United States Virgin Islands

COMMERCIAL & RECREATIONAL FISHER'S INFORMATION HANDBOOK

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE

AND

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

July 2012

GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
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To the Fishing Community of the U.S.V.I.:

Whether you are a commercial or recreational fisher, I am sure that you recognize how fortunate we are to live in these beautiful islands with such excellent marine and fisheries resources. These resources play an important role in our daily lives, providing employment opportunities and food for our families. Locals and visitors alike enjoy the benefits of these resources through recreational fishing, snorkeling, diving, and tourism. Not only are marine resources part of our tradition here in the U.S. Virgin Islands, but our economy depends on them. Therefore, we must ensure that they continue to be available for many years to come.

This booklet provides you with a summary of the various conservation measures taken to preserve the marine and fisheries resources of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Regulations vary depending on how threatened each species is. Endangered species such as sea turtles cannot be harvested under any circumstances. For some other species, there are limitations on harvest such as closed seasons, catch quotas, size limits, or gear restrictions. These regulations are intended to increase species reproduction and stocks so future generations will also be able to participate in commercial and recreational fishing.

With your cooperation and assistance, we can enhance fishing opportunities while protecting our marine and fisheries resources for generations to come.

I wish you all good fishing!

Sincerely,

Alicia Barnes
Commissioner

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TO ALL FISHERS OF THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) is responsible for the conservation and management of our fisheries and enforcement of boating and fisheries regulations (*V.I. Code Title 12 Conservation, Title 25 Navigation, and the Boating Safety Act of 1972*).

The Division of Fish and Wildlife handles the scientific side of the fishery. The Division of Fish & Wildlife monitors the commercial and recreational fisheries and provides advice and guidance to the Commissioner of DPNR on management of the fisheries. Working with fishers to obtain accurate catch reports is a big part of our job. Accurate and honest reports are essential to help us ensure that the fishery resources of the Virgin Islands will remain sustainable for generations to come.

The Division of Environmental Enforcement is responsible for the explanation and enforcement of regulations in matters relating to boating, fishing and the environment in general.

RECREATIONAL FISHING (PERSONAL USE)

All recreational anglers fishing in the exclusive economic zone, from 3 to 200 miles offshore from land are required to register with NOAA Fisheries at www.countmyfish.noaa.gov. Recreational anglers, refers to persons who fish for the sole purpose of providing food for themselves or their families, and those who catch and release fish. **SALE, OR BARTER, OR TRADE, OF CATCH BY RECREATIONAL FISHERS IS PROHIBITED.** The following gear types are considered commercial gear and may not be used by recreational fishers: pots, traps, haul seines and set-nets (set-nets are a type of net consisting of a wall of fine mesh held up by a float line and anchored on the sea floor). Additionally, fishers are required to have permits to fish in the following three locations:

1. **Altona Lagoon and Great Pond, St. Croix**. No Commercial fishing. A recreational shrimp fishing permit is required for the harvesting of shrimp. A $10 one-year permit is available at the Division of Environmental Enforcement St. Croix office (contact information on back cover).

2. **St. James Reserve (Section C, see Appendix 3 map).** A permit is required to collect baitfish with a cast net within 50 feet of the shoreline or fish with a hook and line. All other fishing and harvest of other animals and plants is prohibited in this area (see pages 12-13 of this handbook). The line fishing permit is $2.00 a month, and the bait fishing permit is $5.00 a month. Both permits may be purchased for a maximum of two months from the Division of Environmental Enforcement St. Thomas office (contact information on back cover).

3. **Cas Cay/Mangrove Lagoon Marine Reserves** A permit is required to collect baitfish using only a cast net within 50 ft of the north and west shorelines of Cas Cay. All other fishing and harvest of other animals and plants is prohibited in this area (see pages 12-13). The bait fishing permit is $5.00 a month and may be purchased for a maximum of two months from the Division of Environmental Enforcement St. Thomas office. All fishing is prohibited in the **Inner Mangrove Lagoon** (see page 14).

COMMERCIAL FISHING

WHO NEEDS A COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE?

A commercial fishing license ($5.00) annually is required by:

1. All commercial fishers.

2. Any person who uses a pot, trap, set-net or haul seine, even for personal consumption.

3. Any person who sells or trade or barters any part of his catch, **including charter boat operators who sell or trade their catch**.

4. Commercial fishing "helpers" must obtain a helper's license ($20.00) to assist a licensed commercial fisher. The licensed commercial fisher **must be onboard** when the "helper" is fishing. No special permission will be granted for helpers to operate a boat in the absence of the licensed commercial fisher.

Commercial fishing licenses are issued to U.S. citizens who are permanent residents of the USVI for at least 5 years. No license shall be issued to a minor under 17 years old, except with the written consent of his parent or guardian. All vessels used for commercial fishing, which are owned in whole or in part by an alien or non-resident of the Territory, shall pay a registration tax of $50.00.

Commercial fishers are exempt of boat registration fees provided they posses a DCLA business license ($1.00 license). Fishers not in receipt of DCLA license are subject to standard vessel registration fees.

All fishers must pay mooring fees ($5/ft) to the Division of Environmental Enforcement. *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §31*2.

On August 24, 2001, the Department of Planning and Natural Resources implemented a moratorium on issuance of new commercial fishing licenses. At the time of printing this booklet, the moratorium remains valid. License renewals will only be issued to fishermen who have held a commercial fishing license within 3 years of June 2001 and have complied with catch reporting requirements.

FOUR EASY STEPS TO APPLY FOR A COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE RENEWAL IN THE U.S.V.I.

1. Register in person at the Division of Fish and Wildlife, and obtain a copy of this handbook, catch report forms (see Commercial Fisher Catch Report Forms section page 4) and Fishers Certification of Eligibility form (required for commercial fishers who plan to sell their catch).

2. Commercial fishers who plan to sell their catch must also complete a Fishermen's Certificate of Eligibility. The applications for these certificates can be obtained at the Division of Fish and Wildlife (contact information on back cover) or the Department of Agriculture (#7944 Estate Dorothea Office, St. Thomas; or Estate Lower Love, St.

Croix). Submit the completed and notarized application to the Commissioner of Agriculture for signature. **Please allow 48 hours for approval prior to pickup.**

3. In order to sell your catch to the public, you must also obtain a business license (a $1 fee is charged) from the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs (DLCA) (St. Thomas (340) 774-3130 or St. Croix (340) 773-2226). This is a special license **only** for registered commercial fishers permitting the sale of fish on the roadside, fish market or landing sites. You should have your scale certified as well. Individuals who purchase fish from a commercial fisher for resale are still required to go to DLCA to get certified as a vendor.

4. Proceed to the Division of Environmental Enforcement. Present your DFW Registration Form indicating that you have complied with the mandatory completion of CCR's and port sampling. Most fees are waived for commercial fishers. If you are obtaining a commercial fishing license to use traps, pots, set-nets or haul seines but will not sell your catch, there is no need to complete step 2 and 3.

Commercial fishers who possess a business license for fishing, issued by the DLCA, are entitled to special fee waivers and tax exemptions. As an example, boat registration fees are waived provided the vessel is used to conduct commercial fishing, and all catch reports are turned in on time **(bi-weekly)**.

TRANSFER OF LICENSES

As of this printing, commercial fishing licenses are "non-transferable". *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §312(*c)

COMMERCIAL CATCH REPORT FORMS (TRIP TICKETS)

The Division of Fish & Wildlife monitors the health of fishery resources in the Virgin Islands through the use of commercial fisher catch report forms (trip tickets). From these trip tickets, information is collected about fishing activities and is maintained in a confidential database. The validity of this information depends upon the cooperation of all commercial fishers. All trip tickets are strictly confidential, so please take the time to accurately and completely record all of your fishing activities. Accurate trip tickets are essential to fishery management. Inaccurate trip tickets provide misleading data that may generate undue concern over a fishery resource.

Each year, commercial fishers will receive a packet of illustrations, instructions and a stack of trip tickets. If you have any questions about completing the trip tickets, or need additional trip tickets please call or visit your local Division of Fish and Wildlife office. The trip tickets must reach the Division of Fish & Wildlife every two weeks. The trip tickets may be mailed or submitted in person.

All USVI Commercial Catch Report Forms (trip tickets) must be completely filled out. Even if you do not catch any fish, lobster, conch or whelk on a fishing trip, your trip information and effort must still be reported. If trip tickets are not completely filled out, they do not fulfill the reporting requirement. Incomplete trip tickets will be returned. Trip tickets submitted in person will be immediately reviewed for completeness. All trip tickets received will be stamped with a date and data will be entered into our confidential database. When trip tickets are submitted a receipt will be given to you to keep for your records.

If you do not fish during a calendar month, a trip ticket must still be submitted. Simply put your name, vessel number and ID number on the top of the form, and the month and year you did not fish. If you do not plan to fish for an extended period (4 months or more) you are eligible to apply for "sleeper status". Sleeper status if granted allows you to retain your license, however you do not need to submit trip tickets. **If all required trip tickets are not submitted to the Division of Fish and Wildlife, you may not be able to re-register and you may be subject to penalties (see page 10).**

Any fisher at any time may request a certified summary of his/her own catch records on file. Requests must be made in person because catch records are strictly confidential and may not be revealed to anyone other than the person reporting them. Photo identification must be presented prior to release of any information. If anyone besides the fisher wants information, a notarized letter from the fisher must be submitted before release of any information.

LOST OR DESTROYED LICENSES

If a license is lost, misplaced or destroyed, the licensed fisher may apply to the Division of Environmental Enforcement to receive a new ID card. A fee of $20.00 will be assessed.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The remainder of this booklet summarizes the rules and regulations for fishing in the U.S. Virgin Islands and adjacent Federal waters. **Unless otherwise stated, these rules and regulations apply to both commercial and recreational (personal use) fishers**. As these are only summaries and as regulations can change, fishers are responsible for remaining current with changes to regulations. For current and specific regulations for fishing in Territorial waters, fishers may contact the Division of Environmental Enforcement (contact information on back cover). For current and specific regulations for fishing in Federal waters, fishers may contact the NOAA-Fisheries at (727) 824-5344 in St. Petersburg, Florida.

If you have any questions concerning fishery matters other than regulations, please contact your local Division of Fish and Wildlife office (contact information may be found on the back cover).

GENERAL RULES FOR ALL FISHERS

1. **Boat registration number** (*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, § 311 & 312)* **-** All motorboats must be registered and must properly display the registration number. Annual registration is required on or before July 1st. For commercial fishers, boat registration is completed at the same time as commercial fishing license renewal.

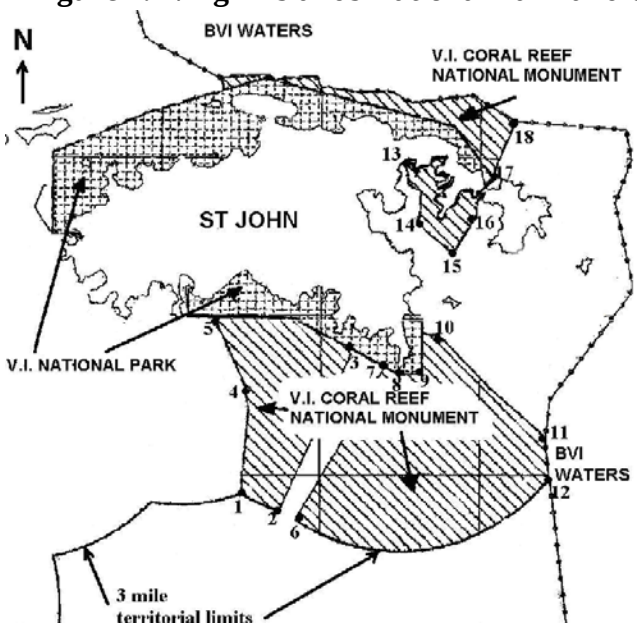
2. **Boat safety standards -** All motorboats must meet the safety standards of the Virgin Islands Code and the Federal Boating Safety Act of 1972.

3. **Fishing in BVI/Puerto Rico -**The British Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico each has their own fishing laws and regulations. Your U.S. Virgin Islands fishing license does not permit you to fish in either the British VI or Puerto Rican waters.

4. **V.I. Marine Reserve System -** For information on the rules and regulations of the Virgin Islands Marine Reserve System call the Division of Environmental Enforcement (340) 774-3320. For information on the St. Croix East End Marine Park, contact the Marine Park Coordinator at (340) 718-3367. Also see pages 14-15, and Appendix 4.

5. **Virgin Islands Coral Reef National Monument –** Anchoring is prohibited, and all fishing is prohibited, except bait fishing in Hurricane Hole and fishing for blue runner/hard nose. Both activities require a special permit from the National Park Service. For up-to-date information and regulations regarding the V.I. Coral Reef National Monument (south and northeast sides of St. John, see Figure 1), please contact the U.S. National Park Service's St. John office at (340) 776-6201 x 254. **The rules and regulations for the V.I. Coral Reef National Monument are different from those of the V.I. National Park waters** (see #6, below).

Figure 1. Virgin Islands National Park and the V.I. Coral Reef National Monument

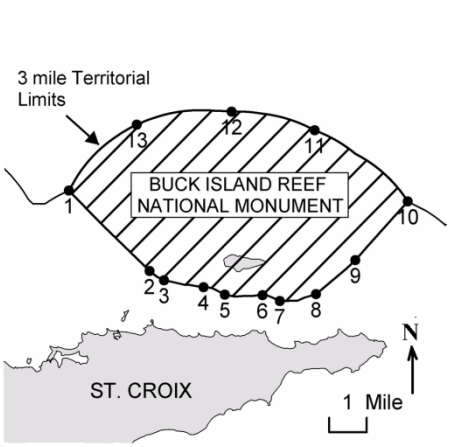


Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	18°15.799'N	64°44.878'W
2	18°15.532'N	64°44.235'W
3	18°18.178'N	64°43.036'W
4	18°17.504'N	64°44.819'W
5	18°18.692'N	64°45.354'W
6	18°15.413'N	64°43.947'W
7	18°17.899'N	64°42.451'W
8	18°17.781'N	64°42.243'W
9	18°17.791'N	64°41.808'W
10	18°18.474'N	64°41.540'W
11	18°16.790'N	64°39.678'W
12	18°16.097'N	64°39.579'W
13	18°20.772'N	64°41.877'W
14	18°20.287'N	64°41.916'W
15	18°19.762'N	64°41.292'W
16	18°20.386'N	64°40.876'W
17	18°21.070'N	64°40.629'W
18	18°21.961'N	64°40.242'W

6. **Virgin Islands National Park –** The Virgin Islands National Park on St. John (see Figure 1) has separate and specific regulations on fishing. Fishing using rod and reel, handline, traps, and bait fish nets is permitted. However, there are restrictions on gear such as trap size and baitfish net size. In addition, there are regulations and limits on the harvest of lobsters, conch, and whelk. The current regulations allow for the harvest of two lobsters and/or conch per person per day, and one gallon of whelk in the shell. The use and possession of spearfishing equipment within the park is prohibited. There are three area fishing closures within the V.I. National Park: (1) Red Hook Dock, (2) Cruz Bay Finger Pier and Bulkhead, and (3) all boat exclusion areas. For up-to-date information on fishing regulations within the Virgin Islands National Park, contact the National Park Service on St. John at (340) 776-6201 x 254.

7. **Buck Island Reef National Monument** (36 CFR part 7, 57.73) **–** All anchoring and fishing are prohibited. For up-to-date information regarding rules and regulations in the Buck Island Reef National Monument, St. Croix (see Figure 2), please contact the U.S. National Park Service's St. Croix office at (340) 773-1460 x 234. Marker buoys located at points 2 thru 9 on Figure 2 below.

