia continue to track out of the Bay, with enthusiastic sight casters in hot pursuit. As long as there is enough sunshine to show the way, this action should remain steady until the season closes on the 15th of September. Look for easy targets of fish concentrated in open water near the mouth of the Bay and along the ocean front, where some fish are exceeding 50-pounds lately. Both chummers and site casters are hooking double-digit numbers recently.

Schools of big red drum are also delighting sight casters in these same areas. Surf fishing action is also picking up on the Eastern Shore barrier islands as these big reds fatten up to head out of the area.

Nice yellowbelly spot along with some big croaker are infiltrating the lower Bay and local Inlets. Local pier anglers are taking advantage of the abundant spot showing, with the North Easterly wind kicking the bite into high gear. Good numbers of spot are also coming from within Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlets, with bloodworms the best choice.

The Bay flounder bite was worthwhile before the most recent blow, with good numbers of keepers responding to live bait and jigs worked near the CBBT structure. The flatfish bite in Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlets is also decent lately. Offshore wreck action in deeper water is very good when the weather allows access to them. Nice sea bass will remain a by-catch on many of the same wrecks through the end of the month, but the season briefly closes on September 22nd.

Nice Spanish mackerel are still available along tide rips near the Bridge Tunnel, along Cape Henry, and along the buoy lines at the mouth of the Bay. The escalating king mackerel bite is producing the biggest fish seen in years, with several smokers pushing to well over 40 and 50-pounds boated over the past few weeks. Reports indicate that both live bait trollings and trolled plugs are getting the job done.

Inshore, big sheepshead were still taking late season offerings along the entire span of the Bay Bridge-Tunnel when boats could get out. Lots of trigger fish are also in the same vicinity, as well as on several inshore and offshore wrecks. Spadefish are still around, but the bite is slowing up

. Speckled trout are showing in Lynnhaven, Rudee, and Little Creeks Inlets, the Poquoson flats, and the seaside of Oyster. This bite will continue to improve over the next months. Plenty of puppy drum are responding for anglers casting jigs or offering fresh bait within Lynnhaven, Rudee, and Little Creek Inlets.

Big amberjack are still available on local wrecks, at the Chesapeake Light Tower, and at the South Tower. Jack crevelle are also a possibility around the Tower Reef area and near the

mouth of the Bay. Deep droppers are still having good luck near the Canyon edges lately, with a few boats reporting limits of nice blueline tilefish, blackbellied rosefish, scattered golden tilefish. and nice seabass.

Offshore billfish action was very good, although the latest weather could mix things up a bit. In general, good numbers of white marlin and scattered big blue marlin are around, along with a few sailfish, spearfish, and swordfish. Some 50-pound class yellowfin tuna and occasional bigeye tuna, some big wahoo and bailer dolphin are also rounding out catches.

<http://www.drjball.com>

Delaware Fishing Report

Updated: Aug. 31, 2017

DELAWARE BAY If this report was only about the fish caught since last weekend it would be very short. The coast has seen some nasty weather with high winds and rain keeping most anglers at home. While the Delaware Bay and the ocean saw the worst of this weather, freshwater impoundments were also impacted. It appears the weather pattern will hold right through the weekend as remnants of Harvey move across Delaware.

Once the rain stops and the wind lays down it may take a few days for the water in the bay to clear. When it does, there should be flounder on the reef sites along with triggerfish and a few trout. The Inner and Outer walls and the Ice Breakers should still hold triggerfish and sheepshead.

In the Upper Bay white perch and catfish will be around along with short rockfish. The slot rockfish season will close on August 31.

- **ADVISORY: Summer Flounder Regulations:** As of April 1, the minimum size for summer flounder in Delaware is 17 inches. The bag limit remains at four fish per

day and the season runs for 365 days.

INSHORE OCEAN Flounder fishing was pretty good at the Old Grounds before the storm and should continue once the seas settle down. A fair number of keeper sea bass were mixed in with the flounder. More sea bass were caught at the Del-Jersey-Land reef.

