



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Christiansted National Historic Site  
Buck Island Reef National Monument  
Salt River Bay National HP&EP  
2100 Church St. #100 2100 Church St. #100  
Christiansted, USVI, 00820  
340-773-1460

**2026 Superintendent's Compendium**  
Of Designations, Closures, Permit Requirements  
and Other Restrictions Imposed Under Discretionary Authority

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Angelita Alvino, Superintendent, CHRI Date

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In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations ("36 CFR"), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 54 United States Code, Section 3, the following provisions apply to all lands and waters administered by the National Park Service, within the boundaries of Christiansted National Historic Site (CHRI), Buck Island Reef National Monument (BUIS), and Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve (SARI). Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

Written determinations that explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, as required by Section 1.5(c), appear in this document identified by *italicized* print. The Compendium and its exhibits are available at:

Christiansted National Historic Site  
2100 Church Street, #100  
Christiansted, St. Croix  
U.S. Virgin Islands 00820

It may also be found at <https://www.nps.gov/chri/learn/management/lawsandpolicies.htm>

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## A. INTRODUCTION

### 1. Superintendent's Compendium Described

The Superintendent's Compendium is the summary of park specific rules implemented under 36 Code of Federal Regulations (36 CFR). It serves as public notice, identifies areas closed for public use, provides a list of activities requiring either a special use permit or reservation, and elaborates on public use and resource protection regulations pertaining specifically to the administration of Christiansted National Historic Site (CHRI), Buck Island Reef National Monument (BUIS), and Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve (SARI). The Superintendent's Compendium does not repeat regulations found in 36 CFR and other United States Code and CFR Titles, which are enforced without further elaboration at the park level.

The regulations contained in 36 CFR, Parts 1-7, are the basic mechanism used by the National Park Service (NPS) to preserve and protect the natural and cultural resources of the park and to preserve and protect the natural and cultural resources of the park, manage visitor use, provide for visitor safety, and protect property within the park. Parts 1 through 6 are general regulations applicable to all areas of the national park system, and Part 7 contains special regulations specific to individual parks. Each of these parts has many sections and subsections articulating specific provisions. Within some of these Part 1-7 sections and subsections, the Superintendent is granted discretionary authority to develop local rules to be responsive to the needs of a specific park resource or activity, park plan, program, and/or special needs of the general public.

As an example, 36 CFR 1.5(a) *Closures and Public Use Limits* provides the Superintendent certain discretion in allowing or prohibiting certain activities. The authority granted by the Section, however, requires the Superintendent to comply with the Administrative Procedures Act (6 USC Section 551), which requires public notice on actions with major impact on visitor use patterns, park resources, or those that are highly controversial in nature.

Another example is 36 CFR 1.6 *Permits*, which allows the Superintendent to require a permit for certain uses and activities in the park. This Section, however, requires that a list of activities needing a permit (and a fee schedule for the various types of permits) be maintained by the park.

A final example is 36 CFR 2.1(c) (1) *Preservation of Natural, Cultural and Archeological Resources*, which provides the Superintendent the authority to designate certain fruits, nuts, berries or unoccupied seashells which may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption. This activity can occur, however, only if a written determination shows that the allowed activity does not adversely affect park wildlife, the reproductive potential of a plant species, or otherwise adversely affect park resources.

This Compendium should be used in conjunction with Title 36 CFR, Parts 1-7, to more fully understand the regulations governing the use and enjoyment of all the areas of the national park system.

A copy of Title 36, CFR, can be purchased from the U.S. Government Printing Office at:

Superintendent of Documents  
P.O. Box 371954

Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954

The CFR is also available online at: <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/36/chapter-I>

## **2. Laws and Policies Allowing the Superintendent to Develop This Compendium**

The National Park Service (NPS) is granted broad statutory authority under 54 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 1 *et seq.* (Organic Act of 1954, as amended) to "... regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations ...by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purposes of the said parks... which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment for future generations" (54 U.S.C. Section 1). In addition, the NPS Organic Act allows the NPS, through the Secretary of the Interior, to "make and publish such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary or proper for the use and management of the parks, monuments, and reservations under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service" (54 U.S.C. Section 3).

In 1970, Congress amended the NPS Organic Act to clarify its intentions as to the overall mission of the NPS. Through the General Authorities Act of 1970 (54 U.S.C. Sections 1a1-1a8), Congress brought all areas administered by the NPS into one national park system and directed the NPS to manage all areas under its administration consistent with the Organic Act of 1954.

In 1978, Congress amended the General Authorities Act of 1970 and reasserted System-wide the high standard of protection defined in the original Organic Act by stating "Congress further reaffirms, declares, and directs that the promotion and regulation of the various areas of the national park system, as defined by Section 1 of this Title, shall be consistent with and founded in the purpose established by Section 1 of this Title, to the common benefit of all people of the United States."

54 U.S.C. Section 1c defines the national park system as "...any areas of land and water now or hereafter administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service for park, monument, historic, parkway, recreational, or other purposes."

In addition to the above statutory authority, the Superintendent is guided by established NPS policy as found in the *NPS Management Policies* (2006). The Superintendent is also guided by more specific policies promulgated by the Director, National Park Service, in the form of Director's Orders. As stated in NPS Management Policies, the primary responsibility of the NPS is to protect and preserve our national natural and cultural resources while providing for the enjoyment of these resources by visitors and other users, as long as use does not impair specific park resources or overall visitor experience. The appropriateness of any particular visitor use or recreational experience is resource-based and will vary from park to park; therefore, a use or activity that is appropriate in one park area may not be appropriate in another. The Superintendent is directed to analyze overall park use and determine if any particular use is appropriate. Where conflict arises between use and resource protection, where the Superintendent has a reasonable basis to believe a resource is or would become impaired, then that Superintendent is obliged to place limitations on public use.

## **3. Consistency of This Compendium with Applicable Federal Law and Requirements**

The Superintendent's Compendium is not considered a significant rule requiring review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866. In addition, this Compendium will not have a significant economic effect, nor impose a significant cost on any local, state or tribal government or

private organization, and therefore does not fall under the requirements of either the Regulatory Flexibility Act or the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

The actions and requirements described in this Compendium are found to be categorically excluded from further compliance with the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in Department of the Interior (DOI) Guidelines 554 OM 6 and as such, an Environmental Assessment will not be prepared.

#### **4. Development of the Requirements of the Superintendent's Compendium**

As outlined above, the NPS has broad authority and responsibility to determine what types of uses and activities are appropriate in any particular park or specific park area. The requirements of the Superintendent's Compendium are developed through an analysis and determination process. The decision criteria used during this process are:

- Is the use or activity consistent with the NPS Title 54 and NPS policy?
- Is the use or activity consistent and compatible with the park's enabling legislation, management objectives, and corresponding management plans?
- Will the use or activity damage the park's protected natural and cultural resources and other protected values?
- Will the use or activity disturb or be in conflict with wildlife, vegetation, and environmental protection actions and values?
- Will the use or activity conflict with or be incompatible with traditional park uses and activities?
- Will the use or activity compromise employee or public safety?

#### **5. Enforcement of Compendium Requirements**

NPS Law Enforcement Park Rangers and United States Park Police enforce the requirements of the United State Code, 36 CFR, and this Superintendent's Compendium.

#### **6. Comments on the Compendium**

The Compendium is reviewed annually and revised as necessary. The park welcomes comments about its program and activities at any time.

#### **7. Effective Date of the Superintendent Compendium**

The Superintendent's Compendium is effective on the approval date listed on the first page of this document and remains in effect until revised.

#### **8. Additional Information**

Some of the terms used in this Compendium may have specific meaning defined in 36 CFR

## **PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **36 CFR §1.1 – Purpose**

The specific discretionary authority for National Park Service Superintendents to establish reasonable schedules for visiting hours, impose public use limits, and close park areas to all public use or to a specific use is found at Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §1.5 and other relevant provisions of Title 36. These park-specific restrictions are also based upon 36 CFR, Chapters 1-7 to protect park resources, visitors and employees. Under 36 CFR §1.7, notice of all restrictions, closures, designations and permit requirements will be made available to the general public by a least one or more of the following methods of notifications: maps, brochures, signs, permits, or other appropriate methods, as well as within this compendium.

### **36 CFR §1.2 – Applicability and Scope**

The regulations and public use limits and restrictions contained in this Compendium apply to all persons entering, using, visiting or otherwise within the boundaries of lands and waters controlled, leased, administered, or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. This includes all waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, including all navigable waters.

### **36 CFR §1.3 – Penalties**

A person who violates any provision of the regulations found in 36 CFR, Parts 1-7, or provisions of this Compendium, is subject to a fine as provided by law (18 U.S.C. 3571) up to \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months (18 U.S.C. 3559), or both, and shall be adjudged to pay all court costs associated with any court proceedings. You may receive a list of fines associated with any particular provision by contacting the US Park Police or the park address.

### **36 CFR §1.4 – What terms do I need to know?**

In addition to definitions found in 36 CFR § 1.4(a), the following definitions, created by the Superintendent, apply to all parts of this Compendium for park wide consistency:

- *ARTIFICIAL LIGHT* means any man-made light or lighting device.
- *BEACHING* as run or haul up a boat on to the beach.
- *DONATION* means an economic benefit, inducement, right, or profit including pecuniary payment accruing to an individual, person, or entity, but not including a voluntary sharing of the actual expenses of the voyage, by monetary contribution or donation of fuel, food, beverage, or other supplies.
- *ELECTRIC BICYCLE (E-BIKE)* means a one-, two- or three-wheeled cycle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of not more than 750 watts that meets the requirements of one of the following three classes:
  - “Class 1 electric bicycle” shall mean an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
  - “Class 2 electric bicycle” shall mean an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

- “Class 3 electric bicycle” shall mean an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.
- *ELECTRIC POWERED MOBILITY ASSISTANCE DEVICE (EPMAD)* means a device such as but not limited to an electric scooter, hoverboard, or any self-balancing, non-tandem, single or multi or single wheeled device that is not greater than 20 inches deep and 25 inches wide and can turn in place, is designed to transport only one person with an electric propulsion system averaging less than 750 watts (1 horsepower), the maximum speed of which, when powered solely by a propulsion system on a paved level surface, is no more than 12.5 miles per hour. An EPMAD and is considered a motor vehicle as defined in 36 CFR Section 1.4.
- *FLAT WAKE SPEED* means the minimum required speed to leave a flat wave disturbance close astern a moving vessel yet maintain steerage, but in no case in excess of 5 statute miles per hour.
- *GUIDE OPERATIONS* means the activity of a person, partnership, firm, corporation, or other entity to provide services for hire or taking or accepting donations. This includes, but is not limited to transportation to and from, hiking, beach going, water taxi, diving, snorkeling, and wildlife viewing within park boundaries.
- *IDLING* means the engine is running while a truck, bus or any vehicle is stationary.
- *INVASIVE (NONNATIVE) SPECIES* means a species that does not naturally occur or is alien to the ecosystem under consideration and causes, or is likely to cause, economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Invasive species can be plants, animals, and other organisms (e.g. microbes).
- *SERVICE ANIMAL* is defined as any dog or miniature horse that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Although the DOJ definition of service animal only refers to a dog, the NPS must make reasonable modifications to policies, practices, or procedures to permit the use of a miniature horse by a person with a disability if the miniature horse has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the individual with a disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not Service Animals for the purpose of this definition. (See 28 CFR Section 35.104.)
- *SPECIAL PARK USE* is defined as an activity that takes place in a park area and that: provides a benefit to an individual, group, or organization rather than the public at large; requires written authorization and some degree of management control from the Service in order to protect park resources and the public interest; is not prohibited by law or regulation; is not initiated, sponsored, or conducted by the Service; and is not managed under a concession contract, a recreation activity for which the NPS charges a fee, or a lease.
- *UNMANNED AIRCRAFT (UAS)* The term "unmanned aircraft" means a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors, communication links). This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g., model airplanes, quad copter, drones) that are used for any purposes, including recreation or commerce.”
- *DINGHY* means a boat primarily used as a means of travel to and from, and used only in conjunction with, the owner's principal boat.