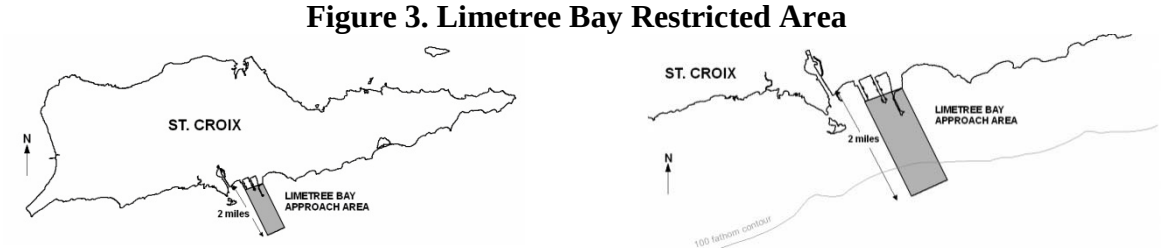
Figure 2. Buck Island Reef National Monument [figure re-sized]



Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	17°48.871'N	64°41.242'W
2	17°47.033'N	64°39.377'W
3	17°46.825'N	64°39.040'W
4	17°46.666'N	64°38.123'W
5	17°46.498'N	64°37.634'W
6	17°46.480'N	64°36.763'W
7	17°46.351'N	64°36.364'W
8	17°46.505'N	64°35.525'W
9	17°47.283'N	64°34.618'W
10	17°48.623'N	64°33.404'W
11	17°50.246'N	64°35.558'W
12	17°50.671'N	64°37.474'W
13	17°50.376'N	64°39.673'W

8. **Limetree Bay Restricted Area, St. Croix –** Although HOVENSA no longer operates as a refinery, it still operates as a terminal. As such, access to Limetree Bay remains a Restricted Area. No vessels may enter the HOVENSA or cross channels or pass inside the fringing reef upon entering or leaving Alucroix Channel (see Figure 3). This area includes all waters two miles seaward of the HOVENSA facility waterfront. Anchoring, mooring or transiting this area is not permitted. For up-to-date information on restrictions, during normal working hours (Monday-Friday 8am-5pm) please contact HOVENSA Marine Pilot at (340) 692-3489 or VHF Radio channel 11 or HOVENSA Command Center at (340) 692-3000. After normal working hours, please contact HOVENSA's 24 hour line at (340) 692-3518. Please note that you can also contact the U.S. Coast Guard in St. Croix at (340) 772-5557 ext. 209 for Boat Forces, or sector San Juan at (787) 289-2041.

Figure 3. Limetree Bay Restricted Area



9. A poison, drug, or other chemical may not be used to fish for Caribbean reef fish.

TERRITORIAL COMMERCIAL FISHING RULES

1. **Gear Compliance** - Before placing any gear in service, contact the Division of Environmental Enforcement (contact information on back cover) to make sure it complies with current regulations.

2. **Boat Marking** (*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §312g)* - All commercial fishing boats operated by trap, net or line fishers must bear the buoy colors of the permitted fisher.

3. **Marking Fishing Gear** (*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §312e)* – All fish traps and nets must be marked with the fisher's license number. Buoys must also bear the permitted fisher's color scheme and the license number. The number must be cut or burned into the

buoy.

4. **Trap Inspection** *(V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §304-6)* - All commercial fish traps must be inspected and tagged prior to use. Call the Division of Environmental Enforcement to have the traps inspected and tagged prior to taking them out to sea. For additional information concerning pre-fishing trap inspections and mesh regulations, call the Division of Environmental Enforcement.

5. **Commercial Fishing License** (*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §312)* - Each commercial fisher is required to have a commercial fishing license. Commercial fishers must have the number of helpers indicated on their license. **The licensed fisher must be onboard when the helpers are fishing.**

6. **Helper-** Commercial fisher's helpers must have their own "Helpers License". The licensed fisher must be onboard when the helpers are fishing.

7. **Commercial Catch Reports (trip tickets)** (*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §315)-* For the purpose of monitoring the fisheries in the USVI, each fisher is required to submit a trip ticket for every fishing trip to the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Trip tickets must be submitted bi-weekly. If there was no fishing activity within a calendar month, a single monthly trip ticket must be received no later than 15 days after the end of the month for which it was prepared.

8. **Taxes** -Fishers who obtain a commercial fishing business license from the DLCA may become eligible for a number of tax and fee benefits. - Please contact the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs (St. Thomas (340) 774-3130; St. Croix (340) 773-2226) if you need information about these laws.

9. **Yearly Sampling of Catch- Port Sample Interviews** – Commercial fishing regulations require the submission of trip tickets bi-weekly, as well as to participate in 4 random port samples. Failure to comply may result in the inability to renew your commercial fishing license. The sampling of catch will be conducted by representatives of the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

LOCAL FISH SALES REGULATIONS (Commercial Fishers Only)

1. **Fish Sales to the Public** (*V.I.C., Title 23, Chapter 3, Subchapter IX §342)-* The commercial sale of fish to the general public requires a **business license** issued by the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs (DLCA) (St. Thomas (340) 774-3130; or St. Croix (340) 773-2226). This is a special license **only** for registered commercial fishers permitting the sale of fish on the roadside, fish market or landing sites. To sell fish landed in USVI, whether caught in territorial waters or the adjacent Exclusive Economic Zone, a fisher must possess **both** a commercial fishing license issued by the Division of Environmental Enforcement **and** a license to sell fish issued by the DLCA. **Possession of a federal tuna harvest permit and a dealer permit does not grant authority to sell fish in the U.S. Virgin Islands without a territorial commercial fishing license and a DLCA license to sell fish.**

   Fish/seafood vendors, individuals who do not commercially fish and sell their own catch but buy fish from commercial fishers to re-sell, must obtain a **Retail Shop License** from

the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs (DLCA). **Fish vendors are not permitted to possess a commercial fisher DLCA license and cannot sell fish or seafood to the public at fish markets, on the street or at landing sites. Fish vendors found in violation are subject to confiscation of fish, fine $500 and loss of license.**

2. **Local/Native Seafood** (*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §324*) **-** It is prohibited to sell or offer for sale any seafood designated as local or native seafood unless it was caught in territorial waters or the EEZ (Federal waters) surrounding the US Virgin Islands. There is one exception to this rule: the spiny lobster, *Panulirus argus*, can be offered for sale as local or native lobster meat, whether caught locally or imported. In any case, the meat must consist entirely of the *Panulirus argus* species in order to be called local or native lobster.

3. **Sale of seafood by non-residents** (*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §313)* - Non-residents **may not** bring their catch of fish or other seafood into the Territory to sell unless they first obtain a business license from the Commissioner of Licensing & Consumer Affairs. Fish or other seafood caught by a foreign vessel and brought into the Territory for sale or consumption is subject to the same regulations as fish and seafood caught from a V.I. registered vessel.

4. **Seafood caught outside the Territory** (*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §313)* **-** Fish or other seafood caught outside the Territory, brought into the Territory and permitted for sale or consumption is subject to the same regulations as those governing local species of seafood. This includes regulations pertaining to size of fish, protected species, annual catch limits, etc.

5. **Conch Imports** – Conch is protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Federal law prohibits import of conch unless: (1) the conch is accompanied by a CITES export permit from the appropriate regulatory authority of the exporting country, and (2) it is imported through a federally designated port of entry. The closest designated port to the U.S. Virgin Islands is Miami, Florida. A "Designated Port Exemption" permit is needed to import through San Juan, Puerto Rico. For information or a permit application contact U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement in Atlanta, Georgia at (404) 679-7057. **For personal consumption, up to 8 pounds of conch can be imported to the USVI provided that it originates from a CITES approved country (www.cites.org).**

6. **Territorial Fish Sales** (*V.I.C., Title 23 Chapter 3 §342)* **–** The sale of fresh fish and agricultural products shall be allowed in public fish markets, butcher stalls, on public streets in areas designated by the U.S. Virgin Islands Police Department (V.I.P.D.), or when taken to residences.

ANNUAL CATCH LIMITS (ACLs)

Many fish stocks have declined. If the fish stocks decline below a critical level they will not be able to easily rebound. It is the duty of the fisheries manager to prevent the numbers of fish from dropping below sustainable levels. One of the fisheries management tools is an Annual Catch Limit (ACL). Once managers identify the minimum sustainable fish population they can

determine how many fish can be sustainably harvested on an annual basis. The allowable harvested amount is the ACL.

Once the ACL is reached the fishery is closed. It is up to the fishers to determine how long they want to be able to fish before reaching the ACL. Some fisheries reach their ACL in a matter of days, other areas may take months. By monitoring the amount of fish caught by our commercial fishermen managers can determine how close fishers are to the ACL. Once the ACL is reached for a particular fish species, the harvest of that fish will be closed in both federal and territorial waters until January 1st of the next fishing year (Queen Conch has a season opening November 1st) (see page 21).

Table of Annual Catch Limits, in Federal waters, for each fishing district.

	St. Croix	St. Thomas/ St. John
Species	50 CFR 622.49 (c)(2):	50 CFR 622.49 (c)(3):
Parrotfishes	240,000 lb (108,863 kg)	42,500 lb (19,278 kg)
Snappers	102,946 lb (46,696 kg)	133,775 lb (60,679 kg)
Groupers	30,435 lb (13,805 kg)	51,849 lb (23,518 kg)
Angelfish	305 lb (138 kg)	7,897 lb (3,582 kg)
Boxfish	8,433 lb (3,825 kg)	27,880 lb (12,646 kg)
Goatfishes	3,766 lb (1,708 kg)	320 lb (145 kg)
Grunts	36,881 lb (16,729 kg)	37,617 lb (17,063 kg)
Wrasses	7 lb (3 kg)	585 lb (265 kg)
Jacks	15,489 lb (7,076 kg)	52,907 lb (23,998 kg)
Scups and porgies, combined	4,638 lb (2,104 kg)	21,819 lb (9,897 kg)
Squirrelfish	121 lb (55 kg).	4,241 lb (1,924 kg)
Surgeonfish	33,603 lb (15,242 kg)	29,249 lb (13,267 kg)
Triggerfish and filefish, combined	24,980 lb (11,331 kg)	74,447 lb (33,769 kg)
Spiny lobster	107,307 lb (48,674 kg)	104,199 lb (47,264 kg)

Table of Annual Catch limits, in both Territorial and Federal waters for each fishing district.

	St. Croix	St. Thomas/ St. John
Species	50 CFR 622.49 (c)(2):	50 CFR 622.49 (c)(3):
Queen conch	50,000 lb (22,680 kg)	50,000 lb (22,680 kg)

Table of Annual Catch limits, in both Territorial and Federal waters. for the USVI (Combined Fishing districts)

Species	USVI
TILEFISH	14,642 lbs (6,642 kg)

PENALTIES

Anyone convicted of violating any fisheries law or regulation of the U.S. Virgin Islands shall have his license suspended for one month on the first offense, three months on the second offense and one year on the third and subsequent offenses [*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §312-J*]. Fees will not be refunded for a license that has been suspended or voided.

The fishing license and/or vessel registration of any person who willfully fails to make a report or makes a false report shall be suspended and a new fishing license shall not be issued until a valid report is made [*VIC Title 12, Chapter 9A, 315(c)*].

Any person violating fisheries laws and regulations of the USVI shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and fined [*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §325 & V.I. Territorial Court Order Misc. No. 23/2004 STT/STJ District and Misc. No. 06/2004 STX District*]. Fines for fishing violations are up to $500, for lobster violations up to $600, and for violations in wildlife and marine sanctuaries up to $5,000. For further information please call the Division of Environmental Enforcement.

Any commercial fisherman who does not comply with the mandatory requirements for fisher participation in the fisheries data collection programs (submission of their trip tickets [commercial catch record] every bi-weekly and participation in a minimum of four annual port samples of their catch by the Division of Fish and Wildlife) may be prohibited from renewal of their commercial fishing license and boat registration.

REWARD FOR CONVICTIONS

V.I.C. Title 12, Chap 9A § 325 - Any person, other than a law enforcement officer, who furnishes evidence sufficient to convict any violator of the regulations which address marine turtles and their eggs or nests, lobsters and their eggs, fishing with explosives or contaminating public waters shall receive a reward of $50.00 (fifty dollars) for each conviction from the Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources.

REPORTING VIOLATIONS

For violations in Territorial Waters (from shore to 3 miles offshore), please contact:

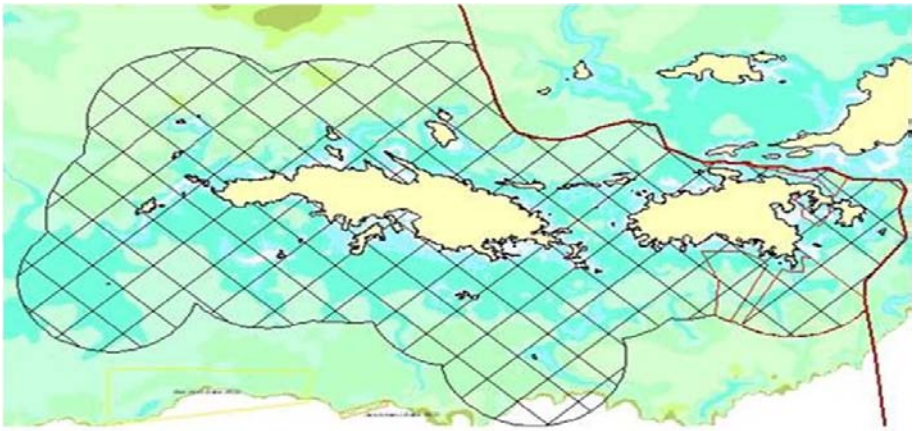
<u>Division of Environmental Enforcement</u>

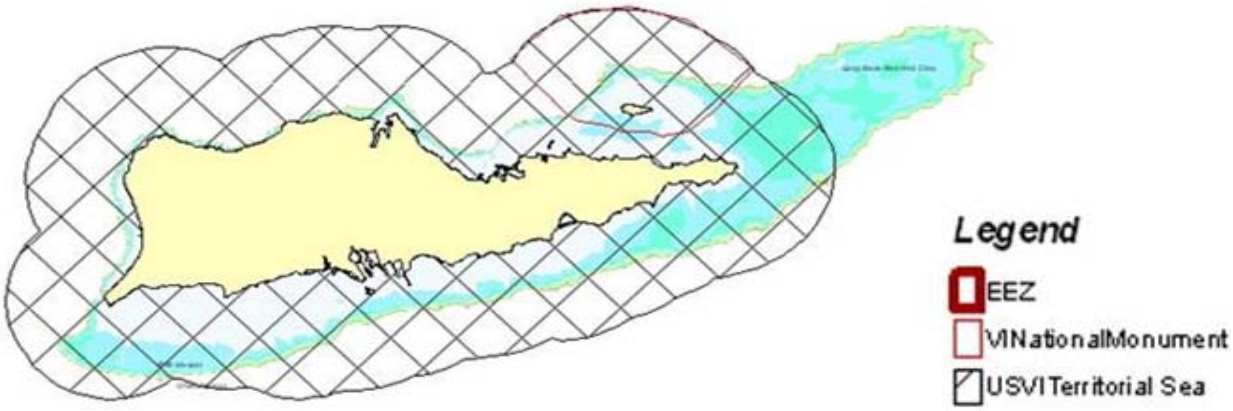
Cyril E. King Airport
Terminal Building, 2nd Floor
St. Thomas, VI 00802
(340) 774-3320 ext. 5106

6003 Anna's Hope
Christiansted
St. Croix, VI 00821
(340) 773-5774

For violations in Federal Waters (from 3 to 200 nautical miles offshore), please contact:

<u>NOAA - Fisheries Enforcement:</u>
Puerto Rico – Special Agent Lynn Rios
Office – (787) 890-0715
Cell – (787) 508-5403
NOAA National Enforcement Hotline
(800) 853-1964
St. Petersburg, Florida
Main Office – (727) 824-5344
Fax – (727) 824-5355





U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS TERRITORIAL WATERS
SUMMARY OF FISHING REGULATIONS

TERRITORIAL WATERS EXTEND FROM SHORE TO 3 MILES OFFSHORE

1	**Whelk:**	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-6 & 316-7.*
	Size Limit:	Minimum size of shell must be greater than 2 7/16 inches in diameter.
	Landing Restriction:	
	Closed Season:	Must be landed whole in the shell (see Appendix 1). Open Season: April 1 through September 30.
2	**Queen Conch:**	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-1 & 316-4.*
	Size Limit:	Minimum size of 9 inch shell length from the spire to the distal end, or 3/8 inch lip thickness (see Appendix 1).
	Harvest Quota:	ACL = 50,000 pounds St. Thomas/St. John district federal and territorial waters ACL = 50,000 pounds St. Croix district federal and territorial waters No harvest of undersized conch. No possession of conch meats smaller than two per pound uncleaned or three per pound cleaned. 200 conch per day per registered commercial fishing vessel. 6 conch per day per recreational (personal use) fisher; not to exceed 24 per boat per day.
	Landing Restriction:	Conch must be landed alive and whole in the shell at final landing site. No disposal of shell at sea, before landing. Taking conch to offshore cays and islands for purpose of removing from shell is prohibited. Transport of conch meat out of shell over open water is prohibited.
	Sale Restriction:	No sale of undersized conch shell or meat from undersized conch. No sale of imported conch meat unless shipment is accompanied by a CITES export permit and shipment is cleared at the Port of Miami. (see Conch Imports, page 8 for exceptions and further information).
	Closed Season:	Once the ACL or June 1st is reached the season will close until November 1st of that year. Possession of queen conch during the closed season is illegal.
3	**Caribbean Spiny Lobster:**	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §319.*
	Size Limit:	3 ½ inch carapace length (see Appendix 1).
	Harvest Quota:	ACL = 104,199 pounds St. Thomas/St. John district federal waters ACL = 107,307 pounds St. Croix district federal waters
	Landing Restriction:	Must be landed whole. No harvest of females with eggs.
	Gear Restrictions:	No spearfishing, hooks, gigs or use of chemicals.
4	**Shrimp:**	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §303(1).* No commercial harvest in Altona Lagoon or Great Pond. No sale. Recreational harvest allowed only with permit (see page 1).