Some mackerel, false albacore, bonito and bluefish were trolled up along the Buoy Line from B Buoy to the Lightship. Blues were also caught on trolled spoons at Fenwick Shoal.

OFFSHORE OCEAN If the latest storm moves some blue water into the canyons we should see better fishing for marlin and tuna. The bigeyes that were so plentiful last year have disappeared since late spring. Dolphin have also been scarce.

INDIAN RIVER INLET The theory is an east wind moves bait inside the inlet followed by blues, rockfish and flounder. Let's hope the theory holds true this time.

SURF FISHING The mullet run has started and along with the east wind we could see better fishing from the beach. Small blues were around before the storm and I hope their larger relatives show up next week.

FRESHWATER We have had a lot of rain ,with more to come on Saturday. The ponds are high and dirty and even the tidal rivers and creeks don't look real good. I am sure there are white perch and catfish to be caught and some bass will hit on top water baits fished early or late in the day.

FAST WATER DANGER If we in Delaware learn anything from the news out of Texas it is the water can rise very fast and when it does the current is extremely strong. Swollen creeks and rivers should be avoided at all costs even in boats and kayaks. The current will cause boats to move much quicker than the operator may realize and if the boat is pinned against a tree, bridge piling or goes over even a small dam the result is often fatal.

This is not the time for white water kayaking. Even if you think you are invincible – and I can promise you are not – try to think about the first responders who will put themselves in danger trying rescue your irresponsible self.

By Eric Burnley Sr.*

DNR in the News

August 29, 2017

Dave Alveberg Reels in 13.73-pound Fish



The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has confirmed a Deal Island resident has set a new state fishing record in the Chesapeake Division for sheephead.

Dave Alveberg caught the 13.73-pound record breaking fish Aug. 17, in roughly 4 feet of water off South Marsh Island near Tangier Sound.

Intent on catching white perch and rockfish, Alveberg was using soft crab as bait when his line went "haywire." After a brief struggle he pulled aboard the record sheephead.

"Seeing something like this on my boat was amazing," Alveberg said. He plans on getting his sheephead mounted for display.

The sheephead's weight was confirmed by Brent Malone of How Sweet It Is, a market in Somerset County. The catch broke the previous record 13.3-pound fish caught by Dan Thomas in 2016.

The department maintains state records for sport fish in four divisions—Atlantic, Chesapeake, Nontidal and Invasive—and awards plaques to anglers who achieve record catches. Fish caught from privately-owned, fee-fishing waters are ineligible for consideration.

Anglers who think they have a potential record catch should download and fill out the state record application and call 443-569-1381 or 410-260-8325. The department suggests the fish be immersed in ice water to preserve its weight until it can be checked, confirmed and certified.

Tips and Tricks

Cleaning the boat after a successful fishing trip is a chore most of us don't relish

By [Capt. Dave Lear](#) August 15, 2017
[0 Comments](#)



Washing your boat after taking out is a necessary task.

Cleaning the boat after a successful fishing trip is a chore most of us don't relish. But a thorough washdown after exposure to salt spray helps protect against corrosion and other problems and maximizes the boat's value. Here are some ways to make the task as quick and easy as possible.

Start by making it harder for dirt and salt crystals to stick. A coat of marine wax at least twice a year (before and after the prime season) makes short work of scrubbing and adds a protective barrier for the gelcoat and other finishes. Be careful of applying wax to non-skid, though, for obvious reasons.



Use your washdown system while still out fishing.

If your boat is equipped with a salt or freshwater washdown system, don't hesitate to use it while fishing. Blood and slime comes off much easier while it's still wet. Let it bake all day in the blazing sun and you'll be cussing while you toil with the scrub brush afterwards. A long-handled boat brush dipped overboard will also work if you don't have a washdown system.

Speaking of brushes, make sure to use the right one to avoid damage. Generally white bristle attachments are coarse and stiff, good for scouring non-skid and other uneven surfaces. Blue is medium soft and works well for smooth gelcoat, while yellow brushes are extremely soft for easily scratched surfaces like outboard cowlings or enclosures. Microfiber rags or wash mitts won't scratch surfaces either and the fine fibers pick up the smallest bits of salt or dirt.