- *LIFEBOAT* means a boat principally used for rescue purposes and associated with a larger vessel.
- *OCCUPIED* means that the owner or person in charge of the boat is either on board the boat or in the water within 100 feet of the boat.
- *RAFT* means any group of 1 or more boats which are stationary upon the waters and congregated together, whether anchored, secured to one another, or adrift, provided that at least one of the boats in the group is occupied, and provided further that lifeboats and dinghies shall not be counted in determining whether a raft exists.
- *RAFTING* means forming or being a member of a raft.

### **36 CFR §1.5 – Closures and Public Use Limits**

**36 CFR § 1.5 (a)(1) Establish, for all or a portion of a park area, a reasonable schedule of visiting hours, impose public use limits, or close all or a portion of a park area to all public use or to a specific use or activity.**

The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for all or for the listed portions of Christiansted National Historic Site/ Buck Island Reef National Monument/ Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve.

<https://www.nps.gov/chri>

<https://www.nps.gov/buis>

<https://www.nps.gov/sari>

The following closures are established for all or a portion of the Park to all public use or to a certain use or activity:

#### **What are the visiting hours?**

##### **1. Christiansted National Historic Site (CHRI)**

Open spaces remain open 24 hours. Visiting hours for the historic buildings at Christiansted National Historic Site are from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., except for the following federal holidays: Thanksgiving and Christmas’s Day. The visitor parking lot operational hours are from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

##### **2. Buck Island Reef National Monument (BUIS)**

Buck Island Reef National Monument and its facilities are open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, all year.

##### **3. Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve (SARI)**

The Salt River Visitor Center is currently closed until further notice. Well Tower is currently open to the public from sunrise to sunset.

#### **Are There Public Use Limits?**

The public use limits listed below are in addition to public use limits adopted by the Superintendent pursuant to other provisions in Chapter 1 of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (e.g., Section 4.30):

##### **1. All St. Croix National Park Units**

- **SHUTTLES AND BUSES.** Public/Shuttles/Buses must shut down their engines when not underway; idling must not exceed five (5) minutes; buses are allowed to idle up to five (5) minutes to allow the

driver to complete their legally required pre-trip vehicle inspection. Buses over 45 feet in length and 102 inches in width are prohibited on park roads. *The purpose of this restriction is to reduce public exposure to exhaust, particulate matter and other hazardous or toxic air contaminants by limiting the idling of buses, trucks and motor vehicles. In addition, this restriction eliminates noise from idling vehicles when parked in or adjacent to residential areas or natural settings located throughout the Park.*

- **AGE AND CHAPTERONES.** Persons **16** years old and under must be accompanied by an adult while visiting any of these parks. *A minimum age requirement is necessary to ensure that adult authorization is available in case of injury, and to insure proper adult supervision is available to children for their safety and the protection of resources.*
- **PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.** Disorderly persons or groups may be removed from any site and prevented from returning to all sites on the day they are removed. Any behavior that interferes with or causes a disturbance to park operations is prohibited. Sitting or standing upon the railings of any walkway, stairway, seawall, dock, viewpoint, or museum area is prohibited. Climbing on the cannon or other historical pieces or structures is prohibited. Climbing over, under, or around railings, gates, doors, stanchions and lines, barricades or other physical barriers used to control public access is prohibited. Public nudity is prohibited.
- **BALLOON** Balloons shall not be brought, displayed, or released within the National Seashore. Determination: Wildlife (i.e., sea turtles) can mistake accidentally released balloons as food when balloons deflate and appear in park waters. Deflated balloons often result in entanglement or cause choking hazards. Less restrictive measures would not provide sufficient protection to wildlife and threatened and endangered species.
- **VENDING.** Sale of any merchandise, whether it contains a message, is prohibited.
- **HUNTING.** Hunting and trapping are prohibited within all three park boundaries unless authorized by the Superintendent for research, academic or scientific purposes, or to remove invasive species. *Closure of hunting and trapping is for the protection of the visitor and wildlife, and in keeping with the legislated purpose of the park.*
- **BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES.** The buildings at the Sion Farm complex, including the maintenance facility and park residences, are not designed for use by the general public. There may be safety and security concerns if the general public were to have access to these areas.
- **KITES.** Launching or flying a kite from any other portion of the park is prohibited, except by a special use permit. Restrictions on kites are necessary to prevent damage to the historic masonry fabric and to ensure the safety of the other visitors.
  - Prohibition of flying kites and other devices over the structures. Never may any kite or unmanned aircraft device be flown, so that it is over the Park's structures, or so that if it were to lose altitude, it would land inside or on the structures. Visitors and the historic structure could be at risk of injury or damage if the device was to land inside or on the forts.
- **REMOTE CONTROL VEHICLES.** The Christiansted National Historic Site/ Buck Island Reef National Monument/ Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve are closed to the use of motorized, remote/radio-controlled gliders or model vehicles. The park is closed to aircraft of any type. Parachute landing is not permitted. Flying remote model airplanes and cars is prohibited in the park. *The prohibited use of motorized, remote/radio-controlled devices is for the safety of all visitors and wildlife 36 CFR 2.17.*
- **UNMANNED AIRCRAFT (UAS).** Launching, landing, or operating an uncrewed or remotely piloted aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of Christiansted National Historic Site/ Buck Island Reef National Monument/ Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent

- Determination: While park managers understand the benefits of limited use of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) for research, for administrative use, and to provide for the public’s safety and welfare, the closures implemented are necessary to maintain public health and safety and to protect park resources and values until the NPS can determine whether specific uses of unmanned aircraft on lands and waters administered by the NPS are appropriate and will not cause unacceptable impacts on park resources and values.
- *This restriction is necessary to prevent unacceptable impacts to park resources and values from the use of uncrewed aircraft. Potential impacts include disturbing visitors, creating public safety risks, disturbing wildlife, interfering with park operations, causing excessive noise, and impacting view sheds.”*
- **ELECTRIC POWERED MOBILITY ASSISTANCE DEVICES (EPMAD, e.g., Segway’s)** are restricted as follows: All trails, paths, sidewalks, paved or hardened paths, walkways and sea walls are closed to any device that constitutes an EPMAD. EPMADs may be used only on Park roads, in parking areas, and on routes designated as open to motor vehicles.
  - No person under 16 years of age may operate an EPMAD without adult supervision
  - A person shall operate an EPMAD in a safe and responsible manner with a maximum speed not exceeding more than 12 miles per hour so as not to endanger oneself or other Park visitors.
- **ELECTRIC BIKES (E-BIKES).** The following conditions apply to the use and operation of E-bikes in the Park:
  - The term “e-bike” means a two- or three-wheeled cycle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts (1 hp).
  - E-bikes are prohibited in Christiansted National Historic Site, except where use of motor vehicles by the public are allowed. Using the electric motor to move an e-bike without pedaling is prohibited.
  - A person operating an e-bike is subject to the following sections of 36 CFR part 4 that apply to the use of traditional bicycles: sections 4.12, 4.13, 4.20, 4.21, 4.22, 4.23, and 4.30(h)(2)-(5).
  - Except as specified in this Compendium, the use of an e-bike within Christiansted National Historic Site is governed by Territorial law, which is adopted and made a part of this Compendium. Any violation of State law adopted by this paragraph is prohibited.

## 2. Christiansted National Historical Site (CHRI)

- **PARKING.** The parking lot at Fort Christiansvaern is open from 7 days a week (except Thanksgiving and Christmas), 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Parking along the Customs House (east) side of Hospital Street are for authorized vehicles by permit only. The Guinea Company Warehouse parking area on the western side of Hospital Street is restricted to authorized personnel from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Scale House Access Loop is designated as an active drop-off and pick-up zone only. All vehicles parked need to turn off the ignition; no keys will be left in the ignition. Drivers are responsible for locking their vehicles. Children will not be left alone inside the vehicles. Pets will not be left alone inside the vehicles. All drivers and vehicles must meet all the requirements of the VI Code and must carry a valid driver's license and registration in the vehicle. The National Park Service is not responsible for damages to property or personal belongings left inside the car. All drivers must obey the observed speed limit in the area (5 mph) or otherwise posted.
- **AGE AND CHAPERONES.** All school or youth groups, excluding college groups, shall be accompanied by a minimum of **one chaperon for every 10 students** during the group’s visit. Chaperons must be a minimum of eighteen years of age and designated by the school or sponsoring organization. Students found without their chaperon may be removed from the site. *A minimum age requirement is necessary to ensure that adult authorization is available in case of injury, and to insure proper adult supervision is available to children for their safety and the protection of resources.*

- **PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.** It is prohibited to sit, stand upon, or climb any ledge, wall, refuse receptacle, tree, exhibit, statue and/or flagpole. Sleeping on top or cross benches, tables and on the bandstand floor, staircases or walkways is prohibited.
- **DOCKING.** The dock at Christiansted National Historic Site is closed to any mooring or docking except when a special use permit exists and/or during emergency circumstances.
- **BICYCLES.** Bicycles and unicycles are permitted on the park's paved roadways and parking areas in accordance with U.S. Virgin Island code. The riding of a bicycle on park trails, sidewalks, grounds, and unpaved roads is prohibited. The bicycle may be pushed (not ridden) in these areas.
- Use of the Bandstand by a group of 25 or more people will require a Special Use Permit. Please email [CHRI\\_Events@nps.gov](mailto:CHRI_Events@nps.gov) for more information and permit applications.
- **MEMORIALIZATION.** The scattering of human ashes from cremation is prohibited at Christiansted National Historic Site.