5	**Goliath Grouper (jewfish):**	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14.* The possession of Goliath Grouper is prohibited year round in the territory until the CFMC has determined that it has recovered.
6	**Nassau Grouper:**	*V.IR.R., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14 (e).* The possession of Nassau grouper is prohibited year round in the territory until the CFMC has determined that it has recovered.
7	**Other Groupers:** Red, Black, Tiger Yellowfin, & Yellowedge	*V.I.R.R., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14(a).* No possession from February 1 through April 30 for the territory.
8	**Snappers:** Black, Blackfin, Silk & Vermillion:	*V.I.R.R., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14(b).* No possession October 1 through December 31 in St. Thomas/St. John district. **St. Croix is exempt from the seasonal closure for these species in territorial waters.**
	Lane & Mutton:	*V.I.R.R., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14(c)(d).* No possession from April 1 through June 30 for the territory.
9	**Billfish:**	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A.* Federal regulations for billfish apply in territorial waters. See page 19 for specific regulations.
10	**Billfish, Swordfish, Tuna & Shark:**	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A.* Federal regulations and federal permit requirements apply in territorial waters. See page 18 for specific regulations.
11	**Tarpon & Bonefish:**	*V.I.R.R., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14.* No harvest. Catch and release using hook and line only.
12	**Sea Turtles**:	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §318; Chapter 2 §105(b).* Endangered species. No harvest, no possession and no harassment of sea turtles or their eggs. See Appendix 2.
13	**Aquarium Collecting:**	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 2, §106(c).* Permit required from the Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife.
14	**Traps:** District of St. Thomas/St. John	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §304-4, 304-6, & 321.* All fish traps must have minimum 2 inch square or 2 inch hexagonal mesh. All fish traps must be inspected and tagged by the Division of Environmental Enforcement prior to use.
	District of St. Croix	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §304-5,304-6, & 321.* All traps placed in Territorial waters must have a minimum of 1 ½ inch hexagonal mesh as the smallest mesh on two sides of the fish traps. All fish traps must be inspected and tagged by the Division of

Environmental Enforcement prior to use.

Both Districts: *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §321.*

Gear Restrictions: Each trap must have a minimum of one escape panel fastened by biodegradable material (for example, 1/8 inch untreated jute twine). Colors and license numbers must be displayed on each trap.

15 **Nets:** *V.I.R.R., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §321.*

Mesh Restrictions: Haul seines must have mesh size greater than 1 ½ inch stretch mesh. Seines for catching baitfish must have a mesh size greater than 1 ¼ inch stretch mesh. Haul seines and bait seines may not be taken up to the shore or removed from the water to withdraw fish.

Gear Prohibition: *V.I.R.R., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §321-1.*
Surface gillnets (single wall) may only be used for baitfish, that include; ballyhoo, gar and flyingfish and must be tended at all times. They may not be more than 1,800 ft. total length, as measured by the float line. They may not be used within 20 ft from the bottom. The mesh size may not be smaller than ¾ inch square or 1.5 inch stretch. The use of **trammel nets** (multiple wall entanglement) **are prohibited**. The penalties for gill and trammel net violations are $1,000 fine and confiscation of vessel and equipment.

16 **Year-Round Closures/Marine Reserves**: No fishing or collecting of any kind is allowed except as noted below.

St. James Reserve *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1, §96-3 & 96-4.*

Permitted Acts: The use of a cast net with a minimum square mesh size of ¼ inch to capture bait fish ("fry") within 50 feet of the shoreline. Cow and Calf Rocks (in area "C" on Appendix 4 map) are off-limits and are not considered as shorelines. Hook and line fishing is allowed with a permit. See Appendix 4, area "C" for the boundary map.

Fishing Permits: A special monthly permit is required to catch baitfish or hook & line fish in the Reserve. Obtain permit from the Division of Environmental Enforcement. See page 1 for permit details

Cas Cay/Mangrove Lagoon Reserve *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1, §96-5.*

Permitted Acts: The use of a cast net with a minimum square mesh size of ¼ inch to capture bait fish ("fry") within 50 feet of the north and west shorelines of Cas Cay only. See Appendix 4, area "B" and area "A". A special monthly permit is required to catch baitfish in the Reserves. Obtain permit from the Division of Environmental Enforcement.

Fishing Permits: In the Inner Mangrove Lagoon (see Appendix 4 map, area "A"), no fishing, no traps, and no seines. In short, no take at all. Use of internal combustion engines is prohibited.

Prohibited Acts:

Compass Point *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1, §96-2.*

Marine Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary, St. Thomas	Designated September 24, 1992. No fishing, hunting or taking of any plant or animals within the marine reserve and wildlife sanctuary. See Appendix 4 map, area "D".
Salt River Marine Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary, St. Croix	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1, §96-12.* Designated July 19, 1995. It is unlawful to (1) collect, take or possess any fish, coral, bird or other wildlife, or part thereof: (2) use or possess any firearm, bow and arrow, speargun or any trap, net or other contrivance designed to be, or capable of being used to take birds, fish or other wildlife, with the exception of recreational catch and release line fishing with barbless hooks, or to discharge any firearm or release any arrow into the sanctuary. Contact the Division of Environmental Enforcement for complete regulations.
The Small Pond at Frank Bay Wildlife and Marine Sanctuary, St. John	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1, §96-4.* Designated on March 24, 2000, signed on April 11, 2001. No hunting, fishing or harvest of fisheries or wildlife resources. The use of a motorized vessel is prohibited within Frank Bay Pond.

17 **Territorial Marine Parks**:

St. Croix East End Marine Park	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1, §98.* Designated on January 9, 2003. Regulations designate certain restricted zones within the park boundaries. Enforcement of regulations pending establishment of park boundary markers. Contact the Division of Environmental Enforcement for regulations at (340)773-5774 or the Marine Park Coordinator at (340)718-3367.

18 **Altona Lagoon and Great Pond Shrimp Management**

Commissioner Prescribed Rule 1992 under V.I.C. Title 12, Chapter 9A §303(1).

a. All seine nets, gill nets and traps are prohibited in Altona Lagoon, Great Pond and their respective connecting channels to the sea.
b. All seine nets, gill nets and traps are prohibited in Christiansted Harbor within 100 yards of the mouth of Altona Lagoon channel. All seine nets, gill nets and traps are prohibited in Great Pond Bay within 100 yards of the mouth of Great Pond channel.
c. No motorized vessels are allowed in Altona Lagoon, Great Pond and their respective connecting channels to the sea.
d. A recreational shrimp fishing permit is required to harvest shrimp on St. Croix Obtain permit from the Division of Environmental Enforcement. The annual fee for this permit is $10.00.
e. Monofilament or nylon cast nets of 3/8 inch square mesh (3/4 inch stretch mesh) may be used to harvest shrimp in Altona Lagoon channel and Great Pond channel. Cast nets of knotless nylon netting are prohibited.
f. Cast nets of 1 inch square mesh (2 inch stretch mesh) may be used to harvest fish in Altona Lagoon, Great Pond and their respective connecting channels to the sea. Cast nets of knotless nylon netting are prohibited.
g. The sale of southern pink shrimp is prohibited. Vendors selling shrimp must possess a certificate of origin for the shrimp.
h. The use of lights to attract shrimp for harvest is prohibited.
i. Recreational handline and rod and reel fishing are permitted in Altona Lagoon, Great

Pond and their respective connecting channels to the sea.

19	**General Provision:**	*V.I.R.R., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14(f).*
	Filleting:	The filleting of fish in Territorial/Federal waters of the US Caribbean is prohibited and it is required that indigenous fish captured or possessed in territorial waters be landed with heads and fins intact.

WEBSITE REFERENCES

Virgin Islands Code - http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/vicode/

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) – http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html

DPNR – Division of Fish and Wildlife - http://fish-and-wildlife.dpnr.gov.vi

Caribbean Fisheries Management Council – http://www.caribbeanfmc.com/

National Marine Fisheries Service – http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/

EEZ Recreational Fishers- http://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov

FEDERAL WATERS AROUND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS
SUMMARY OF FISHING REGULATIONS

FEDERAL WATERS EXTEND FROM 3 TO 200 NAUTICAL MILES OFFSHORE

1 **Yellowtail Snapper:** *50 CFR 622.37(a)* – Minimum 12 inches total length (Appendix 1).

2 **Nassau Grouper:** *50 CFR 622.32(b)(ii)* - No harvest or possession

3 **Goliath Grouper (jewfish):** *50 CFR 622.32(b)(ii)* - No harvest or possession.

4 **Queen Conch:** *50 CFR 622.32(b)(1)(iv)* - No person may fish for, or possess on board a fishing vessel, a Caribbean queen conch in or from the Caribbean EEZ, except during November 1 through May 31 (or earlier depending on the ACL), in the area east of 64°34' W. longitude which includes Lang Bank east of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. When the USVI closes territorial waters off St. Croix to the harvest and possession of queen, the EEZ in the area east of 64°34' W. longitude, will close concurrently.

50 CFR 622.37(g) - Minimum size of 9 inch shell length from the spire to the distal end, or 3/8 inch lip thickness (see Appendix 1). *50 CFR 622.38(f)* - Queen conch in or from the Caribbean EEZ must be maintained with meat and shell intact. *50 CFR 622.39(e)(2)* - The recreational bag limit for queen conch is 3 per person or, if more than 4 persons are aboard, 12 per boat. *50 CFR 622.41(f)* - No person may harvest queen conch by diving while using a device that provides a continuous air supply from the surface. *50 CFR 622.44(e)* - The bag limit for commercial fishers is not more than 150 queen conch per day.

5 **Caribbean Spiny Lobster** *50 CFR 622.2* - Caribbean spiny lobster means *Panulirus argus*. *50 CFR 622.37(b)* – Minimum size 3.5 inches carapace length. *50 CFR 622.38(b)* - A Caribbean spiny lobster must be maintained with head and carapace intact. *50 CFR 622.32(b)* (iii) - Egg-bearing spiny lobster in the Caribbean EEZ must be returned to the water unharmed. An egg-bearing spiny lobster may be retained in a trap, provided the trap is returned immediately to the water. An egg-bearing spiny lobster may not be stripped, scraped, shaved, clipped, or in any other manner molested, in order to remove the eggs. *50 CFR 622.31(*j) - Spears and hooks. A spear, hook, or similar device may not be used in the Caribbean EEZ to harvest a Caribbean spiny lobster. The possession of a speared, pierced, or punctured Caribbean spiny lobster in or from the Caribbean EEZ is prima facie evidence of violation of this section.

6 **Aquarium Trade:** *50 CFR 622.45(b*) - A live red hind or live mutton snapper may not be sold or purchased and used in the marine aquarium trade.

7	**Corals:**	*50 CFR 622.2* - Caribbean prohibited coral means, a gorgonian, Class Anthozoa, Subclass Octocorallia, Order Gorgonacea; a live rock; or a stony coral, Class Hydrozoa (fire corals and hydrocorals) or of the Class Anthozoa, Subclass Hexacorallia, Orders Scleractinia (stony corals) and Antipatharia (black corals); or a part thereof. *50 CFR 622.32(b)(1)(i)* - Caribbean prohibited coral may not be fished for or possessed in or from the Caribbean EEZ. *50 CFR 622.45(a)* - No person may sell or purchase a Caribbean prohibited coral harvested in the Caribbean EEZ. A Caribbean prohibited coral that is sold in the U.S. Virgin Islands will be presumed to have been harvested in the Caribbean EEZ, unless it is accompanied by documentation.
8	**Billfish:** Minimum Size Regulations:	*50 CFR 635* - **No commercial harvest; no sale** Long Bill Spearfish – Retention is prohibited. Blue Marlin– 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length (see Appendix 1); White Marlin – 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length (see Appendix 1); Sailfish – 63" Lower Jaw Fork Length (see Appendix 1); Swordfish – 47" Lower Jaw Fork Length (see Appendix 1 and #10 below).
9	**Parrotfish:**	*50 CFR 622.32 (b) (1) (v)* No person may fish for or possess midnight, blue, or rainbow parrotfish from the Caribbean EEZ. Such fish caught must be released without harm.
10	**Billfish, Swordfish, Tuna & Shark:**	*50 CFR 635* - The NOAA Fisheries, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, regulates billfish, swordfish, tuna, and sharks in all waters of the Caribbean Sea.
	Permits:	**All owners/operators of commercial and recreational vessels harvesting swordfish and certain species of tuna described below and all dealers of these species MUST obtain the required Federal permits**:
	Recreational:	The NOAA Fisheries requires that all vessels involved in the recreational billfish fishery to register and purchase a Highly Migratory Species Permit (HMSP) to participate in billfish fisheries in the Caribbean. The permit also covers tuna (excluding blackfin), sharks, and swordfish. Permit holders are required to report total landings of species covered by HMSP to NOAA Fisheries.
	Commercial:	Commercial fishers must obtain a federal harvest permit to catch and keep yellowfin, bigeye, bluefin, skipjack and albacore tunas. Commercial fishers must obtain a federal dealer's permit to sell any of the above regulated tuna species. Commercial harvest permit does not allow participation in HMS recreational tournaments.
	Permit Application:	Permit applications are available at the Division of Fish and Wildlife (address on back cover). For permit information or questions regarding HMSP regulations, contact: Highly Migratory Species Management Office, NOAA Fisheries, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298, phone: (978) 281-9260 or (888) 872-8862; or Christopher Rogers, Chief, Highly Migratory Species

Management Division, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NOAA-Fisheries, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Springs, Maryland 20910-3282, phone: (301) 713-2347.