Rinsing your boat with fresh water will help remove salt crystals that can scratch surfaces.

Before starting a wash job, rinse the boat completely with fresh water. That will help remove salt crystals that can scratch surfaces. If the boat is loaded back on the trailer, take that opportunity to rinse down the trailer frame, bunks and hubs too.

There's no shortage of boat soaps on the market from many different sources, from pricey concentrates in gallon sizes to generic brands. Check the label first to make sure it won't remove wax or else it'll have to be constantly reapplied.



Using the appropriate brush or wash mitt, wash the boat completely with soapy water.

Using the appropriate brush or wash mitt, wash the boat completely with soapy water. It's usually easier to do sections at a time, starting at the top. Rinse the soap off with fresh water after scrubbing. Don't forget to do the fish boxes or you'll have a smelly mess the next time you go. Only use fresh water to rinse down live wells, never detergent, to avoid leaving residue that would be harmful to the next batch of bait.

A leather or synthetic chamois or squeegee blade will remove excess water after the rinse to prevent water spots on gelcoat, brightwork, engines and electronic screens. If you're pressed for time (or initiative), let the boat air dry. For boats that are stored covered or inside garages or sheds, propping open hatches a tiny bit will allow air to circulate and cut down on mildew.

Once the boat is clean, specialty products like aluminum polish and vinyl coatings can be applied to polish and protect metal parts and vinyl. Before applying any for the first time though, always try a test in a concealed spot to make sure there aren't any adverse reactions or staining effects.

2017 Chapter Officers

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FREDERICK MSSA CHAPTER – 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

www.mssafrederick.com

JANUARY	11	- Frederick Meeting
	14	- Frederick Chapter Fishing Expo – Frederick Fair Grounds
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting
	26-29	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center
	28-29	- Kent Island Chapter Fishing Flea Market
FEBRUARY	8	- Frederick Meeting
	11	- Tri State Marine Flea Market – Deale Md
	15	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17-18	- Pasadena Flea Market – Earleigh Heights Fire Co, Pasadena, MD
	18	- Dorchester County Flea Market – American Legion Cambridge, MD
	25	- Saltwater Fishing Expo Annapolis Elks #622 – Edgewater MD
25	- Dinner Dance - Frederick Moose Club	
MARCH	8	- Frederick Meeting
	15	- Frederick Board Meeting
	18-19	- Essex/Middle River Flea Market
APRIL	1-2	- Southern MD Fishing Fair – Solomons Fire Hall
	8	- Frederick Chapter Shakedown Cruise/ Catch & Release Tournament
	12	- Frederick Meeting
	15	- Opening Day - Striped Bass Season
	19	- Frederick Board Meeting
MAY	5-7	- Frederick Chapter Spring Rockfish Tournament- Solomons
	5-7	- 33rd Annual MSSA Spring Tournament
	10	- Frederick Meeting
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
	19-21	- Frederick Chapter Flounder Tournament – Chincoteague
JUNE	14	- Frederick Meeting
	21	- Frederick Board Meeting
	16-18	- 27th Annual MSSA Tunament – Ocean City & Wachapreague
JULY	12	- Frederick Meeting
	19	- Frederick Board Meeting
AUGUST	9	- Frederick Meeting
	11-13	- MSSA Frederick Chapter Cobia Tournament
	16	- Frederick Board Meeting
SEPTEMBER	9	- Chapter Crab Feast and Picnic
	13	- Frederick Meeting
	16-18	- 6 th Annual Mid Atlantic Flounder Tournament – OC, Chincoteague, DE
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
OCTOBER	7-14	- Frederick Chapter North Carolina King Mackerel Tournament
	11	- Frederick Meeting
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting
NOVEMBER	8	- Frederick Meeting
	15	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17-19	- 24 th Annual MSSA Fall Tournament - Fish 2 of 3
DECEMBER	13	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting

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