### 3. Buck Island Reef National Monument (BUIS)

- **RESOURCE PROTECTION.** Buck Island Reef National Monument has been designated as a critical habitat for seven (7) species of threatened species of coral, including Elkhorn and Staghorn corals. The waters and bottom north of Buck Island are designated as non-recreational, and as a hazardous zone for these threatened and endangered coral species. The lands of Buck Island are designated critical habitat for the globally endangered St. Croix Ground Lizard (*Ameiva polops*) and is critical nesting habitat for four endangered sea turtle species, including hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), for least terns (*Sternula antillarum*), and other bird species. *The new draft General Management Plan has designated the north side of Buck Island Reef National Monument as a non-recreational area and is listed as hazardous zone for these threatened coral species.*
- **AGE AND CHAPERONES.** All school or youth groups, excluding college groups, shall be accompanied by a minimum of **one chaperon for every 5 students** during the group's visit. Chaperons must be a minimum of eighteen years of age and designated by the school or sponsoring organization. Students found without their chaperon may be removed from the site. *A minimum age requirement is necessary to ensure that adult authorization is available in case of injury, and to insure proper adult supervision is available to children for their safety and the protection of resources.*
- **ANCHORING.** Anchoring is allowed only within the designated anchoring area at Buck Island; see map at the end of this document. An anchoring permit is required. Please email [CHRI\\_Permits@nps.gov](mailto:CHRI_Permits@nps.gov) to receive a permit application. No overnight anchoring is allowed.
- **ALLOWED ACTIVITIES.** The following activities allowed:
  - Paddle boarding
  - Boogie boarding
  - Kayaks
- **PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.** The following activities are prohibited in the interest of protection of the resources:
  - Jet skiing, use of personal watercrafts (PWCs), parasailing, kite surfing, wind surfing, surf boarding, wake boarding, water skiing, and any dragging or pulling of tubes, boards, or inflatable items/toys by motorized vessel.
  - Chumming, placing preserve, fish eggs, fish roe, food, meat, and/or fish parts into the water.
  - Beaching of vessels
  - Rafting of vessels
  - Balloons, except by special use permit
  - Kites, except by special use permit
  - Poles, stakes, and umbrellas may not be inserted into the beach sand.
  - The use of motorized (fuel power) equipment, unless authorized by the Superintendent
  - Artificial lights on the beach are prohibited during closed hours.
  - Glass bottles or glass containers are prohibited at BUIS. *Determining Factors: This regulation provides for a safe visitor experience and minimizes the risk of injury.*

- Nudity is prohibited at BUIS. *Determining Factors: Public nudity is not conducive to the varying ages of our Park visitors and cultural norms of the island.*
- **MOORING.** The following restrictions are in place for mooring:
  - Setting of anchors is prohibited while on NPS moorings. *Determining Factors: The moorings were installed to eliminate the use of anchors for the protection of the underwater resources and to prevent damage to the mooring system.*
  - NPS moorings must be vacated when winds of 40 miles per hour, or greater, are forecasted for the area. *Determining Factors: To protect the mooring system, vessels using the moorings during a tropical storm adds to the weight and pull on the mooring system weakening and/or damaging the mooring.*
  - NPS moorings shall not be modified by any user. *Determining Factors: The moorings were installed for the purpose of eliminating the use of anchors for the protection of the underwater resources.*
- **PETS.** Pets are allowed only on vessels and must be attended at all times. Pets and other animals are prohibited on Buck Island, both on land and in the water.
- **INTERPRETATION AND GUIDING.** Guide operations are prohibited unless authorized by the superintendent.
- **TRAILS.** Trails are designed for foot travel only and for access to interpretive areas. Bicycles or other wheeled recreational traffic on foot trails pose a serious threat to the safety of walkers and are prohibited. The slopes, narrow trail sections and curves are especially hazardous.
- **VESSEL DISTANCING AND RAFTING.** Any vessels within one hundred feet (100') of the west beach anchoring area shoreline may not "raft" or tie/attach to one another by means of line or any other means. Vessels at anchor must maintain a minimum distance of twelve feet (12') from any other vessel. The only exception to this rule is when such vessel is tied or "rafted" to an unoccupied dingy or lifeboat.
- No more than two (2) vessels may "raft" or tie/attach to one another by means of line or any other means. Such groups of "rafted" or tied vessels must be at least one hundred and fifty feet (150) away from the west beach shoreline. Such groups of rafted or tied vessels must maintain fifty feet (50') separation from other individual vessels within the entire anchoring area of Buck Island Reef National Monument. For this purpose, tied or rafted" vessels are vessels whose proximity to each other and/or the group of "rafted" vessels is five feet (5') or less in distance.

#### **4. Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve (SARI)**

- The Salt River Visitor Center is currently closed until further notice.

### **What Park Areas Are Closed To The Public?**

#### **1. All St. Croix National Park Units**

- During emergency conditions, all three parks or affected park areas may be closed temporarily by the Superintendent or his/her designee without prior public notice. This includes any closure required for prescribed fire or other park operations that could impact visitor safety. *Determining Factors: Visitor safety is paramount. Christiansted National Historic Site/ Buck Island Reef National Monument/ Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve will take precautionary steps to provide for a safe visitor experience and to prevent foreseeable accidents and/or injuries. Closures of his nature, although temporary, may last for an extended period of time. Any permanent closures will go through the required public notice process.*
- Areas of new construction, reconstruction, repair, and maintenance within the Christiansted National Historic Site/Buck Island Reef National Monument/Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve will be closed to public access based on threats to public safety presented by the type of work to be done and equipment in use. Areas closed to all public access will be posted with

appropriate signage. *Determining Factors: Areas of new construction and reconstruction or rehabilitation may be closed to visitors for safety reasons and to avoid unreasonable conflict with authorized work.*

- Periodic closures of certain park areas may be required during park-sponsored special events. *Determining Factors: To provide for public safety and avoidance of conflicts among visitor use activities, periodic closures will be implemented by the Superintendent and/or her designee.*
- Bicycles are permitted on the park's paved roadways and parking areas in accordance with U.S. Virgin Island code. The riding of a bicycle on park trails, sidewalks, grounds, and unpaved roads is prohibited. The bicycle may be pushed (not ridden) in these areas.

## **2. Christiansted National Historical Site (CHRI)**

- Since all areas of the park are important in preserving the park's historic integrity and in interpreting its historical significance, certain portions of the park grounds are closed to recreational uses. *The park area does not contain any facilities which are normally used at night. It is therefore believed that no legitimate public activity would be prevented by closing the park at night and would help eliminate criminal activity.*
- The Steeple Building is closed to the public until further notice. *The Steeple Building is closed to the public due to concerns regarding the structure's stability.*

## **3. Buck Island Reef National Monument (BUIIS)**

- Buck Island and its facilities are closed year-round 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.
- The Underwater trail and Marine Garden are closed year-round 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.
- The Lagoon is closed to rafting due to safety and liability potentials related to two or more vessels being attached to the same mooring. Moorings are restricted to one per vessel.
- The Lagoon is closed to vessels 42 feet or larger due to hazards and safety issues. Large vessels traversing in shallow waters have a greater potential for grounding that could result in damages to natural resources and personal property.
- Anchoring in the Marine Garden not allowed. Only mooring is allowed.
- Rafting of any vessels in the Marine Garden is not allowed.
- The Marine Garden and the underwater trail are closed to vessels 42 or more in size, in the interest of protecting the resources.
- Anchoring Area is closed to all vessels 91 feet and larger, in the interest of protection of the resources. *Determining Factors: Anchoring is restricted for the protection of seagrasses and corals.*
- Vessels larger than 91 feet must anchor in deeper locations authorized by the NPS.
- Overnight anchoring is prohibited.
- The Underwater trail is closed to SCUBA diving.
- Buck Island Reef lands are closed to motorized vehicles and other type of motorized equipment, with the exception for administrative use only.

## **4. Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve (SARI)**

- The Salt River Visitor Center is currently closed until further notice.

### **Special Use or Activity**

**36 CFR § 1.5(a)(2) The following areas have been designated for a specific use or activity, or have been imposed conditions or restriction on a use or activity:**

## 1. All St. Croix National Park Units

- Filming, still photography, and audio recording activity may require a permit, consistent with 54 U.S.C. 100905.
  - Filming, still photography, and audio recording activity that occurs in closed areas, requires exclusive use of a site or area, or involves a set or staging equipment other than handheld equipment (such as a tripod, monopod, and handheld lighting equipment) requires a permit, unless the activity is affiliated with an activity or event that has been allowed under a written authorization, such as a special use permit.
  - Filming, still photography, and audio recording that involves more than eight individuals requires a permit, unless the NPS has specifically notified an individual or group that a permit is not required, or if the activity is affiliated with an activity or event that has been allowed under a written authorization, such as a special use permit.
  - If a permit is required for the reasons stated above, or if the NPS otherwise determines and then notifies an individual or group that a permit is required for a filming, still photography, or audio recording activity, then engaging in that activity without a permit is prohibited. Violating a term or condition of a permit issued by the NPS for a filming, still photography, or audio recording activity is prohibited, and may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit, in addition to any penalties that may apply under 36 CFR 1.3.

*Federal law at 54 U.S.C. 100905 states that permits and fees are not required for filming, still photography, or audio recording in park areas if certain requirements are met. These requirements address various topics, including, but not limited to, group size, location, equipment, potential impacts to resources and visitors, and the likelihood that the NPS will incur related administrative costs. If any of these requirements are not met, the law allows the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the NPS, to require a permit for the subject activity. Permit requirements are imposed by the superintendent under discretionary authority provided by 36 CFR 1.5(a)(2), which allows the superintendent to impose conditions or restrictions on a use or activity, consistent with applicable legislation, to implement management responsibilities. The general regulations for permits in 36 CFR 1.6 do not apply to permits issued for filming, still photography, and audio recording, which instead are governed by the statutory provisions in 54 U.S.C. 100905. The imposition of permit requirements, on a case-by-case basis, for filming, still photography, or audio recording does not require rulemaking under 36 CFR 1.5(b). Requiring a permit with reasonable terms and conditions in accordance with statutory requirements at 54 U.S.C. 100905 is not highly controversial, will not result in a significant alteration in the public use pattern of the System unit, will not adversely affect the System unit's natural, aesthetic, scenic or cultural values, or require a long-term or significant modification in the resource management objectives of the System unit, because the permit requirement is limited in time and scope to the specific activities authorized by the permit, which contain terms and conditions that protect the values, resources, and visitors of the System unit, and implements federal law.*

### Filming, Still Photography, and Audio Recording

- In most cases, permits and fees are not required for filming, still photography, or audio recording that involves eight or fewer individuals. In order to avoid permit and fee requirements, the filming, still photography, or audio recording must meet all of the following conditions:
  - Occurs in areas open to the public;
  - Uses hand-carried equipment only;

- Does not require exclusive use of a site;
  - Does not adversely impact park resources, values, or other visitors; and
  - Is not likely to result in additional administrative costs for the National Park Service
- Filming activities must not violate applicable laws, such as the Endangered Species Act, the Archeological Resources Protection Act, or the Wilderness Act. All filming must comply with laws protecting the NPS's intellectual property, such as laws and regulations governing the use of the NPS Arrowhead and images of NPS employees.
- The NPS will consider requests and process permit applications in a timely manner.
- Violating a term and condition of a permit issued under this action.
  - Violating a term or condition of a permit issued under to this action may also result in the suspension and revocation of the permit by the Superintendent.
  - Permission to film or videotape within park buildings may only be granted by the Superintendent when:
    - The activity has a meaningful and accurate association with the historic resource or the production would contribute to the public understanding and appreciation of the historic resource.
    - Filming in all buildings within the Park must take place during those times the buildings are closed to public visitation.
- The collection of an admission fee to participate in permitted filming, still photography, and audio recording activities within the buildings of the Park is strictly prohibited.
- Although requests for on camera interviews with park staff remain under the discretion of the Superintendent, the NPS will not allow, or issue permits where NPS staff participate in what is commonly labeled "reality TV". (Policy Memorandum 15-02). A permit is required for on camera interviews with park staff.