Size Restrictions: The commercial and recreational minimum legal harvest size for yellowfin and bigeye tuna is 27" fork length (see Appendix 1). The recreational minimum for bluefin tuna is 27", however, check NOAA Fisheries for current commercial bluefin limits.

Bag Limit: Recreational bag limit (possession) is three yellowfin tuna per person per day. No limit for bigeye, albacore, and skipjack tunas. Check NOAA Fisheries for current bluefin limits.

11 **Sea Turtles:** *50 CFR 17.11* - No harvest, possession, or harassment of sea turtles or their eggs.

12 **Seabirds:** *50 CFR 10.12* – Seabirds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. To minimize injury to seabirds, do not discard fishing line at sea.

13 **Traps:**

Marking: *50 CFR 622.6(b)(1)(i)(A)* - Trap must display the official number specified for the vessel by the U.S. Virgin Islands. *50 CFR 622.6(b)(1)(ii)(A)* - All individual traps or end of trap lines require a surface buoy that must display the official number and color code.

Unmarked Traps: *50 CFR 622.6(b)(1)(iv)* - An unmarked trap or a buoy deployed is illegal and may be disposed of by an authorized officer.

Trap Tending: *50 CFR 622.40(a)(1)* - A trap may be pulled or tended only by a person (other than an authorized officer) aboard the trap owner's vessel.

Fish Traps: *50 CFR 622.40(c (1)* - A bare-wire fish trap that has hexagonal mesh openings must have a minimum mesh size of 1.5 inches in the smallest dimension measured between centers of opposite strands. A bare-wire fish trap that has other than hexagonal mesh openings or a fish trap of other than bare wire, such as coated wire or plastic, must have a minimum mesh size of 2.0 inches in the smallest dimension measured between centers of opposite strands.

50 CFR 622.40(b)(1)(i) - A fish trap must have a panel located on one side of the trap, excluding the top, bottom, and side containing the trap entrance. The opening covered by the panel must measure not less than 8 by 8 inches. The mesh size of the panel may not be smaller than the mesh size of the trap. The panel must be attached to the trap with untreated jute twine with a diameter not exceeding 1/8 inch. An access door may serve as the panel, provided it is on an appropriate side, it is hinged only at its bottom, its only other fastening is untreated jute twine with a diameter not exceeding 1/8 inch, and such fastening is at the top of the door so that the door will fall open when such twine degrades. Jute twine used to secure a panel may not be wrapped or overlapped.

Lobster Trap: *50 CFR 622.40(b)(1)(ii)* - A spiny lobster trap must contain on any vertical side or on the top a panel no smaller in diameter than the

throat or entrance of the trap. The panel must be made of or attached by either: untreated fiber of biological origin with a diameter not exceeding 1/8 inch. This includes, but is not limited to tyre palm, hemp, jute, cotton, wool, or silk, or ungalvanized or uncoated iron wire with a diameter not exceeding 1/16 inch that is, 16 gauge wire.

14	**Year-Round Closures:**	
	Hind Bank Marine Conservation District (MCD), St. Thomas:	*50 CFR 622.33(b)* – No fishing for any species, and no anchoring by fishing vessels. Appendix 5 provides coordinates and a map of the boundaries of the MCD.
15	**Seasonal Area Closures:**	*50 CFR 622.33(a)* - Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gillnets or trammel nets is prohibited year-round in the three seasonally closed areas specified below.
	Grammanik Bank, St. Thomas:	*50 CFR 622.33(a)(3)* - February 1 through April 30, no person may fish for or possess any species of fish, except highly migratory species, in or from the Grammanik Bank closed area. **"Highly migratory species"** means bluefin, bigeye, yellowfin, albacore, and skipjack tunas; swordfish; sharks, and white marlin, blue marlin, sailfish, and longbill spearfish. Appendix 4 provides coordinates and a map of the boundaries of the Grammanik Bank seasonal closure area.
	Red Hind Spawning Aggregation Area, St. Croix:	*50 CFR 622.33(a)(2)* - December 1 through February 28, no fishing in those parts of the following areas that are in the EEZ. Appendix 6 provides coordinates and a map of the boundaries of the Red Hind Spawning Aggregation seasonal closure area.
	Mutton Snapper Spawning Aggregation Area, St. Croix:	*50 CFR 629.21&24* - March 1 through June 30, no fishing in that part of the following area that is in the EEZ. Appendix 7 provides coordinates and a map of the boundaries of the Mutton Snapper Spawning Aggregation seasonal closure area.
16	**Seasonal Species Closures:**	
	Groupers:	*50 CFR 622.33(a)(4)* - February 1 through April 30, no harvest and/or possession of red, black, tiger, yellowfin, or yellowedge grouper.
	Snappers:	*50 CFR 622.33(a)(6)* – October 1 through December 31, no harvest and/or possession of vermilion, black, silk, or blackfin snapper. *50 CFR 622.33(a)(7)* – April 1 through June 30, no harvest and/or possession of lane or mutton snapper.
17	**Gear Prohibition:**	
	Net Fishing:	*50 CFR 622.31(l)* – No gillnet or trammel net may be used to fish for Caribbean reef fish or Caribbean spiny lobster. Possession of a gill or trammel net and any Caribbean reef fish or Caribbean spiny

lobster is prima facie evidence of violation. A gillnet or trammel net used in the Caribbean EEZ to fish for any other species must be tended at all times.

18 **Recreational Bag & Possession Limits:**

groupers, snappers & parrotfish combined: *50 CFR 622.39 (2)(i)*- 5 per person per day or, if 3 or more persons are aboard, 15 per vessel per day; but not to exceed 2 parrotfish per person per day or 6 parrotfish per vessel per day.

other fish combined: *50 CFR 622.39 (2)(ii)*- 5 per person per day or, if 3 or more persons are aboard, 15 per vessel per day, but not to exceed 1 surgeonfish per person per day or 4 surgeonfish per vessel per day.

19 **Annual Catch Limits:**

Table of Annual Catch Limits, in Federal waters, for each fishing district.

	St. Croix	St. Thomas/ St. John
Species	50 CFR 622.49 (c)(2):	50 CFR 622.49 (c)(3):
Parrotfishes	240,000 lb (108,863 kg)	42,500 lb (19,278 kg)
Snappers	102,946 lb (46,696 kg)	133,775 lb (60,679 kg)
Groupers	30,435 lb (13,805 kg)	51,849 lb (23,518 kg)
Angelfish	305 lb (138 kg)	7,897 lb (3,582 kg)
Boxfish	8,433 lb (3,825 kg)	27,880 lb (12,646 kg)
Goatfishes	3,766 lb (1,708 kg)	320 lb (145 kg)
Grunts	36,881 lb (16,729 kg)	37,617 lb (17,063 kg)
Wrasses	7 lb (3 kg)	585 lb (265 kg)
Jacks	15,489 lb (7,076 kg)	52,907 lb (23,998 kg)
Scups and porgies, combined	4,638 lb (2,104 kg)	21,819 lb (9,897 kg)
Squirrelfish	121 lb (55 kg).	4,241 lb (1,924 kg)
Surgeonfish	33,603 lb (15,242 kg)	29,249 lb (13,267 kg)
Triggerfish and filefish, combined	24,980 lb (11,331 kg)	74,447 lb (33,769 kg)
Spiny lobster	107,307 lb (48,674 kg)	104,199 lb (47,264 kg)

Table of Annual Catch limits, in both Territorial and Federal waters for each fishing district.

	St. Croix	St. Thomas/ St. John
Species	50 CFR 622.49 (c)(2):	50 CFR 622.49 (c)(3):
Queen conch	50,000 lb (22,680 kg)	50,000 lb (22,680 kg)

Table of Annual Catch limits, for the USVI (Combined Fishing districts), in Territorial and Federal waters.

Species	USVI landings
TILEFISH	14,642 lb (6,641 kg)

20	**<u>General Provision:</u>** Filleting:	*50 CFR 622.3(a)* – Finfish must be maintained with head and fins intact. *50 CFR 622.3(*c) - Shark, swordfish, and tuna species are exempt from this requirement. *50 CFR 622.3(*c)(1) - Bait is exempt from the requirement to be maintained with head and fins intact. *50 CFR 622.3(*c)(2) - Legal-sized finfish possessed for consumption at sea on the harvesting vessel are exempt from the requirement to have head and fins intact, provided: (i) such finfish do not exceed any applicable bag limit; (ii) such finfish do not exceed 1.5 lb (680 g) of finfish parts per person aboard; and (iii) the vessel is equipped to cook such finfish on board.
	Anchoring:	*50 CFR 622.41(b)* - Any fishing vessel, recreational or commercial that fishes for or possesses Caribbean reef fish must ensure that the vessel uses only an anchor retrieval system that recovers the anchor by its crown, thereby preventing the anchor from dragging along the bottom during recovery. For a grapnel hook, this could include an incorporated anchor rode reversal bar that runs parallel along the shank, which allows the rode to reverse and slip back toward the crown. For a fluke- or plow-type anchor, a trip line consisting of a line from the crown of the anchor to a surface buoy would be required.

RESUMEN DE REGULACIONES DE PESCA
DE AGUAS TERRITORIALES DE LAS ISLAS VÍRGENES

AGUAS TERRITORIALES - Hasta 3 millas mar afuera

1 **Caracoles (Burgaos):** *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-6 & 316-7.*

Límite de Tamaño: Tiene que ser mas grande de 2 7/16 pulgadas de diámetro.

Restricción de Capturas: Traído entero en el casco (ver apéndice 1).

Cierre de Temporada: 1 de Abril – 30 de Septiembre

2 **Carrucho De Aleta:** *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-1 & 316-4.*

Límite de Tamaño: Tamano minimo de 9 pulgadas de largo desde la punta arriba de la concha asta donde termina la aleta abajo de la concha o un espesor de aleta de 3/8" (vea apendice1) .

Cuota: No puede cojer carruchos por debajo del tamano inferior al normal. No puede poseer carnes de carruchos que sea mas inferior a dos por libras sin limpiar o tres por libras limpios. 200 carruchos por dia por embarcacion registrada commercial.

Uso Personal: 6 carruchos por dia por pescador recreacional (para uso personal). No puede exceder mas de 24 por enbarccion por dia.

Restricción de Capturas: El total de carruchos desenbarcados annual no debe exceder 50,000 libras en Santa Cruz y 50,000 libras en St. Thomas / St. John. Si se excede se cerrara la temporada de cojida hasta Noviembre 1, de ese año. Debe ser desembarcado vivo y entero adentro de su concha hasta su desembarco final.
No puede desechar la concha al mar antes de que lo desenbarque. llevar las conchas mar afuera a las islas o callos para el proposito de remover la carne es prohibido.
Transportar la carne del carrucho fuera de la concha sobre aguas abierta es prohibido.

Restricción de Venta: No se puede vender conchas o carne de carrucho que sea de tamano inferior al normal. No se puede vender carne de carrucho importado almenos que sea acompanado por un permiso de (CITE) exportacion y que el embarque sea aclarado por el Puerto de Miami. (Vea importación de carrucho, pagina 8 para excepciones y para mas información).

Cierre de Temporada: Junio 1 – Octubre 31. Posesión de carrucho de aleta en la temporada de cierre es ilegal.

3 **Langosta:** *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §319.*

Límite de Tamaño: 3 ½ pulgada tamaño de casco (ver apéndice 1).

Restricción de Capturas: Traída entera.
Prohibido capturar hembras con huevos.

Restricción de Equipo: Prohibido usar arpón o escopeta de pesca ni anzuelos de ningún tipo.

4 **Camarones** *Commissioner Prescribed Rule, V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §303(1).*

Ningún tipo de pesca comercial en Altona Lagoon y Great Pond.
Prohibida la venta de camarones.

		Licencia recreativa es requerida (ver pagina 1).
5	**Mero Guasa:**	*Commissioner Prescribed Rule, V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 2, §104* Prohibida la pesca y captura.
6	**Mero Nassau**	*V.I.C. Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14 (e).* La posesión de Mero Nassau esta prohibido todo el ano en las aguas territorial hasta que el CFMC determine que se ha recuperado.
7	**Pez Espada (Aguja):**	*50 CFR 635 V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A.* Regulaciones federales Ver paginas 24-25 para reglamento especifico.
8	**Pez Espada, el Tiburón y El Atún (Tuna):**	*50 CFR 635 V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A.* Regulaciones federales (ver Regulaciones Federales, abajo).
9	**Sábalo & Macaco:**	*Commissioner Prescribed Rule V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §304.* Se prohíbe la pesca; solamente se puede usar anzuelos y cordel para captura y libera.
10	**Tortugas Marinas (Fanduca):**	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §318.* . Prohibida la pesca, captura y hostigamiento.
11	**Pájaros Marinos**	*V.I.C. Title 12, Chapter 2.* Pájaros marinos estan protegidos por el Endangered and Indigenous Species Act of 1990. Para minimizar heridas a los pajaros marinos o muerte, no desechar cordel de pesca en el mar.
12	**Colección Acuario:**	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §106c.* Permiso requerido a través de DPNR División de Pesca y Vida Silvestre.
13	**Nasas de Pesca:** Distrito de San Tomas y San John:	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §304-4 & §304-6 & 321* _____: Toda nasa vieja y nueva en aguas territoriales será de 2" pulgadas hexagonal o 2 pulgadas de malla cuadrada. Todas serán inspeccionadas por la División de Environmental Enforcement.
	Distrito de Santa Cruz:	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §304-5 & §304-6 & 321.* _____: Toda nasa vieja y nueva en aguas territoriales será de 1 ½ pulgada hexagonal con la malla mas pequeña en ambos lados de la nasa. Todas las nasas serán inspeccionadas y marcadas por la División de Environmental Enforcement. *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §321.*

Ambos Distritos: Restricción de equipo: Cada nasa tendrá un panel de escape que estará compuesto de material biodegradable con soga de 1/8" de yute. Colores y numero de licencia deben estar visibles en cada nasa.

14 **Redes:** *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §321.*

Restricción del Equipo: Tamaño de malla: Trasmallo de arrastre, mas de 1 ½ pulgada de malla estirada. Los trasmallos para la pesca de carnada pueden tener mallas más pequeñas de 1 ¼".
No deben ser sacados del agua para coger las capturas.

V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §321-1.

Prohibición del Equipo: El uso del trasmallo de ahorque y mallorquín son prohibidos con la excepción del trasmallo del superficie de carnada (ballyhoo, gar o volador). Estos trasmallos deben ser atendido en todo momento. No deben ser mas de 1,800 pies en tomaño y no debe utilizarlo menos de 20 pie del fondo. El tamaño de malla no debe ser menos de ¾ de pulgadas cuadradas o 1.5 pulgadas estirada. Solamente un trasmallo de carnada de 1,800 pies permitido por barco. La penalidad por las violaciones de trasmallo de ahorque y mallorquín: la multa es $1,000 por barco y confiscación del barco y equipo.

15 **Reservas Marinas:** Ningún tipo de pesca ni captura de ninguna clase esta permitida con la excepción de las siguientes.

Reserva de St. James: *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1 §96-3 & §96-4*

Leyes Permitidas: 50' pies de la orilla. Cow y Calf rocks ("C" en el mapa apéndice 2) están fuera de límite y no son consideradas como orillas. Para límites ver el mapa apéndice 2, área "C".

Permiso para Pescar: Un permiso especial mensual es requerido y obtenido de la División de Environmental Enforcement para pescar la carnada y para el uso de cordel en la reserva (ver pagina 1).

Reserva de Cas Cay y Laguna Manglar: *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1 §96-5.*

Permitido: Esta permitido el uso de una taralla 50' pies de la orilla parte Norte y Oeste de Cas Cay solamente. Ver mapa apéndice 4, área "B" y "A".

Permiso para Pescar: Se requiere un permiso especial mensual para pescar carnada en la reserva, se obtiene en la División de Environmental Enforcement (ver pagina 1). La carnada se puede pescar solamente 50' pies de la orilla Norte y Oeste de Cas Cay.