## **2. Christiansted National Historical Site (CHRI)**

- Historic Weapons Firing Demonstrations
  - Historic weapons firing demonstrations are regulated by RM-6/Director's Order #6. *Restricting and placing limits is a requirement of the National Park Service Historic Weapons Program, Black Powder Storage and Handling, Range Safety, and Weapons Storage.*
- Living History Demonstration area
  - Living history demonstrations are limited to the open areas of Christiansted National Historic Site or as designated by the Superintendent. *Protection of natural or cultural resources requires that impacts to the historic area by encampments are managed and/or minimized when possible.*

## **3. Buck Island Reef National Monument (BUIIS)**

- None applicable.

#### **4. Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve (SARI)**

- None applicable.

## 36 CFR §1.6 – Permits

**(a) When authorized by regulations set forth in this chapter, the superintendent may issue a permit to authorize an otherwise prohibited or restricted activity or impose a public use limit.**

**(f) The following is a compilation of those activities for which a permit from the superintendent is required.** Permit applications may be obtained by contacting the park at 340.773.1460, emailing [chri\\_events@nps.gov](mailto:chri_events@nps.gov), or by visiting the park websites:  
<https://www.nps.gov/chri>  
<https://www.nps.gov/buis>  
<https://www.nps.gov/sari>

- §1.5(d) The following activities related to Public Use Limits:
  - Picnic area use – 36 CFR 2.50 Weddings
  - Camping 36 CFR 2.10
  - Collecting (research specimens)
  - Horses and Pack Animals 36 CFR 2.16
  - Aircraft and Air Delivery 36 CFR 2.17
  - Noncommercial soliciting 36 CFR 2.37
  - Explosives – Fireworks 36 CFR 2.38
  - Special Events (includes Wedding Ceremonies) 36 CFR 2.50
  - Public Assemblies (25 persons or greater) 36 CFR 2.51
  - Sale or distribution of printed matter (First Amendment exemptions) 36 CFR 2.52
  - Memorialization/Scattering of Human Ashes 36 CFR 2.62
  - Display of commercial notices or ads 36 CFR 5.1
  - Business Operations 36 CFR 5.3
  - Guided tours not sponsored by the NPS
  - Any construction on Federal Property 36 CFR 5.7
- §1.6(f) Activities that require a permit:  
Some filming, still photography, and audio recording (depends upon the facts and circumstances; contact the park for more information). 36 CFR 1.5(a)(2) and 54 U.S.C. 100905.
- §2.4(d) Carry or possess a weapon, trap, or net is otherwise not authorized.
- §2.5(a) Taking plants, fish, wildlife, rocks or minerals for specimen collection.
- §2.10(a) The following camping activities:
  - Living history encampments are limited to the open area of Christiansted grounds and as designated by Superintendent to support interpretive programs/events.
- §2.12 Audio Disturbances:
  - (a)(2) Operating a chain saw in developed areas
  - (a)(3) Operation of any type of portable motor or engine, or device powered by a portable motor or engine in non-developed areas
  - (a)(4) Operation of a public address system in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §2.50 or §2.51
  - Power saws are prohibited in the park except those in use by employees or contractors working for the park.
  - Audio devices that exceed the noise level of 60 decibels measured on the A-weighted scale at 50 feet are not permitted or if interferes with the purpose for which the park was established or impacts other park users.
- §2.17 Aircraft & Air Delivery:
  - (a)(3) Delivery or retrieval of a person or object by parachute, helicopter or other airborne means
  - (c)(1) Removal of a downed aircraft
- §2.23(b) The following special recreation activities (per 36 CFR Part 71):
  - Fishing interpretive program
  - Organized Athletic Events

- §2.37 Soliciting or demanding gifts, money goods or services (Pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit issued under §2.50, §2.51 or §2.52)
- §2.38 Explosives:
  - Use, possess, store, transport explosives, blasting agents
  - Use or possess fireworks
- §2.50(a) Conduct a sports event, pageant, regatta, public spectator attraction, entertainment, ceremony, and similar events
- §2.51(a) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views
- §2.52(c) Sale or distribution of printer matter that is not solely commercial advertising
- §2.60(b) Livestock and agricultural use
- §2.61(a) Residing on federal lands
- §2.62 Memorialization:
  - Erection of monuments (Requires approval from Regional Director)
  - Scattering ashes from human cremation
- §3.3 Use of a vessel
- §3.12 Using a vessel to tow a parasail, hang-glider, or other airborne device
- §3.19 Use of manned or unmanned submersibles
- §4.11(a) Exceeding of established vehicle load, weight and size limits
- §5.1 Advertisements - (Display, posting or distribution.)
- §5.3 Engaging in or soliciting any business (Requires a permit, contract or other written agreement with the United States, or must be pursuant to special regulations).
- §5.4(a) Commercial transportation of passengers by motor vehicles.
- 
- §5.6(c) Use of commercial vehicles on park area roads
- §5.7 Construction of buildings, facilities, trails, roads, boat docks, path, structure, etc.
- §6.9(a) Operation of a solid waste disposal site

**Christiansted National Historical Site (CHRI)**

- Use of the park grounds by a group of 25 or more people will require a Special Use Permit.

**Buck Island Reef National Monument (BUIS)**

- The use of a mooring and anchoring a vessel requires an Anchoring Permit.
- The use of the pier is restricted to the public for loading and offloading/unloading only.

**Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve (SARI)**

- None applicable.

**PART II. GENERAL REGULATIONS – RESOURCE PROTECTION, PUBLIC USE, AND RECREATION.**

**36 CFR §2.1 – Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and Archeological Resources**

**1. All St. Croix National Park Units**

- (a)(1-6) Possessing, destroying, injuring, defacing, removing, digging, or disturbing any natural or cultural**

**object, flora or fauna, or any archeological site or artifact is strictly prohibited.**

**(a)(5) The following conditions are in effect for walking, climbing, entering, ascending or traversing the listed archeological or cultural resource, monuments or statues:**

- Possessing, destroying, injuring, defacing, removing, digging or disturbing living or dead wildlife, fish, plants, paleontological specimens, cultural resources, archeological resources, mineral resources, or any of the parts or products thereof, is prohibited.
- Introducing wildlife, fish or plants into park area ecosystems is prohibited.

**(a)(7) Possessing or using a mineral or metal detector, magnetometer, side scan sonar, other metal detecting device, or sub- bottom profiler is strictly prohibited.**

- Official NPS archeological research is exempt from the prohibition of using the above-mentioned detector devices.

(b) Hiking or pedestrian traffic is restricted to the trail or walkway as listed in Section 1.5 of this document. Pedestrians are permitted to be off trails and pavement in mowed lawn areas only.

*Determining factors: Some areas require protection of irreplaceable cultural resources. In addition, these areas provide vital habitat for federally listed species, other terrestrial species, marine mammals, and other sea life. The vegetated areas contain native that is sensitive to trampling from shortcutting and human-induced erosion.*

*Requiring all pedestrian traffic to remain on designated trails will protect the natural resources from their impacts, protect archeological resources, ensure historical integrity throughout the park, and protect visitors from environmental dangers such as red fire ants which are all of which are common in the park.*

## **36 CFR §2.2 – Wildlife Protection**

### **1. All St. Croix National Park Units**

- (b) Hunting and trapping is prohibited on Christiansted National Historic Site/ Buck Island Reef National Monument/ Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve, unless authorized by the Superintendent for research, academic or scientific purposes, or to remove invasive species.

### **2. Buck Island Reef National Monument**

- All extractive uses are prohibited within the boundaries of Buck Island Reef National Monument, including but not limited to harvest or collection (on the land or in the water) of fish for any use, marine mammals, coastal migratory pelagic fish, baitfish, lobsters, conch, whelk, hermit crabs (soldier crabs), seashells, corals, dead coral, sea fans, sponges and all associated reef invertebrates, plants, fruits and seeds, firewood, driftwood, rocks, sand, gas, oil, and minerals.

*Determining factors: All in accordance with requirements enumerated in 36 CFR § 7.73 Buck Island Reef National Monument.*

## **36 CFR §2.3 – Fishing**

### **1. Christiansted National Historic Site**

- Fishing is permitted from the pier/bulkhead (King's Wharf only) without a permit.

### **2. Buck Island Reef National Monument**

- All forms of fishing are prohibited including, but not limited to, spearfishing, rod and reel, nets, gill or

trammel, traps or pots, snares, hooks, poison, cast nets, trawl, seine, and long-line.

- The use or possession of any type of fishing equipment or any of the items listed in the paragraph above in this section is prohibited within the boundaries of the Monument.
- All extractive uses are prohibited within the boundaries of the Monument, including but not limited to harvest or collection (on the land or in the water) of fish for any use, marine mammals, coastal migratory pelagic fish, baitfish, lobsters, conch, whelk, hermit crabs (soldier crabs), seashells, corals, dead coral, sea fans, sponges and all associated reef invertebrates, plants, fruits and seeds, firewood, driftwood, rocks, sand, gas, oil, and minerals. All in accordance with requirements enumerated in 36 CFR § 7.73 Buck Island Reef National Monument.

### 3. Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve

- None applicable.

### 36 CFR §2.4 – Weapons, Traps, and Nets

**(a)(2)(i) Weapons, traps, or nets may only be carried, possessed, or used at the following designated times and locations:**

- Possessing a trap or net in all three parks is prohibited except for employees in performance of their duties or researchers who are park authorized.
- Black powder weapons utilized by authorized individuals for interpretive, living history and re-enactment purposes are allowed after inspection by park black powder safety officer.
- BB Guns, slingshots, bows, blow guns, air guns, stun gun, swords, etc. or other deadly weapon as defined in Virgin Islands General Statutes are prohibited from use within the park unless part of an approved historic weapons interpretive demonstration.
- Section 512 of the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009, P.L.11 1-24, 123 Stat. 1764-65, allows persons to possess firearms while in units of the National Park and National Wildlife Refuge Systems if they are in compliance with applicable federal and state law. Specifically, Section 512(b) states:
- The Secretary of the Interior shall not promulgate or enforce any regulation that prohibits an individual from possessing a firearm including an assembled or functional firearm in any unit of the National Park System or the National Wildlife Refuge System if
  - 1) The individual is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing the firearm: and
  - 2) The possession of the firearm is in compliance with the law of the State in which the unit of the National Park System or the National Wildlife Refuge System is located.

### **Warning: Firearms Prohibited in Federal Facilities**

- As of February 22, 2010, a new federal law makes possession of firearms in national parks subject to local and state firearms laws. It is the responsibility of visitors to understand and comply with all applicable state, local, and federal firearms laws before entering this park Federal law prohibits the possession of a firearm or other dangerous weapon in Federal facilities unless specifically authorized. 18 USC § 930(a) possession violations are subject to fine and/or imprisonment up to one year, while 18 USC § 930(b) possession violations with intent to commit a crime are punishable by a fine and imprisonment up to five years. Federal law continues to prohibit firearms in all federal facilities in this park Those federal facilities are marked with signs at public entrances.
  - “Facilities” covered under this provision include the Visitor Center, Administration Building, Maintenance Building and Fortifications.
  - Possession, use, and storage of privately-owned ammunition, firearms, destructive devices, and prohibited weapons, need to follow established procedures under 18 U.S.C. § 930, 14 V.I.C. 113 §§ 2251-2258, and 23 V.I.C. §§ 451-489a.
  - Historic Weapons (Black Powder) used for interpretation purposes only, may be stored, transported, cleaned, prepared and displayed in park facilities.

### **36 CFR §2.10 – Camping**

- Living history encampments are limited to the open area of Christiansted grounds and as designated by Superintendent to support interpretive programs/events.

### **36 CFR §2.11 – Picnicking**

- Certain areas have been closed to picnicking and are listed in section 1.5(a)(1) “Closures”.
- Visitors must remove all garbage from picnicking site after use. Littering and dumping is prohibited. Picnicking is prohibited inside Fort Christiansvaern, parking areas, and closed areas. Picnicking on the grounds of CHRI is allowed subject to the following restrictions:
  - Only incidental, i.e., in conjunction with a visit to the park, picnicking is allowed.
  - The setting up of tables, loudspeakers, chairs, etc. in conjunction with picnicking is prohibited. Maximum dimensions of tents are 12 feet x 12 feet. Tent stakes are not allowed, unless authorized by the Superintendent.
  - Picnicking in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to § 2.50 or § 2.51 is allowed.
- The use of BBQs, boiling devices, charcoal fires, propane stoves, and any other solid fuel burners is prohibited, unless authorized by the Superintendent.
- For the Sion Farm Residential area: Picnicking by park residents is allowed within the confines of their yards. The use of BBQs, boiling devices, charcoal fires, propane stoves, and any other solid fuel burners are also allowed within the confines of their yards at the Sion Farm residential area.

### **36 CFR § 2.12 – Audio Disturbances**

#### **(a) The following are prohibited:**

#### **1. All St. Croix National Park Units**

- A device or instrument that creates or amplifies sound, including but not limited to any loudspeaker, bullhorn, amplifier, public address system, musical instrument, radio or device that plays recorded music, to generate any sound, for the purpose of communication or entertainment, that is louder than average conversational level at a distance of 100 feet or more, measured vertically or horizontally, from the source is considered unreasonable.
- In developed areas, operating a power saw, except pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit.
- In non-developed areas, operating any type of portable motor or engine, or device powered by a portable motor or engine, except pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit. This paragraph does not apply to vessels in areas where motor boating is allowed.
- Operating a public address system, except in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to § 2.50 or § 2.51.
  - Violation of the terms and conditions of a permit issued in accordance with section is prohibited and may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit.

### **36 CFR § 2.13 – Conditions on Lighting or Maintaining a Fire**

- A fire may be ignited and maintained only by using fuel sources designed and commonly used for warmth or the preparation of food, such as charcoal briquettes or natural firewood. Lighting or maintaining a fire with other materials including, but not limited to, flammable liquids, garbage, fireworks, plastics, aerosol canisters, batteries, or other manufactured or synthetic materials, is prohibited.

*This action is necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, and the implementation of management responsibilities. Materials other than approved combustibles – especially fire accelerants and substances*

*prone to wind transport or explosion – creates serious risks when used to light or maintain fires. These combustibles can ignite or spread wildfires that directly threaten people and valuable resources and assets. The burning of manufactured or synthetic materials can contribute to air pollution, contaminate soil and water, and be toxic to humans and the environment. Less restrictive measures, such as an education campaign informing visitors of the risks of using certain materials to light or maintain a fire, would not be commensurate with the substantial risks associated with those activities and could lead to adverse outcomes that might be prevented by establishing an enforceable condition.” an enforceable condition.*

## **1. All St. Croix National Park Units**

- The lighting or maintaining of fires is prohibited, except as designated below. There are no areas designated as fire sites in the interest of fire safety and prevention, and to keep grounds maintenance costs to a minimum.

## **2. Buck Island Reef National Monument**

- Fires are prohibited except in designated BBQ grills. Grills are subject to closure during drought or dangerous conditions.

## **36 CFR §2.14 – Sanitation and Refuse**

**(a)(2) The use of government refuse receptacles or facilities for dumping household, commercial or industrial refuse, brought as such from private or municipal property is allowed under the following conditions:**

- (a)(1) Depositing refuse in other than a refuse receptacle is prohibited.
- (a)(2) Disposal of household waste, commercial or industrial waste or building materials at any location in the park is prohibited, no person shall leave, deposit, dump, throw, cast, lay or place, or cause to be deposited, dumped, thrown, cast, laid, or place any ashes, trash, rubbish, soil, earth, paper, garbage, refuse, debris, plant clippings, limbs or leaves in or upon any park areas or in any watercourse within any park areas.
- (a)(3) Disposal of recycle material (cardboard, plastic, paper, glass) is permitted in the park-provided recycle receptacle.

## **36 CFR §2.15 – Pets**

**(a)(1) The following structures and/or areas are closed to the possession of pets:**

- In order to avert health risks and inappropriate contact between pets and visitors, pets are not permitted in public buildings other than Use of Service Animals.
- During special events and public programs, pets may be restricted from the Living History demonstration area.
- All pets must be restrained on a leash with a maximum length of 6 feet while on park property. *Pets that are not on leash result in safety concerns for visitors and animals.*

Note: Guidance on service animals can be found in DO-42 and the Director’s memo dated 9/5/02 and titled “Use of Service Animals by Persons with Disabilities in the National Park System.”

*Determining factor: Pets may cause problems including biting other visitors, fighting with other animals, defecating and urinating in public areas, and barking or howling during interpretive demonstrations.*

**(a)(3) Leaving a pet unattended and/or tied to an object is prohibited.**

- Pets found unattended will be subject to confinement by local animal shelter.

**(a)(5) Pet excrement must be disposed of in accordance with the following conditions:**

- No individual will allow a pet under their control to defecate upon sidewalks, streets, beaches, or land owned by the NPS without immediately and permanently removing the excrement.

*Determining factor: Pet excrement is malodorous, unsightly, and unsanitary. It is unreasonable for other visitors to be exposed in close proximity to pet excrement.*

**(d) The park does not have facilities to provide boarding for pets found running-at-large, as provided by 36 CFR. The staff will dispose of pets as noted in this Compendium. Every effort will be made to notify the owner of pets identified through tags and collars.**

**(e) Pets may be kept by park residents.**

- Persons residing in government quarters may keep pets in accordance with the CHRI Housing Management Plan.

### **Use of Service Animals (Policy Memorandum 18-02)**

Feedback from parks indicates an increasing concern about the fraudulent representation of pets as service animals. A service animal means any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Although the DOJ definition of service animal only refers to a dog, the NPS must make reasonable modifications to policies, practices, or procedures to permit the use of a miniature horse by a person with a disability if the miniature horse has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the individual with a disability.

The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual's disability. Some of the many examples of work or tasks performed may include:

- assisting individuals who are blind with navigation and other tasks;
- alerting individuals who are deaf to the presence of people or sounds;
- pulling a wheelchair;
- alerting individuals to the presence of allergens or the onset of a seizure;
- retrieving items;
- providing physical support and assistance to individuals with mobility disabilities;
- helping persons manage psychiatric and neurological disabilities.

When it is not obvious that a dog is a service animal, NPS staff may ask only two questions to identify whether the animal is a service animal:

- Is the animal required because of a disability? and
- What work or tasks has the animal been trained to perform?

NPS staff may not:

- ask a person about the nature and extent of their disabilities;
- require a person to show medical documentation or other proof of disability;
- require a person to provide certification or documentation for the service animal;
- ask that a service animal demonstrate its ability to perform the work or task;
- require a permit to bring a service animal into a park; or
- require that service animals wear identifiers such as vests, special collars, or harnesses.

## **36 CFR §2.16 – Horses and Pack Animals**

**(a) The use of horses or pack animals is allowed on the following trails, routes or areas:**

### **1. Christiansted National Historic Site**

- The use of horses or pack animals is allowed on park roads and the park demonstration area during Living History programs and special park sponsored events.
- The parking area for parades when approved through a Special Park Uses permit.

### **36 CFR §2.17 – Aircraft and Delivery**

**(c)(1) The removal of a downed aircraft, components, or parts thereof is subject to procedures established by the Superintendent through written authorization.**

### **36 CFR §2.20 – Skating, Skateboards, and Similar Devices**

- The use of roller skates, skateboards, roller skis, coasting vehicles, or similar devices is not allowed.

*Determining factor: The use of skating, skateboards, and similar devices creates a safety hazard for both vehicle traffic as well as pedestrians. They would also detract from the historical integrity of the park. Therefore, there are no designated roller-skating areas.*

### **36 CFR §2.21 – Smoking**

**(a) The following portions of the park, or all or portions of buildings, fortifications, structures or facilities are closed to smoking as noted:**

- Smoking of cigarettes, cigars, use of e-cigarettes and similar devices are prohibited. Smoking is prohibited in the park’s Visitor Center and all Government facilities to include the Fortifications, comfort stations, docks, restrooms, deck areas, nature trail or back country and park vehicles.
- No smoking within 50 feet of any building entrance, monument, exhibit, demonstration area or hazardous material storage areas. To include the above areas and or government facility.
- Cigarette butts or other tobacco products must be disposed of properly- extinguished and put into appropriate receptacles.
- The Government recognizes the right of employees to smoke as long as nonsmokers are protected against involuntary exposure to smoke. Smoking is permitted 50 feet away from doors or windows.

*Determining factor: Smoking is prohibited in all facilities to provide for public health and safety and protection of cultural resources. These restrictions are intended to reduce any possible conflict between users and the harmful effects of second-hand smoke and to protect park structures from fire danger or smoke. This prohibition is consistent with federal law. The use of E-cigarettes is often confused with tobacco products use, and is prohibited to protect the park resources, and/or prevent conflicts among visitor use activities.*

### **36 CFR §2.22 – Property**

#### **(1) Abandoning property.**

- Leaving property unattended, for ANY period, in or near any park building or resource is prohibited.