Prohibiciones En la Laguna Manglar (ver mapa apéndice 4, "A" área) esta prohibido todo tipo de pesca, y el uso de motores de combustión.

	Compass Point, Reserva Marina y Santuario de Vida Salvaje:	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1 §96-2.* Designado en St. Tomas el 24 de Septiembre de 1992. Todo tipo de caza, pesca, captura y recogida de plantas y animales, dentro de la reserva marina y santuario de vida salvaje esta terminantemente prohibida. Ver mapa apéndice 4, área "D".
	El Santuario de Vida Salvaje y Marina de Salt River en Santa Cruz	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1, § 96-12.* Designado Julio 19, 1995. Es ilegal que (1) coleccione o posee ningún pes, coral, o pájaros y otra vida Silvestre, o parte de ellos: (2) Poseer o usar y poseer armas de fuego, Flechas, escopetas de pescar o cualquier trampas, y redes o cualquier artefacto deseñado que sea capas de ser usados para coger pájaros, peses o cualquier vida sylvestre, con la excepción de la cojida y liberación de la pesca recreacional de línea con anzuelo sin ganchos en la púa, o descarga alguna arma de fuego o si liberan alguna flecha en el santuario. Contacte la Division de Coacción Ambiental (Enviromental Enforcement) para regulaciones completa.
	La laguna de Frank Bay: Reserva Marina y Santuario Marino de St. John	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1 §96-4.* Designado en St. John el 24 de Marzo del 2000. Reserva Marina y Santuario de Vida Salvaje, Frank Bay, se prohíbe totalmente todo tipo de pesca y recolección de organismos marinos en la laguna de Frank Bay. El uso de embarcaciones motorizadas es prohibido.
16	**Área de Cierre por Temporada**: Área de reproducción de la Sama:	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A §316-13.* No se permite la pesca de ninguna especie desde el 1 de Marzo hasta el 30 de Junio (ver apéndice 6 y 7).
17	**Parque Territorial Marino:** St. Croix East End Marine park	*V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 1 §98.* Designado el 9 de Enero de 2003. El reglamento esta pendiente ya que actualmente todavía se encuentra en proceso de revisión. Para mas información contacte a la División de Environmental Enforcement en el (340) 773-5774 o el Coordinador del parque en el (340) 773-1082 x 2204.

18 **Manejo de Camarones Altona Lagoon y Great Pond**
Commissioner Prescribed Rule 1992 V.I.C. Title 12, Chapter 9A §303(1).

a.

mar.

b. Todo trasmallo de arrastre, trasmallo de ahorque y nasas de pesca están prohibidos en la bahía de Christiansted y dentro 100 yardas de la boca de Altona Lagoon. Todo trasmallo de arrastre, trasmallo de ahorque y nasas de pesca están prohibidos en la bahía de Great Pond y dentro de 100 yardas de el canal de Great Pond.

c. N , Great Pond y canales que conecten al mar.

d. Tarallas de hilo plástico de malla cuadrada 3/8 pulgadas y malla estirada de 3/4 pulgadas pueden ser usadas para capturar camarones en el canal de Altona Lagoon y Great Pond. están prohibidas las tarallas de hilo de nylon sin nudos.
e. Tarallas de l pulgada de malla cuadrada (2 pulgadas de malla estirada) pueden ser usadas para coger peces en Altona Lagoon, Great Pond y sus respectivos canales conectando al mar. Tarallas de hilo de nylon sin nudos están prohibidas.
f. Una licencia recreativa para capturar camarones es necesaria en Santa Cruz. El coste anual para obtener esta licencia es $10.00. Este permiso se solicita a través de la División de Environmental Enforcement.
g. La venta de camarones esta prohibida. Cualquier persona que tenga camarones para la venta deberá tener un certificado de origen sobre la procedencia de los camarones.
h. El uso de luces para atraer los camarones esta terminantemente prohibido.
i. La pesca de cordel de mano y vara esta permitido en Altona Lagoon, Great Pond y respectivos canales que conectan al mar.

19 **Especies Cerradas por Temporadas**

Meros: *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14(a).*
Desde el 1 de Febrero hasta el 30 de Abril, cada año, no se podrá pescar los meros rojos, negros, tigre, aleta amarilla ni filo amarillo.

Pargos: *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14(b).*
Desde el 1 de Octubre hasta el 31 de Diciembre, todos los años, ninguna persona podrá poseer o pescar besugo, negras, chopas negras ni chillos.

V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14(c)(d).
Desde el 1 de abril hasta el 30 de Junio, cada año, no se podrán pescar ni poseer samas ni arrayados.

20 **Normativa General**

Filetear: *V.I.C., Title 12, Chapter 9A, §316-14(f).*
Esta prohibido filetear pescados en aguas federales del U.S. Caribe y es requerido que pescado capturado o poseído en aguas territoriales deben ser embarcado a orilla entero con cabezas y aletas intactas.

RESUMEN DE REGULACIONES DE PESCA DE AGUAS FEDERALES DE LAS ISLAS VÍRGENES

AGUAS FEDERALES - 3 millas hasta 200 millas mar afuera

1	**Colirubia:**	*50 CFR 622.37(a)* – Mínimo de12 pulgadas tamaño total (ver apéndice 1).
2	**Mero Nassau:**	*50 CFR 669.22(a)* - Prohibida la pesca y captura.
3	**Mero Guasa:**	*50 CFR 669.22(a)* - Prohibida la pesca y captura.
4	**Carruchos**	*50 CFR 622.32 (b) (1)(iv)* – Ninguna persona podrá pescar, poseer carruchos que vengan o que estén en la Zona Económica Exclusiva (EEZ), excepto durante los meses desde el 1 de Octubre hasta el 30 de Junio en el área al este de 64°34'W. que incluye Lang Bank al este de St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. *50 CFR 622.37(g)* – Tamaño mínimo de 9 pulgadas de punta a punta, o 3/8 de pulgada en el grosor del labio (ver apéndice 1). *50 CFR 622.38(f)* – Los carruchos de la EEZ deberán ser mantenidos con la carne y el casco intactos. *50 CFR 622.39 (e)(2)* – Para la pesca recreativa se permite un máximo de 3 carruchos por persona o, en el caso de que hayan mas de 4 personas a bordo del barco, se permitirán un máximo de 12 carruchos por barco. 50 CFR 622.41 (f) – No esta permitida la pesca de carruchos con una fuente de aire que provenga de la superficie. 50 CFR 622.44(e) – El máximo de capturas por pescador comercial por día es de 150 carruchos.
5	**Langosta**	*50 CFR 622.2* - El nombre de "langosta" se refiere a la especie *Panulirus argus. 50 CFR 622.*37*(b)* El carapacho debe tener una talla mínima de 3.5 pulgadas de longitud. *50 CFR 622.38(b)* La langosta deberá mantenerse intacta. *50 CFR 622.32(b) (iii)* – Las langostas que tengan huevos deberán ser devueltas al agua inmediatamente. No esta permitido quitar los huevos de la langosta de ninguna manera. *50 CFR 622.31(j)* Los arpones y anzuelos u otras herramientas similares no están autorizadas para la pesca de la langosta en la EEZ. La posesión de una langosta que presente señales de haber sido capturada utilizando métodos no permitidos será considerado como evidencia de violación de de esta sección.
6	**Colección Acuarios**	*50 CFR 622.45(b)* – Se prohíbe la comercialización de cabrillas (*Epinephelus guttatus)* vivas para acuarios (conocidas también por meros pinto), se prohíbe además el comercio de samas (*Lutjanus analis)* vivas para acuarios.
7	**Corales**	*50 CFR 622.2* – La pesca de corales caribeños esta prohibida para las siguientes categorías: gorgóneas, Clase Anthozoa, Subclase Octocoralia, Orden Gorgonacea; piedra coralina, Clase Hydrozoa (corales de fuego e hidrocorales) o Clase Anthozoa, Subclase Hexacorallia, Orden Scleractinia (piedra coralina) y Antipatharia (coral negro); o partes de los mismos. Estos corales son llamados "Corales Caribeños Prohibidos".*50 CFR 622.32(b)(1)(i)* – Los corales caribeños prohibidos no podrán ser pescados

		ni se podrán poseer dentro de la EEZ. *50 CFR 622.45(a)* Ninguna persona podrá comercializar comprar o vender corales caribeños prohibidos que hayan sido sustraídos de la EEZ. Cualquier coral caribeño prohibido que este en venta en las Islas Vírgenes U.S. será considerado como extraído de la EEZ, a no ser que este acompañado de la documentación reglamentaria.
8	**Agujas** Reglamento Sobre Tamaños Mínimos:	*50 CFR 635* – **Prohibida la extracción comercial; prohibida la venta de:** Aguja azul - 99" desde la mandíbula inferior a centro de cola (ver apéndice 1); Aguja blanca – 66" desde mandíbula inferior a centro de cola (ver apéndice 1); Pez Vela – 63" desde mandíbula inferior a centro de cola (ver apéndice 1); Pez Espada (Emperador) 47" desde mandíbula inferior a centro de cola (ver apéndice 1 y #9 abajo).
9	**Agujas, Pez Espada, Atunes y Tiburones** Permisos: Recreativo: Comercial: Solicitud de Licencias: Restricciones de Tamaño:	*50 CFR 635* – La División de la Gestión de Especies Altamente Migratorias, de NOAA Pesquerías, gestiona y regula las agujas, peces espada, atunes y tiburones en las aguas del Mar Caribe. **Todos los propietarios u operadores de embarcaciones de pesca, comerciales o recreativos, que extraigan alguna de estas especies DEBERAN obtener los permisos Federales requeridos:** NOAA requiere que todas las embarcaciones que de alguna manera estén involucradas en la pesca recreativa de estas especies, deberán registrarse y comprar un permiso de Especies Altamente Migratorias (HMSP) en el Caribe. Este permiso cubre también a los atunes (excluyendo el Albacora o Bonito), tiburones y pez espada. Los titulares de los permisos están obligados a reportar el total de capturas a NOAA. Los pescadores comerciales deben obtener un permiso federal para poder pescar y conservar atún de aleta amarilla, ojón, atún de aleta azul, bonito, aletas negras y albacora. También deberán obtener una licencia de venta federal para poder vender este pescado. Una licencia de pesca comercial federal de HMSP no autoriza al pescador comercial a participar en los torneos de pesca recreativa. Los formularios para solicitar las licencias están disponibles en las oficinas de Fish & Wildlife (dirección al dorso). Para preguntas sobre HMSP, contacte: Highly Migratory Species Management Office, NOAA Fisheries, Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298, phone: (978)281-9260 o (888)872-8862; o Christopher Rogers, Chief, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NOAA – Fisheries, 1315 East Highway, Silver Springs, Maryland 20910-3282, phone: (301)713-2347. Para el atún de aleta amarilla y el ojón deberán tener un tamaño mínimo de 27" de longitud desde el labio inferior al centro de la cola (ver apéndice 1). Para el atún de cola azul el tamaño mínimo es también de 27", aunque hay que confirmar con NOAA si ha habido algún cambio reciente. Para el pescador recreativo el límite es de 3 atunes de cola amarilla por persona y por día. No existe límite para el ojón, albacora ni el bonito. Para el atún de cola azul por favor consulte con NOAA.

	Limite de Capturas:	
10	**<u>Tortugas Marinas (Fanduca)</u>**	*50 CFR 17.11* – No esta permitida la captura, posesión, ni molestar a las tortugas ni los huevos.
11	**<u>Pájaros Marinos</u>**	*50 CFR 10.12* – Pájaros marinos estan protegidos por el Acta del Pajaros Migratorio (Migratory Bird Treaty Act). Para minimizar heridas a los pajaros marinos o muerte, no desechar cordel de pesca en el mar.
12	**<u>Nasas</u>**	
	Marcas:	*50 CFR 622.6(b)(1)(i)(A)* – Las nasas deberán presentar el numero oficial de la embarcación especificado por las Islas Vírgenes. *50 CFR 622.6(b)(1)(ii)(A)* – Todas las nasas deberán de ir acompañadas de una boya de superficie en las que se verán números y colores oficiales.
	Sin Marcas:	*50 CFR 622.6(b)(1)(iv)* – Las boyas que no estén marcadas serán consideradas ilegales y podrán ser confiscadas por un oficial autorizado. *50 CFR 622.6(a)(1)* – Las nasas solo podrán ser levantadas por personas que estén a bordo de la embarcación del propietario de las nasas.
	Nasas de Pescado:	*50 CFR 622.40(c)(1)* – Las nasas construidas con la malla hecha de alambre al descubierto formando agujeros hexagonales deberán tener un tamaño mínimo de 1.5 pulgadas en la parte mas pequeña del hexágono. Las que formen la malla con otras formas y no sean de alambre descubierto (plásticos, etc.) deberán tener un tamaño mínimo de 2 pulgadas medidas desde los lados mas juntos de la figura que presente el agujero de la malla. *50 CFR 622.40(b)(1)(i)* – Las nasas deberán tener un panel en uno de los lados, excluyendo la cara superior e inferior y el lado donde se encuentre la entrada de la nasa. La abertura o puerta de salida estará recubierta por el panel y no podrá medir menos de 8x8 pulgadas. La malla del panel no podrá ser de un tamaño menor al del resto de la nasa. El panel deberá estar amarrado a la nasa con un material biodegradable que no este tratado y que no sobrepase 1/8 de pulgada. Una puerta de acceso puede servir como panel, suponiendo que sea del tamaño apropiado, esta puerta deberá tener uno de sus amarres hecho con un material biodegradable como el cáñamo que se descomponga con el tiempo previniendo así que en el caso que la nasa se extravíe la nasa con el tiempo se abra sola y no siga pescando innecesariamente. *50 CFR 622.40(b)(1)(ii)* – El nasero (puerta de entrada) deberá ser de menor tamaño que el resto de las caras de la nasa.
	Nasas de Langostas:	
13	**<u>Cierres Anuales:</u>**	
	Distrito de Conservación	*50 CFR 622.33(b)* – Las actividades siguientes están prohibidas en Hind Bank MCD: toda la pesca, el fondeo y anclaje de cualquier embarcación

	Marina de Hind Bank (MCD), St. Thomas:	pesquera. El apéndice numero 3 enseña las coordenadas de los límites del MCD.
14	**Áreas Cerradas por Temporadas:**	*50 CFR 622.33(a)* – La pesca con nasas, calas, trasmallo mallorquín y trasmallo de ahorque esta prohibida durante todo el año en las tres áreas siguientes que se especifican abajo.
	Grammanik Bank, St. Thomas:	*50 CFR 622.33(a)(3)* – Desde el 1 de Febrero hasta el 30 de Abril, todos los años, ninguna persona podrá estar en posesión de ningún tipo de pescado, exceptuando aquellas especies que sean altamente migratorias, dentro del área de cierre de Grammanik Bank. El apéndice numero 4 enseña las coordenadas de los límites de Grammanik Bank.
	Área de reproducción de Cabrillas, St. Croix:	*50 CFR 622.33(a)(2)* – Desde el 1 de Diciembre hasta el 28 de Febrero, todos lo años la pesca esta prohibida en aquellas áreas dentro de la EEZ. El apéndice numero 6 muestra las coordenadas del cierre en un mapa. *50 CFR 629.21&24* - Desde el 1 de Marzo hasta el 30 de Junio, todos los años, la pesca esta prohibida en las zonas dentro del área EEZ. El apéndice numero 7 muestra las coordenadas del área de cierre en un mapa.
	Área de reproducción de las Samas, St. Croix:	
15	**Especies Cerradas por Temporadas**	
	Meros:	*50 CFR 622.33(a)(4)* – Desde el 1 de Febrero hasta el 30 de Abril, cada año, no se podrá pescar los meros rojos, negros, tigre, aleta amarilla ni filo amarillo.
	Pargos:	*50 CFR 622.33(a)(6)* – Desde el 1 de Octubre hasta el 31 de Diciembre, todos los años, ninguna persona podrá poseer o pescar besugo, negras, chopas negras ni chillos. *50 CFR 622.33(a)(7)* – Desde el 1 de abril hasta el 30 de Junio, cada año, no se podrán pescar ni poseer samas ni arrayados.
16	**Equipos Prohibidos**:	
	Redes:	*50 CFR 622.31(l)* – El trasmallo de ahorque y el mallorquín no pueden ser utilizados para los peces de arrecife caribeños ni para la langosta. La posesión de de trasmallos y de pescado de arrecife será evidencia de violación de la ley. Los trasmallos utilizados para capturar otras especies deberán ser atendidas en todo momento.
17	**Normativa General**	
	Filetear:	*50CFR 622.3(a)* – El pescado deberá ser mantenido entero, no se podrán cortar las aletas colas ni cabezas. *50 CFR 622.3(c)* – Tiburones, pez espada

y atunes están exentos de esta normativa. *50 CFR 622.3(c)(1)* – El pescado que se utiliza como cebo esta excluido de esta normativa. *50 CFR 622.3(c)(2)* – El pescado que se encuentre a bordo de las embarcaciones para consumo de la tripulación esta excluido de esta normativa en los casos siguientes: (i) que el pescado en cuestión no exceda el limite de las cuotas; (ii) que el pescado en cuestión no exceda 1.5 lb (680 g) en cada pedazo de pescado por persona; (iii) que la embarcación tenga equipo para cocinar el pescado a bordo.