*Reason for Determination.*

*Unattended property may be considered dangerous or threatening to park resources and visitors’ safety.*

### **36 CFR §2.23 – Recreation Fees**

**(b) Recreation fees, and/or a permit, in accordance with 36 CFR part 71, are established for the following entrance fee areas, and/or for the use of the following specialized sites, facilities, equipment or services, or for participation in the following group activity, recreation events or specialized recreation uses:**

#### **1. All St. Croix National Park Units**

##### ***Fees and Reservations***

Fees are being collected at the Fee Booth at Fort Christiansvaern. The following fee schedule applies:

- Adults (16 +) / Christiansted Fort (Fort Christiansvaern) \$10.00. Children 15 and under are free. An adult must accompany minors at all times.
- Free Access for Veterans and Gold Star Families
- Federal Recreation Annual Pass \$80.00. Valid for Cardholder and 3 additional Adults
- Federal Recreation Lifetime Senior Pass \$80.00. Valid for Cardholder and 3 additional Adults
- Federal Recreation Annual Senior Pass \$20.00. Valid for Cardholder and 3 additional Adults
- Federal Recreation Lifetime Access Pass Free! Valid for Cardholder and 3 additional Adults
- Federal Recreation Volunteer Pass 250 hours or more. Annual Valid for Cardholder and 3 additional Adults
- Parking Fee is \$10.00 Day Use
- Special Park Use. Application fee \$50.00

### **36 CFR §2.35 – Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances**

**(a)(3)(i) The following public use areas, portions of public use areas, and/or public facilities within the park are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or to the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed:**

- **Christiansted National Historic Site** is located within the incorporated limits of Christiansted and the neighborhoods in direct proximity to the park are in an urban populated area. One highly traveled street traverses the park. For this reason, some users may come to park areas for the sole purpose of consuming alcohol. Behavior induced by the consumption of alcoholic beverages may at times destroy the enjoyment of the park by others, detract from the historic fabric and intended purpose of the park, and lead to other criminal activity. This restriction applies to all park units:
  - Beer kegs are not allowed with the boundary of the park.
  - The possession, use, sale, or distribution of any illegal controlled substance is prohibited.
  - The possession, use, sale, or distribution of any legal controlled substance is prohibited unless licensed medical personnel prescribe the use of the substance.
  - Consumption of alcoholic beverages in park buildings, grounds, water and beach areas.
  - Permitted with Special events and functions with the Superintendent’s approval.
  - Permitted in Employee residential areas.
  - At Buck Island Reef National Monument alcohol is prohibited on the premises and must remain on vessels.

*These locations are closed to the consumption of alcohol as it is deemed an inappropriate activity considering the other uses of these areas for educational, administrative, and interpretative activities.*

### **36 CFR §2.37 – Noncommercial Soliciting**

The solicitation or collection of donations is prohibited on park property. Fundraising events may be approved provided that the collection of pledges and donations takes place off-site.

### **36 CFR §2.38 – Explosives**

**(b) Fireworks and firecrackers may be possessed and/or used in the following areas, under the conditions noted:**

#### **1. All St. Croix National Park Units**

- The use of or possession of fireworks within the boundaries of the park is prohibited.

## **Special Park Uses (36 CFR §2.50 – Special Events; 36 CFR §2.51 – Public Assemblies)**

A special park use is defined as an activity that takes place in a park area and that: provides a benefit to an individual, group, or organization rather than the public at large; requires written authorization and some degree of management control from the Service in order to protect park resources and the public interest; is not prohibited by law or regulation; is not initiated, sponsored, or conducted by the Service; and is not managed under a concession contract, a recreation activity for which the NPS charges a fee, or a lease.

Each request to engage in a special park use or to renew authorization of an existing use will be reviewed and evaluated by the Superintendent according to the terms of applicable legislation, regulations, guidelines, and management planning documents, using criteria and procedures outlined in the Special Park Uses Guideline (DO/RM-53). An application for a special use permit will be considered unless:

- The superintendent has granted or will grant a prior application for a permit for the same time and place, and the activities authorized by that permit do not reasonably allow multiple occupancy of that particular area
- It reasonably appears that the event will present a clear and present danger to public health or safety
- The event is of such nature or duration that it cannot reasonably be accommodated in the particular location applied for, considering such things as damage to park resources or facilities, impairment of the area's atmosphere of peace and tranquility, interference with program activities, or impairment of public use facilities
- The activity would constitute a violation of an applicable law or regulation.

The National Park Service will also terminate any activity subsequent to finding that any of the above conditions exist.

With the exception of those permits issued for First Amendment activities, to the extent authorized by applicable legislation, regulations, and policies, the National Park Service will establish and collect appropriate permit fees for special park uses and will seek reimbursement from permit holders for NPS costs incurred in administering the permit, monitoring the activities it authorizes, or for any damage caused by those activities.

### **36 CFR §2.50 – Special Events**

- Special events may be permitted provided there is a meaningful association between the park area and the events, the observance contributes to visitor understanding of the significance of the park area, and a permit has been issued by the Superintendent. A special event may be permitted only if the activity has been judged by the Superintendent not to cause any derogation of the values and purposes for which the park was established, unless directly and specifically authorized by Federal law.
- As well as the criteria listed above, initial or renewal requests to conduct an activity will be denied if the Superintendent determines that the activity will be in derogation of the values and purposes for which the Park was established or will be inconsistent with the Park's enabling legislation.
- All proposals for special events will be evaluated for:
  - consistency with applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies;
  - consistency with the existing plans for public use and resource management;
  - actual and potential effects on park resources and values;
  - total costs to the Service;
  - whether there is a meaningful association between the park area and the events; and,
  - whether the public interest will be served.
- Additionally, when considering requests to hold special events such as parades, meetings, entertainments, exhibitions, fairs, festivals, lectures, conferences, etc. the Superintendent will be guided by CFR 36 Parts 1 and 2, Director's Order #53 and the Management Policies for the National Park Service issued in August 2006.
- The National Park Service will not permit the staging of special events that are conducted primarily for the material or financial benefit of participants, that involve commercialization, advertising, or publicity by

- participants, or for which a separate public admission fee is to be charged.
- Further, the Superintendent will consider the following factors before approving a special event:
  - The effect of the proposed event on resources, operations, and the mission of the park.
  - Park visitation at the time of the proposed event.
  - The location requested
  - Public safety consideration
  - The time of year requested
  - The duration of the proposed event
  - The size (number of participants and/or observers) of the proposed event and associated equipment
  - Other, previously approved events
- The primary concern of the Superintendent is the effect of the proposed event on the cultural and natural resources and the impact on normal visitor operations and the visitor experience. It may be possible to accommodate events at certain locations only before or after the public hours of the building. It may also be necessary to limit the size and/or duration of the proposed event to a small number of participants/observers or a shorter length of time in order not to interfere with public use or threaten the historical and natural resources of the park.
- For special events that will result in significant restrictions or closures of areas normally open to the public, the Regional Director's written concurrence must be obtained before issuing the permit. (Policy Memorandum 16-02)
- Past approval of similar special events by a park will not have a bearing on the approval process. Each request received must be evaluated individually for impacts to park resources and values and compliance with current statutes, regulations and policies. (Policy Memorandum 16-02)

### ***Sponsored Events***

- The Superintendent may designate certain events as park sponsored when Park staff work closely with an event organizer or a park partner(s) or another government agency to create and participate in a public event and when that event has a meaningful connection to the park's historic resources or provides an opportunity for appropriate public use, enjoyment and recreation consistent with the protection of park resources and the mission of the NPS.
- Donor Recognition at Sponsored Events (DO#21, 8.9.1)
  - The NPS may temporarily recognize event sponsors as long as corporate names are not used in a way that would imply or suggest NPS endorsement of a product, service or company, or be construed as commercial solicitation or advertising. Corporate sponsors may be recognized at special events by the limited use of corporate logos and name script on event facilities, signs and in literature. The size, scale, scope and location of corporate logos and name script should not dominate the event facilities or area.
- The Superintendent has established the following criteria to ensure the protection and preservation of the historic and natural resources of the park and to protect the rights of the visitor to enjoy their visit to the park with minimum impact from special events or activities:
  - Most daytime special events will be limited to outdoors. Those events which are permitted inside a public use building during public hours will be limited in duration and must not unduly interfere with visitor use.
  - Scheduled meetings or events will be open to the public insofar as it is practical / consistent with the event.
  - Displays and exhibits must be attended at all times. "Attended" is defined as an agent of the permit holder being in arm's length to the display or exhibit.
  - The permit holder will be responsible for reimbursing the National Park Service for all expenses incurred by the park in the course of the special event. These expenses include but are not limited to the cost of utilities and the cost of park personnel involved with the permit. In addition, fees may be charged for the use of a facility based on current NPS management policy.
  - The permit holder may be required to provide proof of insurance, naming the United States of America as an additional insured, or to secure a performance bond based on the nature of the event, the

- complexity of the event, the potential risk to life or property and the need to insure compliance with the terms and conditions of a permit.
  - The permit holder is responsible for complying with all applicable codes and regulations as it relates to the erection or installation of temporary structures.
  - The permit holder is responsible for complying with OSHA regulations as it pertains to the use of portable generators. This includes provisions for carbon monoxide poisoning, GFCI, refueling procedures, grounding, noise and vibration hazards.
  - The permit holder is responsible for having on-hand a fully stocked spill kit when using equipment containing petroleum, oil or other lubricant. The use of secondary containment will be evaluated for each proposed piece of equipment.
  - Permit applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis determined by the date a signed application is received in the special events office, except for the provision stated below. A permit application may be denied if a permit has been previously issued to another group for the same time and/or place, or the application fails to meet any of the above criteria.
  - Since certain resources within the park are owned by the City of Christiansted, the City shall be given special consideration in the use of those lands for special events.
- Surveying of park visitors requires a permit approved by the park Superintendent. Surveyors may not survey visitors inside of park buildings or in any of the areas closed to public assemblies. The park staff should review a draft of the survey instrument and sampling plan.
    - Researchers are required to provide copies of the survey instrument and accompanying materials along with the permit application. The survey form should clearly state that the NPS is not sponsoring the information collection.
    - Researchers should make it clear to potential respondents that participation in the survey is completely voluntary and that responses will be kept confidential.
  - Personal contact information and data from respondents should be used for no other purpose than the specific research project covered by the research permit.