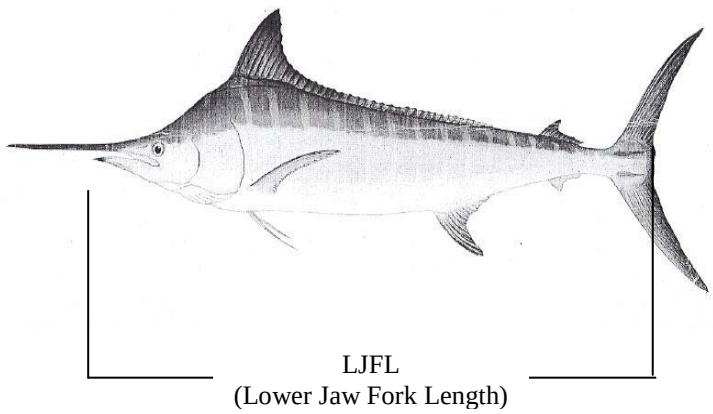
Anclaje:

50 CRF 622.41(b) – Cualquier embarcación de pesca comercial o recreativa deberá disponer de un sistema de anclaje que asegure la recogida del ancla por la corona, de esta manera de previene contra el arrastre del ancla y la destrucción del fondo marino cuando se levanta el ancla. En el caso de un gancho "Grapnel", se puede incluir un eslabón reversible que corra paralelo al brazo del ancla, lo que permite volver en dirección a la corona y evitar así el desgarre del fondo. Para las anclas tipo "fluke" o "plow" una línea o cabo deberá ir atado desde la corona o cabeza del ancla hasta una boya en la superficie.

APPENDIX 1

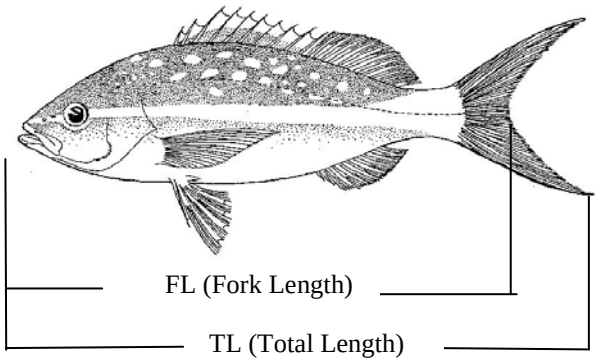
Length Measurements for Billfish, Finfish, Spiny Lobster, Conch and Whelk
Medidas de longitude para Peces de Pico, Finfish, Langostas, Burgaos y Carruchos

BILLFISH (Peces de Pico, Pez Espada, Marlin, Pez Vela)

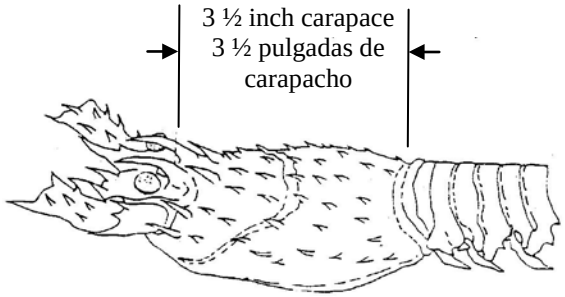


Blue Marlin 99” ; Sailfish 63”; White Marlin 66” ; Swordfish 47”

FINFISH
(Such as Yellowtail Snapper or Tuna)
(Como Colirrubias o Atunes)



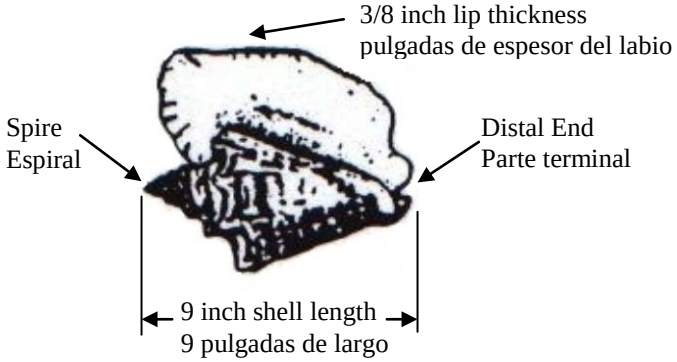
LOBSTER
LANGOSTA



Carapace length is measured along the midline

WHELK
BURGAO

CONCH
CARRUCHO



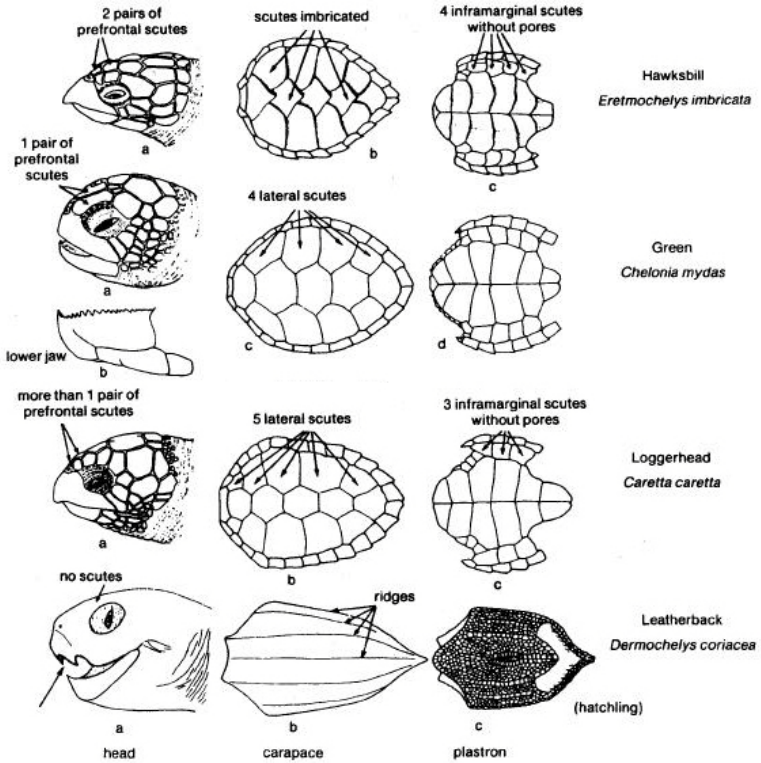
APPENDIX 2
Sea Turtles in Trouble

Boaters can reduce the chance of harming sea turtles by always operating boats at safe and responsible speeds, especially when traveling close to any shoreline, coral reef, or sea grass bed.

Stay in deep water channels when boating and avoid boating over sea grass beds and coral reefs where sea turtles might be feeding. Be aware that turtles also use deep water channels when traveling: stay alert and avoid sea turtles that are swimming or basking on the surface. Look for the head, shell, or flipper breaking the surface of the water. If you see a sea turtle when operating a powerboat, remain a safe distance away—50 feet is the recommended minimum.

Fishermen are likely to be the first ones to encounter a sea turtle in trouble. If you see a turtle that is entangled in fishing gear, injured by boat strike, or otherwise in distress, make a note of the specific location and type and extent of injuries and call the Division of Fish and Wildlife (340) 643-0793 (STX), (340) 513-3170 or call the Sea Turtle Assistance and Rescue: **340-690-0474.** They will be able to assess the situation and provide instructions.

PICTURE GUIDE TO SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE AREA



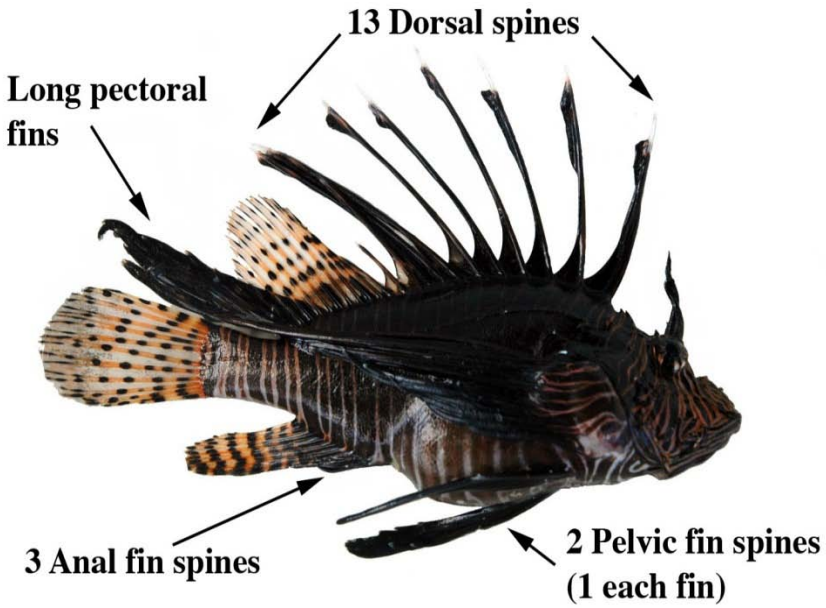
All sea turtles are protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act and the Territorial Endangered and Indigenous Species Act. The federal Act states that it is illegal to harass, harm, capture, or collect sea turtles or their eggs. Violators can be prosecuted under civil and criminal laws and charged heavy penalties. Members of the community are encouraged to report any suspicious activities or information about sea turtle poaching to the authorities.

APPENDIX 3

WANTED: DEAD NOT ALIVE- THE INDO-PACIFIC LIONFISH

- Lionfish are not poisonous, and may be safely eaten, however all their spines are venomous. Be very careful when handling lionfish.
- The venom cells extend from the base of the spine towards the tip. Exposed spines are not venomous. Cutting the spines off may not make the fish safe to handle. Extreme caution is suggested when handling the lionfish.
- Heat breaks down the venom, burning the spines with a torch will make the fish safe to handle.

The Indo-Pacific "Lionfish" is a dangerous invasive species, it is not only hazardous to humans, but also to our fisheries and economy



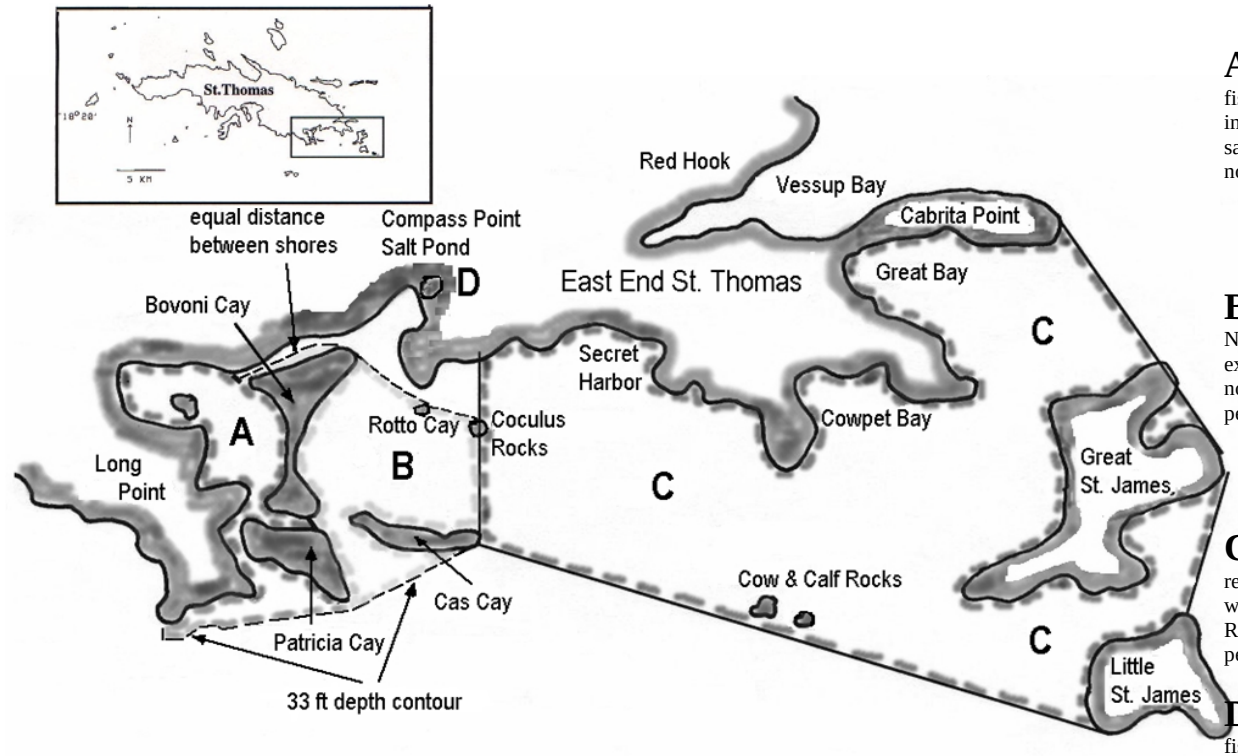
- **Report all Lionfish to DPNR, Division of Fish and Wildlife (340) 773-1082 or after hours (340) 643-0800. Reporting forms are available on our website fw.dpnr.gov.vi (look at the table at the bottom of the page).**

- Fisheries in other countries and states have had catastrophic declines in their juvenile recruits and now their fisheries. A 2008 report has shown lionfish can cause a 79% to 85% reduction in the recruitment of native coral reef fishes on a reef via predation by a lionfish.
- Lionfish primarily eat fish but will also eat a large variety of crustaceans and other invertebrates (they eat everything). They are frequently found near lobster holes and sea urchins. They will hang upside down or on the sides of crevasses or holes so beware when reaching into a hole for a lobster, or when diving in caves or wrecks.
- We need everyones cooperation to find, remove and report all Indo-Pacific Lionfish in our waters.

APPENDIX 4

Southeast St. Thomas Marine Reserves and Wildlife Sanctuaries

(See page 12 of this handbook for summaries of regulations pertaining to these areas)



REGULATIONS

A. Inner Mangrove Lagoon: No fishing or take of any natural resources is allowed. No internal combustion engines are allowed. Electric motors, sails or paddles are acceptable. Engines cause wakes, noise, and pollution.

B. Cas Cay/Mangrove Lagoon: No fishing or take of any natural resources is allowed, except that use of a cast net for baitfish within 50 feet of the north and west shorelines of Cas Cay is allowed only with a permit from DPNR Enforcement (774-3320).

C. St. James – No fishing or take of any natural resources is allowed, except that baitfishing using a cast net within 50 feet of the shoreline (except for Cow and Calf Rocks) and fishing by hook and line is allowed only with a permit from DPNR Enforcement (774-3320).

D. Compass Point Salt Pond – No fishing, hunting, or take of any natural resources is allowed within this marine reserve and wildlife sanctuary.

For A, B, C, and D - No take of conch, lobster, and whelk

These areas have been protected for a variety of reasons, all of which will benefit your use and enjoyment of our marine natural resources. These marine reserves:

1. Contribute to commercial and recreational fishery resources by protecting a portion of the spawning stock from exploitation.
2. Preserve important coral reef, mangrove, and seagrass habitats for larval, juvenile, and adult fish and invertebrates, such as lobster and conch.
3. Provide coastal and marine viewing and recreation areas for the general public, snorkel and SCUBA divers, school groups, and scientists.

For more information on these marine reserves and wildlife sanctuaries, please call the Division of Fish and Wildlife, DPNR, at 775-6762. To obtain permits or to report violations, please call the Division of Environmental Enforcement at 774-3320.

APPENDIX 5

HIND BANK MARINE CONSERVATION DISTRICT, ST. THOMAS

The Hind Bank Marine Conservation District (MCD) is **closed year round**. Fishing is prohibited in the 14 square mile area south of western St. Thomas. The following points define the corners of the closed area:

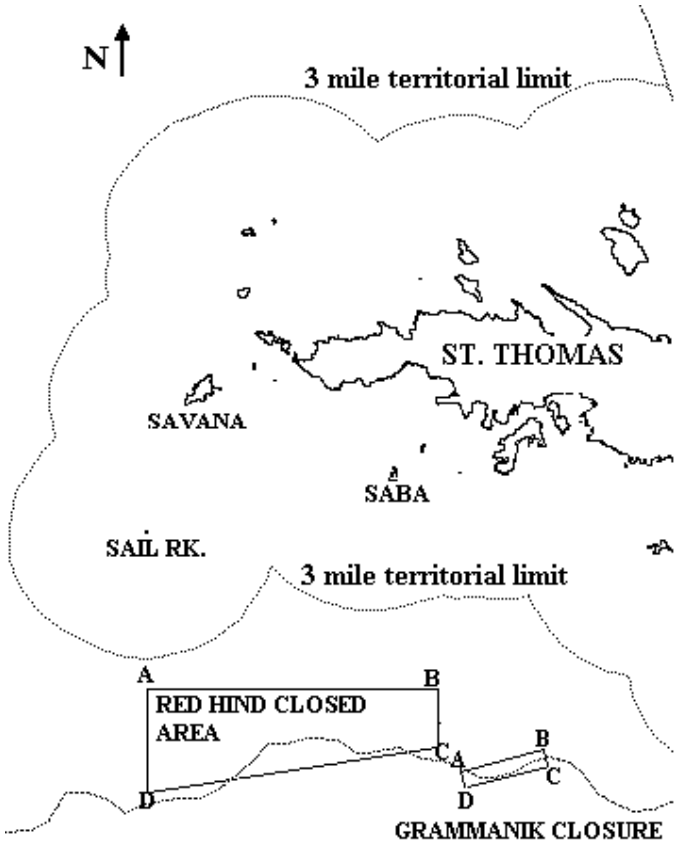
A – 18^0 13.2'N, 65^0 06.0'W
B – 18^0 13.2'N, 64^0 59.0'W
C – 18^0 11.8'N, 64^0 59.0'W
D – 18^0 10.7'N, 65^0 06.0'W

GRAMMANIK BANK SEASONAL CLOSURE, ST. THOMAS
February 1 to April 30

The Grammanik Bank Seasonal Closure is from February 1 to April 30. The following points define the corners of the closed area:

A – 18^0 11.898'N, 64^0 56.328'W
B – 18^0 11.645'N, 64^0 56.225'W
C – 18^0 11.058'N, 64^0 57.810'W
D – 18^0 11.311'N, 64^0 57.913'W

Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gillnets or trammel nets is prohibited year-round here.



CIERRE DEL AREA DE MERO PINTO EN EL DISTRITO DE CONSERVACION MARINA EN ST. THOMAS, ISLAS VIRGENES AMERICANAS

El area de desove para el mero pinto (cabrilla) esta **cerrada todo el año**. Pescar esta prohibido en el area de 14 millas cuadradas al sur-oeste de la isla de San Thomas. Las coordenadas siguientes definen los limites del area cenada:

A – 18^0 13.2'N, 65^0 06.0'W
B – 18^0 13.2'N, 64^0 59.0'W
C – 18^0 11.8'N, 64^0 59.0'W
D – 18^0 10.7'N, 65^0 06.0'W

CIERRE DEL BANCO GRAMMANIK, ST. THOMAS
Del 1 de Febrero al 30 de Abril

El cierre de temporada en el "Grammanik Bank" en St. Tomas, va desde el 1 de Febrero hasta el 30 de Abril. Las coordenadas siguientes designan el area de cierre:

A – 18^0 11.898'N, 64^0 56.328'W
B – 18^0 11.645'N, 64^0 56.225'W
C – 18^0 11.058'N, 64^0 57.810'W
D – 18^0 11.311'N, 64^0 57.913'W

Pescar con nasa, palangres de fondo, trasmallos mallorquines y de ahorque esta prohibido durante todo el año.

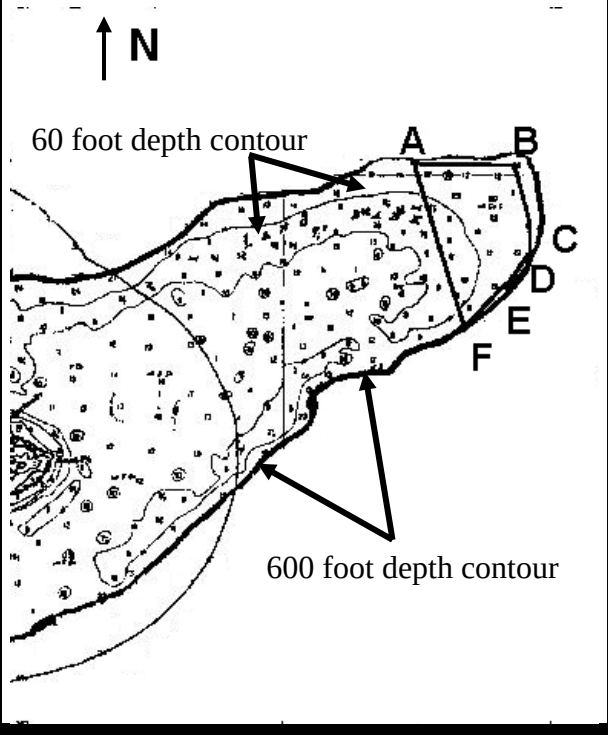
APPENDIX 6

RED HIND SPAWNING AGGREGATION SEASONAL CLOSURE, ST. CROIX
December 1 to February 28

The Red Hind Spawning Aggregation seasonal closure is from December 1 to February 28. Fishing is prohibited. The following points define the corners of the closed area:

A – 17^0 50.2'N, 64^0 27.9'W
B – 17^0 50.1'N, 64^0 26.1'W
C – 17^0 49.2'N, 64^0 25.8'W
D – 17^0 48.6'N, 64^0 25.8'W
E – 17^0 48.1'N, 64^0 26.1'W
F – 17^0 47.5'N, 64^0 26.9'W

Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gillnets or trammel nets is prohibited <u>year-round</u> here.



CIERRE DE MERO PINTO (CABRILLA) SANTA CRUZ, ISLAS VIRGENES, AMERICANAS

El area de desove del mero cabrilla estara cerrada desde el 1 de Diciembre hasta el 28 de Febrero. Los siguientes puntos definen los limites del area cerrada:

A – 17^0 50.2'N, 64^0 27.9'W
B – 17^0 50.1'N, 64^0 26.1'W
C – 17^0 49.2'N, 64^0 25.8'W
D – 17^0 48.6'N, 65^0 25.8'W
E – 17^0 48.1'N, 64^0 26.1'W
F – 17^0 47.5'N, 64^0 26.9'W

Pescar con nasa, palangres de fondo, trasmallos mallorquines y de ahorque esta prohibido <u>durante todo el año</u>.

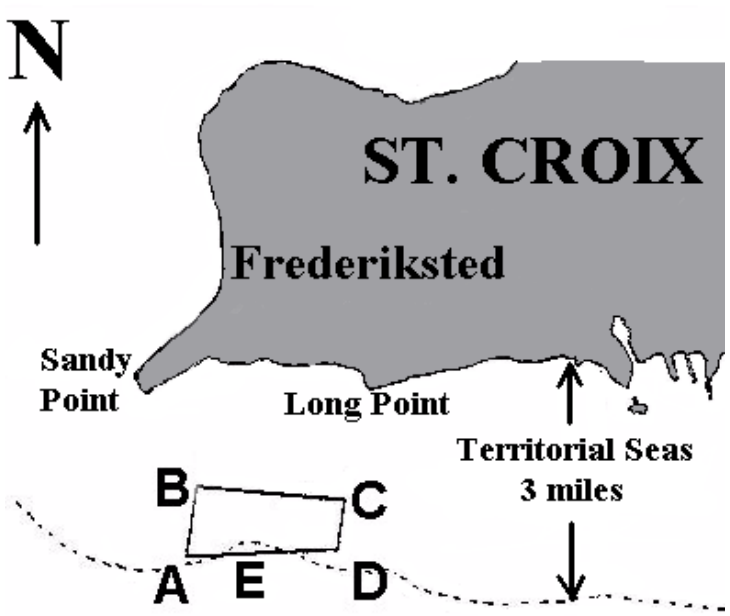
APPENDIX 7

MUTTON SNAPPER SPAWNING AGGREGATION SEASONAL CLOSURE, ST. CROIX
March 1 to June 30

The Mutton Snapper Spawning Aggregation seasonal closure is from March 1 to June 30. The area is partly in territorial waters and partly in federal waters. The area closure is 2.5 miles in length, about 1 mile in width, and starts 2.0 miles from shore (see map). The area is defined by the following points:

A - 17^0 37.8'N, 64^0 53.0'W
B - 17^0 39.0'N, 64^0 53.0'W
C - 17^0 39.0'N, 64^0 50.5'W
D - 17^0 38.1'N, 64^0 50.5'W
E - 17^0 37.8'N, 64^0 52.5'W

Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gillnets or trammel nets is prohibited <u>year-round</u> here.



CIERRE DE AREA DE DESOVE DE LA SAMA EN SANTA CRUZ, ISLAS VIRGENES, AMERICANAS
MARZO 1 – JUNIO 30

El área de cierre comienza Marzo 1 y termina Junio 30 de cada año. El área cerrada es de 2.5 millas a lo largo, 1 milla de ancho empezando a 2.0 millas de distancia de la costa (ver mapa). El área de cierre es la que se encuentra dentro de las siguientes coordenadas:

A - 17^0 37.8'N, 64^0 53.0'W
B - 17^0 39.0'N, 64^0 53.0'W
C - 17^0 39.0'N, 64^0 50.5'W
D - 17^0 38.1'N, 64^0 50.5'W
E - 17^0 37.8'N, 64^0 52.5'W

Pescar con nasa, palangres de fondo, trasmallos mallorquines y de ahorque esta prohibido <u>durante todo el año</u>.

APPENDIX 8

FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES (FADs)

The Division of Fish and Wildlife has deployed fish aggregating devices (FADs). The surface FADs consist of a 58" diameter steel sphere surface buoy or PVC buoy. Submerged FADs consist of 1 or 2 metal canisters at least 50 ft below the surface.

Please record your catch near each buoy in your catch reports.

Tying off to FADs is prohibited.

PLEASE REPORT LOST OR DAMAGED FADs IMMEDIATELY TO THE DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE – WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND IT AND RE-USE IT.

Island Isla	FAD Boya	Geographic Coordinates	Depth (ft) Profundidad	Location from Land
STT	T1	18^0 31.30' N; 64^{0}56.2' W	170	Submerged 8nm N of Little Hans Lollick
STT	T2	18^0 36.070' N; 65^{0}00.039' W	200	Submerged 14nm N of Outer Brass
STT	T5*	18^0 04.540' N; 64^{0}40.010' W	9700	Surface (Ball) 16nm S of Rams Head
STT	T8	18^0 35.007' N; 65^0 03.136' W	720	Surface (PVC), 13 nm N of Cockroach Cay
STT	T9	18^0 34.640' N; 65^0 06.650'W	900	Surface (PVC) 14nm N of Cricket Rock
STT	T10	18° 26.478' N ; 65° 02.168' W	174	Submerged 2nm N of Cricket Rock
STT	T11	18^0 33.216' N; 65^0 13.384'W	250	Surface (Bouy) 16nm NW of Savanna Is.
STT	T12*	18^0 09.876' N; 65^{0}08.531' W	1000	Submerged 9nm SW of Sail Rock
STT	T13*	18^0 10.233' N; 65^{0}04.811' W	1400	Submerged 8nm SE of Sail Rock
STT	T16	18° 28.990' N; 64° 59.735' W	189	Submerged 6nm N of Outer Brass
STT	T17	18^0 33.410' N; 65^0 08.869'W	250	Submerged 12nm NW of Cockroach Cay
STT	T20	18^0 28.002' N; 65^0 08.852'W	150	Submerged 10nm NW of Savanna Is.
STX	X1*	17^0 58.875' N; 64^{0}30.260' W	5400	Surface (Ball) 17nm NE of Christiansted (C Buoy)
STX	X2*	18^0 44.040' N; 64^{0}54.550' W	2000	Surface (Buoy) 2nm W of Sprat Hole (Navy buoy)
STX	X5*	17^0 49.507' N; 64^{0}25.508' W	1140	Submerged 9nm ENE of East Point
STX	X18*	17^0 42.768' N; 65^{0}02.584' W	3550	Surface (PVC) 11nm W of Fredricksted Harbor

* Has not been deployed yet, planned to be deployed by 9/30/2012.