### **36 CFR §2.51 – Public Assemblies**

#### **(c)(2) The following locations have been designated as available for demonstrations and the sale or distribution of printed matter (at Christiansted National Historic Site):**

See Appendix B for a map showing the location of the First Amendment Area at Christiansted National Historic Site. These sites are identified as the:

1. Bandstand
  2. David Hamilton Jackson Park
- Christiansted National Historic Site will accommodate the use of park land for activities protected under the First Amendment of the U. S. Constitution. Activities include demonstrations, picketing, speechmaking, marching, holding vigils or religious services and all other like forms of conduct which involve the communication or expression of views or grievances, engaged in by one or more persons, the conduct of which is reasonably likely to draw a crowd or onlookers. Excluded from this definition is the casual park use by visitors or tourists which is not reasonably likely to attract a crowd or onlookers such as the wearing of baseball caps, T-shirts, or other articles of clothing that convey a message. To ensure public safety and the protection of park resources and values, and to avoid assigning the same location and time to two or more activities, for groups larger than 25 persons, the park will issue permits that specify/organize the time, location, number of participants, use of the facilities, and number and type of equipment used, but not the content of the message presented. Permit applications are available at the Park Headquarters. Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible, but not earlier than 1 year in advance.
  - The Superintendent shall, within ten days, issue a permit upon proper application. No public assembly permit shall be issued for a period in excess of 14 consecutive days, provided that permits may be extended for like periods upon a new application, unless another applicant has requested use of the same location and

multiple occupancy at that location is not reasonably possible. The use of message bearing signs may be used in conjunction with public assemblies, vigils, rallies, demonstrations, religious activities and other forms of public expression provided that a Special Use Permit has been issued and approved by the park Superintendent. All such signs are to be attended at all times. "Attended" is defined as an individual being on-site within arm's length of his or her sign. Signs are not permitted in public buildings. Amplified sound systems may be used in conjunction with public assemblies to the extent that they comply with the provisions of §2.12(a)(1)(ii).

- Demonstrations involving 25 persons or fewer may be held without a permit provided that the other conditions required for the issuance of a permit are met and provided further that the group is not merely an extension of another group already availing itself of the 25-person maximum under this provision or will not unreasonably interfere with other demonstrations or special events. Individuals and small groups who take advantage of the permit exception may make use of hand-carried signs, but not stages, platforms, amplified sound or structures. While it is not mandatory, the organizer is requested to provide reasonable notice of the proposed event to the park superintendent, including whether there is any reason to believe that there may be an attempt to disrupt, protest, or prevent the activity.
- Those groups or individuals using park land for activities protected under the First Amendment of the US Constitution are subject to all applicable local, state, and federal laws.
- Crosswalks, Building Entrances and Exits, Building Interiors and Exhibits:
  - Assembling or leafleting within 20 feet of a building entrance or exit is prohibited. Visitors must be allowed unimpeded entry and exit of buildings for safety reasons. Blocking crosswalks impedes the flow of pedestrian traffic and creates safety concerns.

### **36 CFR §2.52 – Sale or Distribution of Printed Matter**

**(b) The sale or distribution of printed matter by 25 people or less is allowed within the park areas designated as available under § 2.51(c)(2) (see above). The sale or distribution of printed matter by more than 25 persons is allowed within designated park areas when the Superintendent has issued a permit.**

- Per Policy Memorandum 14-01 dated January 28, 2014, other message-bearing items may also be distributed in designated areas under 36 CFR §2.52 if it is done free of charge and without asking for payment or a donation.
- This will allow the free distribution of message-bearing items to the public other than printed matter, so long as the activity occurs within an area designated as available for First Amendment activities.
- Examples of message-bearing items that may be distributed for free include CDs, DVDs, and other readable electronic media.

### **36 CFR §2.62 – Memorialization**

**(b) A permit is required for the scattering of ashes from cremated human remains, or in the following designated areas without a permit, in accordance with the following terms and conditions:**

- The scattering of human ashes from cremation, without a permit, is allowed at Buck Island Reef National Monument under the following terms and conditions:
  - The remains to be scattered must have been cremated and pulverized.
  - The scattering of remains by persons on the ground is to be performed at least 100 yards from any trail, road, developed facility, or body of water.
  - The scattering of remains from the air is to be performed at a minimum altitude of 2000 feet above the ground.
  - No scattering of remains from the air is to be performed over developed areas, facilities, or bodies of water.
- The scattering of remains at Christiansted National Historic Site is prohibited.

*The scattering of remains in the park area can result in negative impacts to resources, and alter the findings of the parks archeological study area.*

## **PART III. BOATING AND WATER USE ACTIVITIES**

### **§ 3.2 – Do other boating laws and regulations apply to me when I operate my boat on park waters?**

#### **Closed/restricted docking: “No docking” areas include the following:**

- Docking a vessel at the pier at King's Wharf, Christiansted National Historic Site is prohibited.
- Docking at the pier at Buck Island Reef National Monument is restricted to the public for loading and offloading/unloading only.

#### **Beaching of vessels**

- Beaching of a vessel is prohibited at Christiansted National Historic Site (CHRI), Buck Island Reef National Monument (BUIS), and Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve (SARI).

#### **Anchoring**

- Anchoring is allowed only within the designated anchoring area at BUIS; see map at the end of this document. An anchoring permit is required. Please email [CHRI\\_Permits@nps.gov](mailto:CHRI_Permits@nps.gov) to receive a permit application.
- The Anchoring Area at BUIS is closed to all vessels 91 feet and larger, in the interest of protection of the resources. *Determining Factors: Anchoring is restricted for the protection of seagrasses and corals.*
- Vessels larger than 91 feet must anchor in deeper locations at BUIS authorized by the NPS.
- Overnight anchoring at BUIS.

#### **Rafting**

- **VESSEL DISTANCING AND RAFTING.** Any vessels within one hundred feet (100') of the west beach anchoring area shoreline may not “raft” or tie/attach to one another by means of line or any other means. Vessels at anchor must maintain a minimum distance of twelve feet (12') from any other vessel. The only exception to this rule is when such vessel is tied or "rafted" to an unoccupied dingy or lifeboat.
- No more than two (2) vessels may “raft” or tie/attach to one another by means of line or any other means. Such groups of “rafted” or tied vessels must be at least one hundred and fifty feet (150') away from the west beach shoreline. Such groups of rafted or tied vessels must maintain fifty feet (50') separation from other individual vessels within the entire anchoring area of Buck Island Reef National Monument. For this purpose, tied or rafted” vessels are vessels whose proximity to each other and/or the group of “rafted” vessels is five feet (5') or less in distance.

#### **Moorings**

- Setting of anchors is prohibited while on NPS moorings at BUIS. *Determining Factors: The moorings were installed for to eliminate the use of anchors for the protection of the underwater resources and to prevent damage to the mooring system.*
- NPS moorings must be vacated when winds of 40 miles per hour, or greater, are forecasted for the area at BUIS. *Determining Factors: To protect the mooring system, vessels using the moorings during a tropical storm adds to the weight and pull on the mooring system weakening and/or damaging the mooring.*
- NPS moorings shall not be modified by any user at BUIS. *Determining Factors: The moorings were installed for the purpose of eliminating the use of anchors for the protection of the underwater resources.*

### **Idle Speed/Low Wake/No Wake Zone**

- Areas designated by no wake or information buoys, such as the West Beach anchoring area, lagoon, and the pier at BUIS are idle speed and no wake zones.

### **36 CFR §3.9 – May I operate my personal watercraft (PWC) in park waters?**

- Personal watercrafts are prohibited in BUIS waters.

### **36 CFR §3.12 – May I use a vessel to tow a person for water skiing or other similar activities?**

- Water skiing and other similar activities are prohibited in BUIS waters.

### **36 CFR §3.16 – May I swim or wade in park waters?**

- Swimming or wading is allowed within the boundaries of BUIS, except where designated as closed by the posting of signs in accordance with §1.5 and §1.7 of this chapter.

### **36 CFR §3.17 – What regulations apply to swimming areas and beaches?**

- Glass bottles or glass containers are prohibited at BUIS. *Determining Factors: This regulation provides for a safe visitor experience and minimizes the risk of injury.*
- Nudity is prohibited at BUIS. *Determining Factors: Public Nudity is not conducive to the varying ages of our Park visitors and cultural norms of the island.*

### **36 CFR §3.18 – May I snorkel or underwater dive in park waters?**

- At BUIS, snorkeling is allowed in the lagoon, at the underwater trail and the West Beach anchoring area.
- Snorkeling should not occur in the boat channel of the lagoon where there is active boating, only along the reef crest or patch reefs adjacent to the channel.
- Recreational SCUBA activities at BUIS are allowed only in the lagoon and at the mooring designation Boat Cut and SCUBA Cut on the map in Attachment A.
- SCUBA operations at BUIS should be conducted in a conservative manner following recreational guidelines set forth by recognized certifying agencies (PADI/NAUI/SDI etc.).
- Snorkelers and divers should attempt to identify themselves with a diver down flag or float towed with them. Vessels with scuba divers require a dive flag posted where other vessels can identify it.
- BUIS Concessionaires are not eligible to conduct scuba operations unless they hold written approval from the park superintendent.

*Determining factor: Because other locations require live boating which can be dangerous if the captain is not properly trained. Inability to control vessel may result in a loss of life and resources due to narrow reef breaks and shallow coral outcroppings. Strong currents and surge could become dangerous in areas outside of those designated for snorkeling.*

### **36 CFR §3.18 – May I operate a submersible within park waters?**

- The use of manned or unmanned submersibles may only occur at BUIS in accordance with a permit issued

by the superintendent under § 1.6 of this chapter.

## **PART IV. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC SAFETY**

### **36 CFR §4.10 – Travel on Park Roads and Routes**

**(a) Park roads, open for travel by motor vehicle are those indicated below, and/or as indicated in the following publication or document (attached hereto):**

- All roads are open with the exception of those listed in section 36 CFR§1.5 above.

### **36 CFR §4.11 – Vehicle Road, Weight, and Size Limits**

Load, weight, and size restrictions:

- The limit on weight of vehicles operating on sidewalks and inside of the fortifications shall not exceed 5,120 pounds.
- The limit on weight of vehicles for any park road is 7.25 tons.
- The maximum width of any vehicle should not exceed 90 inches.
- The maximum length of any vehicle should not exceed 32 feet.
- A permit is required for vehicles exceeding designated load, weight and size limits.
- All requests for a vehicle exceeding designated load, weight and size limits permit must be made a minimum of 5 days in advance and in writing to the Superintendent or designee. This 5 day period may be waived by the Superintendent or designee if the size and nature of the activity will not reasonably require the commitment of park resources or personnel in excess of that which are normally available or which can reasonably be made available within the necessary time period.
- Any or all areas of land may be closed to public use or a permit issued may be canceled at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.
- All costs incurred by the parks as a result of a vehicles exceeding designated load, weight and size limits permit from the Superintendent or designee may be recovered from the permit holder.
- A permit may contain additional reasonable conditions and additional time limitations, consistent with this section, in the interest of protecting park resources, the use of nearby areas by other persons, and other legitimate park value concerns.

*Determining factor: Limits are essential in order to protect the motor road and appurtenances, to protect resources, and for reasons of visitor safety.*

### **36 CFR §4.21 – Speed Limits**

(a) The following speed limits are established for the routes/roads indicated:

- All roads within the CHRI and SARI boundary that have town posted speed limits, and limited federal ownership along the road, will retain the town speed limits as posted.

*Determining factor: Speed limits are set to maintain safe conditions on all roads based on road character and visitor use.*

### **36 CFR §4.30 – Bicycles**

(a) Park roads and parking areas that are closed to bicycle use are listed in Section 1.5 of this document.

*Determining factor: By limiting bicycle use to park's paved roadway, the park can eliminate a hazardous condition*

*to pedestrian throughout the park. It will also eliminate damage to resources.*

## **PART V. COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE OPERATIONS**

### **36 CFR §5.1 – Commercial Notices or Advertisements**

Commercial notices or advertisements shall not be displayed, posted, or distributed on federally owned or controlled lands within a park area unless prior written permission has been given by the Superintendent. Such permission may be granted only if the notice or advertisement is of goods, services, or facilities available within the park area and such notices and advertisements are found by the Superintendent to be desirable and necessary for the convenience and guidance of the public. The distribution or give-away of commercial products is not permitted unless it is something that is not intended to be distributed for promotional purposes and is deemed by the Superintendent to be desirable for the convenience of the public. Further, special event permits will expressly prohibit the erection, placement, or use of structures and signs bearing commercial advertising.

However, a permit may be issued that authorizes the recognition of sponsors of special events, if the NPS determines that the size and form of the recognition will not derogate the values and purposes for which the park was established, providing that the lettering or design identifying the sponsor is no larger than one-third the size of the lettering or design identifying the special event.

### **36 CFR §5.3 – Business Operations**

Engaging in or soliciting any business is prohibited except as permitted by a Commercial Use Authorization or written agreement with the NPS. Beginning in 2019, all commercial tour operators are required to obtain a Commercial Use Authorization and wear the approved identification badge while on park property. Commercial activity includes paid exercise or other classes. Soliciting personal information such as names, addresses, telephone numbers, zip codes, etc., or any other such information which may be used for future solicitation or marketing purposes, is strictly prohibited. Commercial tour operators are prohibited from providing interpretive services to visitors inside the park's buildings.

### **36 CFR §5.4 – News Gathering Activities**

News gathering activities involving filming, videography or still photography do not require a permit unless:

- It is determined a permit is necessary to protect natural and cultural resources, to avoid visitor use conflicts, to ensure public safety or authorize entrance into a closed area.
- Obtaining a permit must not interfere with the ability to gather the news.
- A permit issued for news-gathering activities is not subject to location fees or cost recovery.

## **PART VII. SPECIAL REGULATIONS**

### **36 CFR § 7.73 – Buck Island Reef National Monument**

- a) Extractive uses. All extractive uses are prohibited within the boundaries of the Monument, including but not limited to harvest or collection (on the land or in the water) of fish for any use, marine mammals, coastal migratory pelagic fish, baitfish, lobsters, conch, whelk, hermit crabs (soldier crabs), seashells, corals, dead coral, sea fans, sponges and all associated reef invertebrates, plants, fruits and seeds, firewood, driftwood, rocks, sand, gas, oil, and minerals.
  1. All forms of fishing are prohibited including, but not limited to, spearfishing, rod and reel, hand-line,

- nets, gill or trammel, traps or pots, snares, hooks, poison, cast nets, trawl, seine, and long-line.
2. The use or possession of any type of fishing equipment or any of the items listed in paragraph (a) of this section is prohibited within the boundaries of the Monument.
- b) Marine operations. No dredging, excavating or filling operations of any kind are permitted, and no equipment, structures, byproducts or excavated materials associated with such operations may be deposited in or on the waters or ashore within the boundaries of the Monument.
- c) Wrecks. No person shall destroy, molest, remove, deface, displace or tamper with wrecked or abandoned waterborne craft of any type or condition, or any cargo pertaining thereto, unless permitted in writing by an authorized official of the National Park Service.
- d) Boats.
1. No watercraft shall operate in such a manner, nor shall anchors or any other mooring device be cast or dragged or placed, so as to strike or otherwise cause damage to any underwater features.
  2. Anchoring or maneuvering watercraft within the waters that contain underwater marked swimming trails and interpretive signs is prohibited.
  3. Anchoring is prohibited except by permit issued by the Superintendent for deep sand bottom areas or for administrative purposes.
  4. Anchoring will be allowed in emergency situations only to protect life and property.
  5. All watercraft, carrying passengers, for hire, shall comply with applicable regulations and laws of the U.S. Coast Guard and Territory of the Virgin Islands.
- (e) Fishing.
1. All forms of fishing are prohibited including, but not limited to, spearfishing, rod and reel, hand-line, nets, gill or trammel, traps or pots, snares, hooks, poison, cast nets, trawl, seine, and long-line.
  2. The use or possession of any type of fishing equipment or any of the items listed in paragraph (a) of this section is prohibited within the boundaries of the Monument.

[29 FR 17091, Dec. 15, 1964, as amended at 48 FR 30295, June 30, 1983; 68 FR 16435, Apr. 4, 2003]

## APPENDIX A – LOCATIONS OF MOORINGS, BOUNDARIES OF ANCHORING AREA, AND WAKE ZONES, BUIS

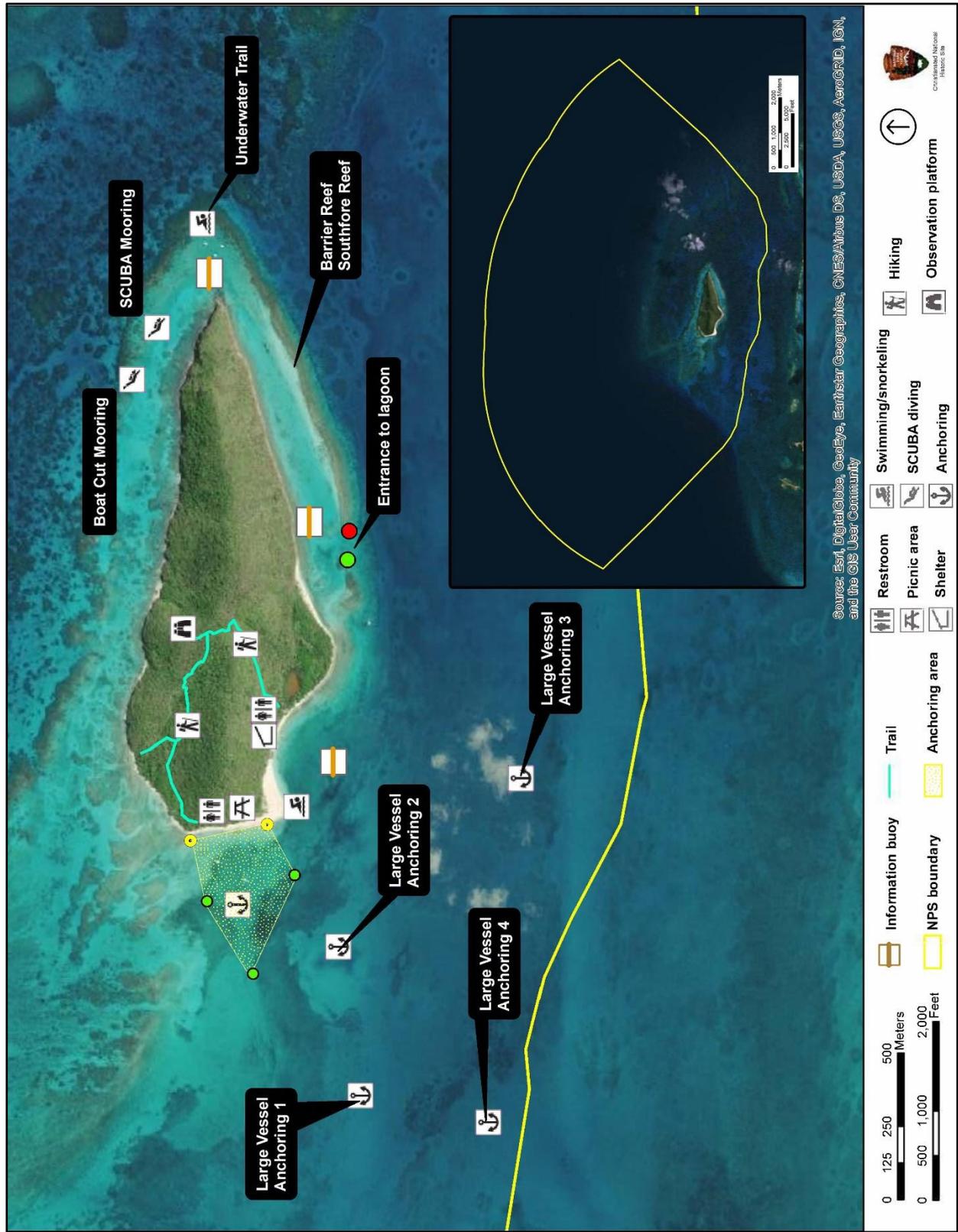
The following table includes the locations of moorings for the boat cut, SCUBA cut, Boat Mooring cut, large vessel anchorages, and the boundaries of the Anchoring Area at Buck Island Reef National Monument. A map illustrating their locations is on the following page.

NPS Buck Island Reef NM		Large Vessel Anchorage Locations			
GPS Datum: NAD 83 / WGS84		Decimal Degrees	Decimal Degrees	Longitude	Latitude
Location	1	-64.6356	17.78279	64° 38' 8.160" W	17° 46' 58.044" N
Location	2	-64.6311	17.78357	64° 37' 51.960" W	17° 47' 0.852" N
Location	3	-64.6259	17.77795	64° 37' 33.240" W	17° 46' 40.620" N
Location	4	-64.6363	17.77897	64° 38' 10.680" W	17° 46' 44.292" N

NPS Buck Island Reef NM		Anchor Zone			
GPS Datum: NAD 83 / WGS84		Decimal Degrees	Decimal Degrees	Longitude	Latitude
Location	1	-64.628795	17.784966	-64° 37' 43.6614" W	17° 47' 5.8776" N
Location	2	-64.631829	17.786244	-64° 37' 54.5838" W	17° 47' 10.4778" N
Location	3	-64.629602	17.78765	-64° 37' 46.5672" W	17° 47' 15.5394" N

NPS Buck Island Reef NM		Boat Cut Mooring			
GPS Datum: NAD 83 / WGS84		Decimal Degrees	Decimal Degrees	Longitude	Latitude
Location	1	-64.613514	17.789808	-64° 36' 48.6498" W	17° 47' 23.3088" N

NPS Buck Island Reef NM		SCUBA Cut Mooring			
GPS Datum: NAD 83 / WGS84		Decimal Degrees	Decimal Degrees	Longitude	Latitude
Location	1	-64.611911	17.789074	-64° 36' 42.8796" W	17° 47' 20.6658" N



## APPENDIX B – LOCATIONS OF FIRST AMENDMENT AREAS, CHRI

First Amendment Area (Map). These areas have been set aside for individuals or groups exercising their constitutional first amendment rights. The National Park Service neither encourages nor discourages, or otherwise endorses these activities and receives no funds in relation to these activities. Main site by the Band stand areas and a secondary alternative site nearby (shown below in yellow).