ARTEFACTO ATRACTOR DE PECES (FADS)

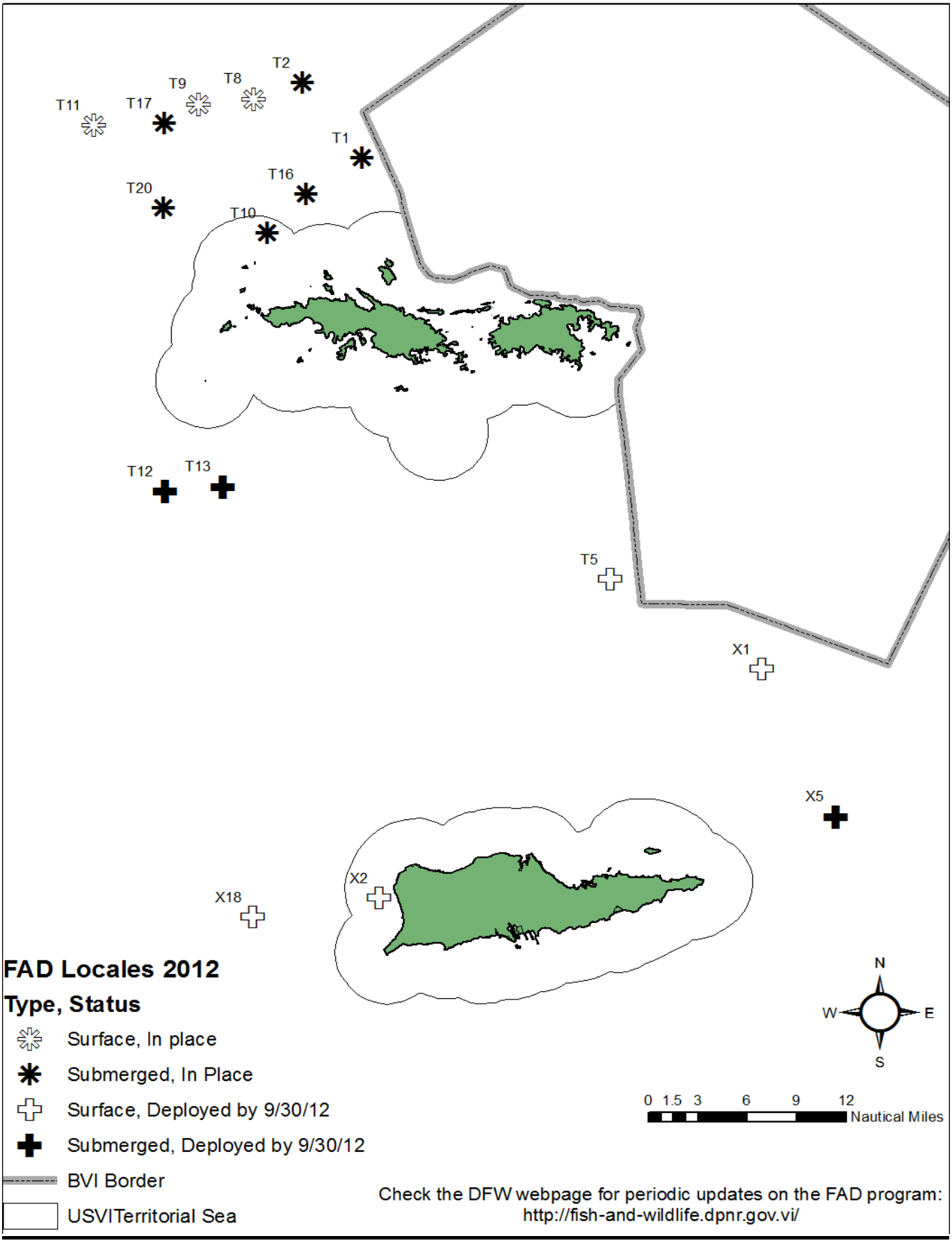
Naturales, División de Pesca y Vida Salvaje ha colocado artefactos atractores de peces, (FADs). Los atractores son boyas de 58" pulgadas de diámetro esfericas metalicas con reflectores de radar y señalización luminosa.

Por favor registre sus capturas cerca de los FADs en su reporte pesquero mensual.

Atar la embarcación a un FAD es ilegal.

POR FAVOR EN EL CASO DE OBSERVAR UN FAD A LA DERIVA O AVERIADO COMUNIQUESE INMEDIATAMENTE CON LA DIVISION DE FISH & WILDLIFE (QUIZAS PODAMOS RECUPERARLO Y REUTILIZARLO).

FAD Locations in the USVI



APPENDIX 9

ARTIFICIAL REEFS

The Division of Fish and Wildlife has various artificial reef sites permitted.

Island	Artificial Reef No.	Geographic Coordinates*	Depth (ft)	Location from Land
St. Thomas	B	18^0 17.4' N 64^0 59.0' W	85-100	1 nm SE of Saba Island
St. Croix	D	17^0 45.1'N 64^0 53.8'W	45-120	Butler Bay

*note: The geographic coordinates identify the center point of the artificial reef site. Each site is approximately 1 square nautical mile (± ½ mile from the center point listed above).

ARRECIFES ARTIFICIALES

Silvestre del Departamento de Planificación y Recursos Naturales, h

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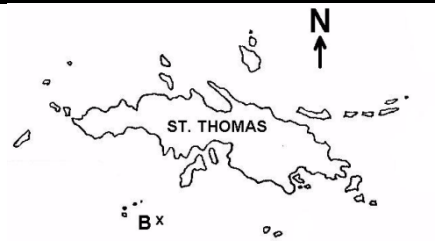
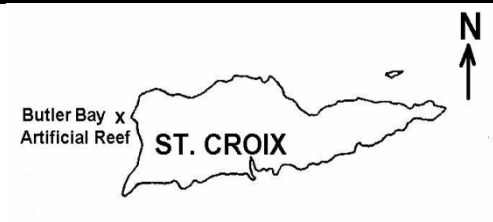


Specific Items at the St. Thomas Artificial Reef

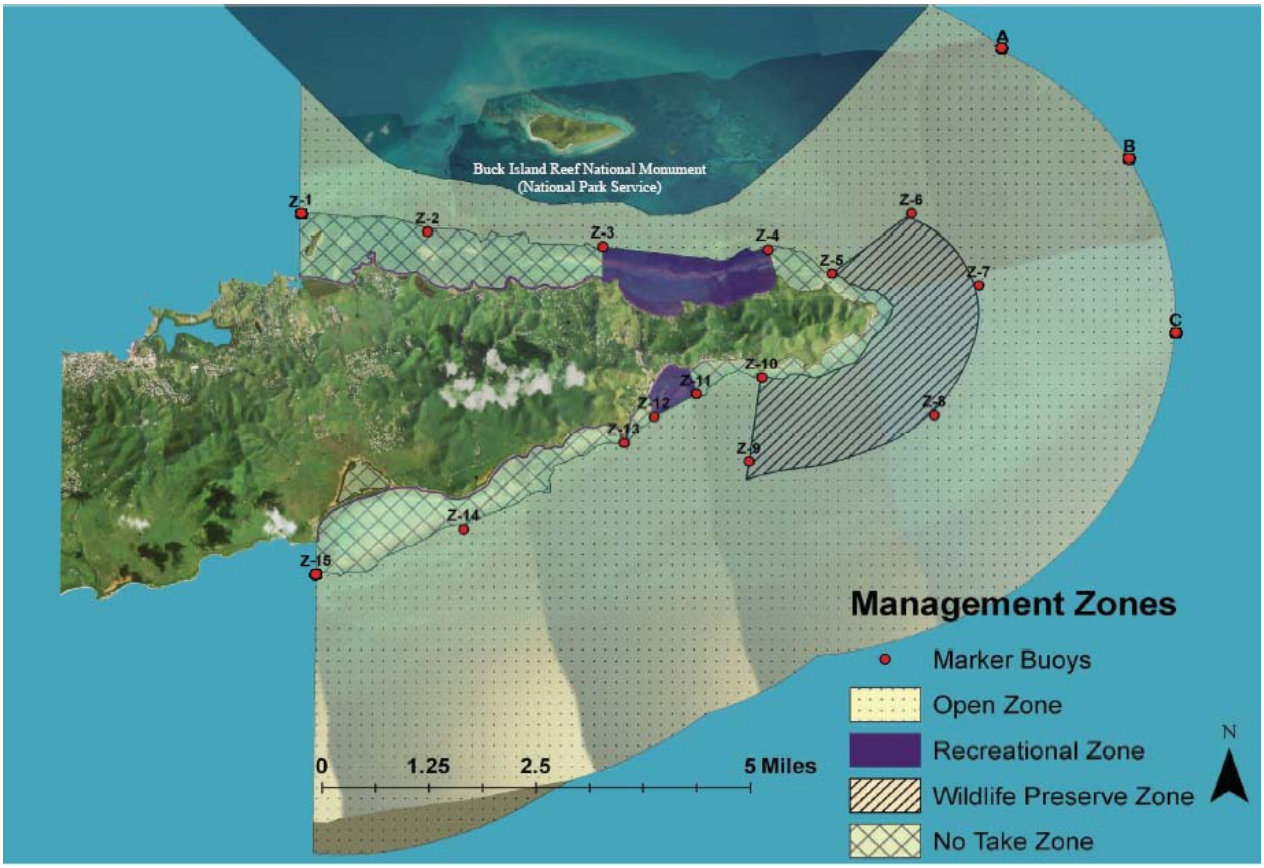
	Geographic Coordinates		Description of Materials
1	18° 17.811'N	64° 59.501'W	Steel barge
2	18° 17.772'N	64° 59.460'W	Steel debris
3	18° 17.767'N	64° 59.433'W	Cargo ship
4	18° 17.501'N	64° 59.139'W	Steel ferry
5	18° 17.051'N	64° 58.981'W	Steel freighter
6	18° 17.393'N	64° 58.665'W	Bow section of fiberglass boat
7	18° 17.481'N	64° 58.667'W	Steel I-beams
8	18° 17.421'N	64° 58.695'W	Steel I-beams
9	18° 17.566'N	64° 58.658'W	Concrete dock slabs
10	18° 17.014'N	64° 58.593'W	Steel barge
11	18° 17.410'N	64° 58.408'W	Steel barge
12	18° 17.456'N	64° 59.618'W	Steel barge
13	18° 17.995'N	64° 58.752'W	Sailboat
14	18° 17.945'N	64° 58.708'W	Steel debris and scrap metal



Specific Items at the St. Croix Artificial Reef

	Geographic Coordinates		Description of Materials
1	17° 44.963'N	64° 53.815'W	Tires; Autos
2	17° 45.043'N	64° 53.716'W	Steel Tugboat, *North Wind*
3	17° 45.138'N	64° 53.713'W	Steel freighter; *Suffolk Maid*
4	17° 45.066'N	64° 53.073'W	Steel cylinders
5	17° 45.131'N	64° 53.731'W	Steel cargo vessel; *Rosa Maria*
6	17° 45.061'N	64° 53.755'W	Fuel barge; *Virgin Islander*
7	17° 44.899'N	64° 53.788'W	Pier debris
8	17° 45.181'N	64° 53.727'W	Steel Tugboat; *Coakley Bay*

ST. CROIX EAST END MARINE PARK ZONE REGULATIONS



OPEN ZONE/PARK-WIDE– Taking or injuring coral, altering the seabed, discharging materials, groundings, anchoring on hard bottom or coral communities, and diving without dive flag ARE PROHIBITED.

RECREATIONAL ZONE - Allows snorkeling, diving, boating, and recreational shoreline fishing. Catch-and release guide fishing and cast-net bait fishing are allowed with a Marine Park Permit. ALL OTHER TRADITIONAL FISHING IS PROHIBITED (including but not limited to: fish traps; spear fishing; collection
of lobster, conch, whelk).

WILDLIFE PRESERVE ZONE - Protects nesting female sea turtles using beaches in East End, Isaac, Jack and Boiler Bays to lay eggs.

NO TAKE ZONE - Protects near shore environments including mangroves, sea grass beds, lagoon patch reefs, and linear reefs. OPERATING A PERSONAL WATERCRAFT IS PROHIBITED. ALL FISHING AND EXTRACTION IS PROHIBITED.

www.stxeastendmarinepark.org

(340) 718-EEMP (3367)

Public Announcement

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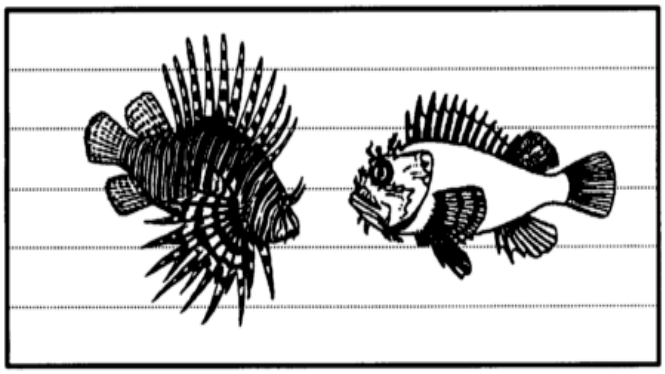
Marin

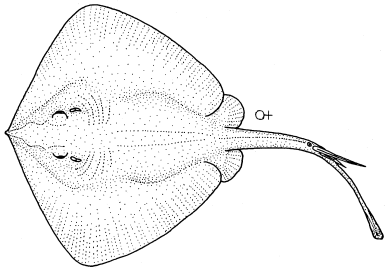


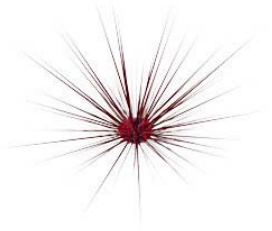
Lionfish and Scorpionfish

- Remove the exposed person from the water to prevent drowning.
- Immerse the wound for 30-90 min. in water as hot as the poisoned person can tolerate. Repeat as necessary to control pain. The venom is a protein toxin and degrades with heat.
- Use tweezers to remove any spines in the wound.
- Scrub the wound with soap and water. Then flush the affected area with fresh water. Do not close the wound.
- If pain worsens, seek immediate medical attention.

Sting rays

- While still in water, irrigate wound to remove fragments of spine and tissue. Get person out of water.
- Stop bleeding: Apply pressure above the wound if it is profusely bleeding.
- Soak wound in hot water until bleeding stops.
- Gently remove obvious pieces of spine. Do not remove pieces of spine from the NECK, CHEST, or ABDOMEN.
- Scrub wound clean with soap and water.
- Apply dressing. Do not tape wound close.
- Seek medical attention. A tetanus shot may be administered if necessary.



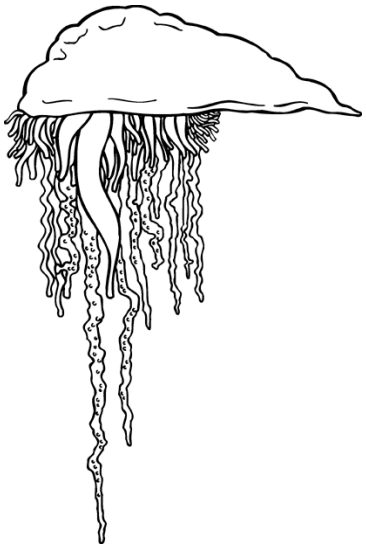


Sea urchins

- Immerse the affected area for 30-90min. in water as hot as the injured person can tolerate. Repeat as necessary to control pain.
- Use tweezers to remove any large spines in the wound.
- Remove the pedicellaria by applying shaving cream to the affected area and gently scrap with a razor.
- Then scrub the wound with soap and water followed by extensive with fresh water.

Jellyfish

- Soak or rinse the area in vinegar (acetic acid) for 15-30 min. to stop the nematocysts from releasing their toxin. If you do not have vinegar available, rinse in sea water, 70% isopropyl alcohol. (**Do not use fresh water, rub the area, and apply ice or hot water. This will cause the nematocysts to continue to release their toxin.)**
- Remove tentacles with a stick or a pair of tweezers. Wear gloves if you have them available.
- Apply shaving cream or a paste of baking soda to the area. Shave the area with a razor or credit card to remove any adherent nematocysts. Then reapply vinegar or alcohol. The shaving cream or paste prevents nematocysts that have not been activated from releasing their toxin during removal with the razor.
- Eye stings should be rinsed with a commercial saline solution like Artificial Tears; dab the skin around the eyes with a towel that has been soaked in vinegar. Do not place vinegar directly in the eyes.
- Mouth stings should be treated with ¼ strength vinegar. Mix ¼ cup of vinegar with ¾ cups of water. Gargle and spit out the solution. Do not drink or swallow the solution.



Quick Reference Call log
Helpful Numbers

Medical

Roy L. Schneider Hospital (STT)	340-776-8311
Juan F. Luis Hospital	340-778-6311
Morris F DeCastro	340-776-6400
Myrah Keating Smith	340-693-8900
Poison Information	1-800-222-1222

SCUBA Emergencies

STT	340-714-8311
STJ	340-776-2686
STX	778-6311 x2664
Recompression	787-865-2000 x3636/4584
Emergency	787-865-5818
Duke University	919-684-8111
Divers Alert Network (DAN)	919-684-2948

Department of Planning and Natural Resources

DPNR (STX)	340-773-1082
DPNR (STT)	340-774-3320
Division Environmental Enforcement	
STX	340-773-5774
STT	340-774-3320
CZM (East End Marine Park)	340-718-3367
Toxic Spills	1-800-424-8802
Division of Fish and Wildlife	
STX	340-772-1955
STT/STJ	340-775-6762

Marine Safety

St. Thomas	340-776-3497
Puerto Rico	787-729-6770

Coast Guard

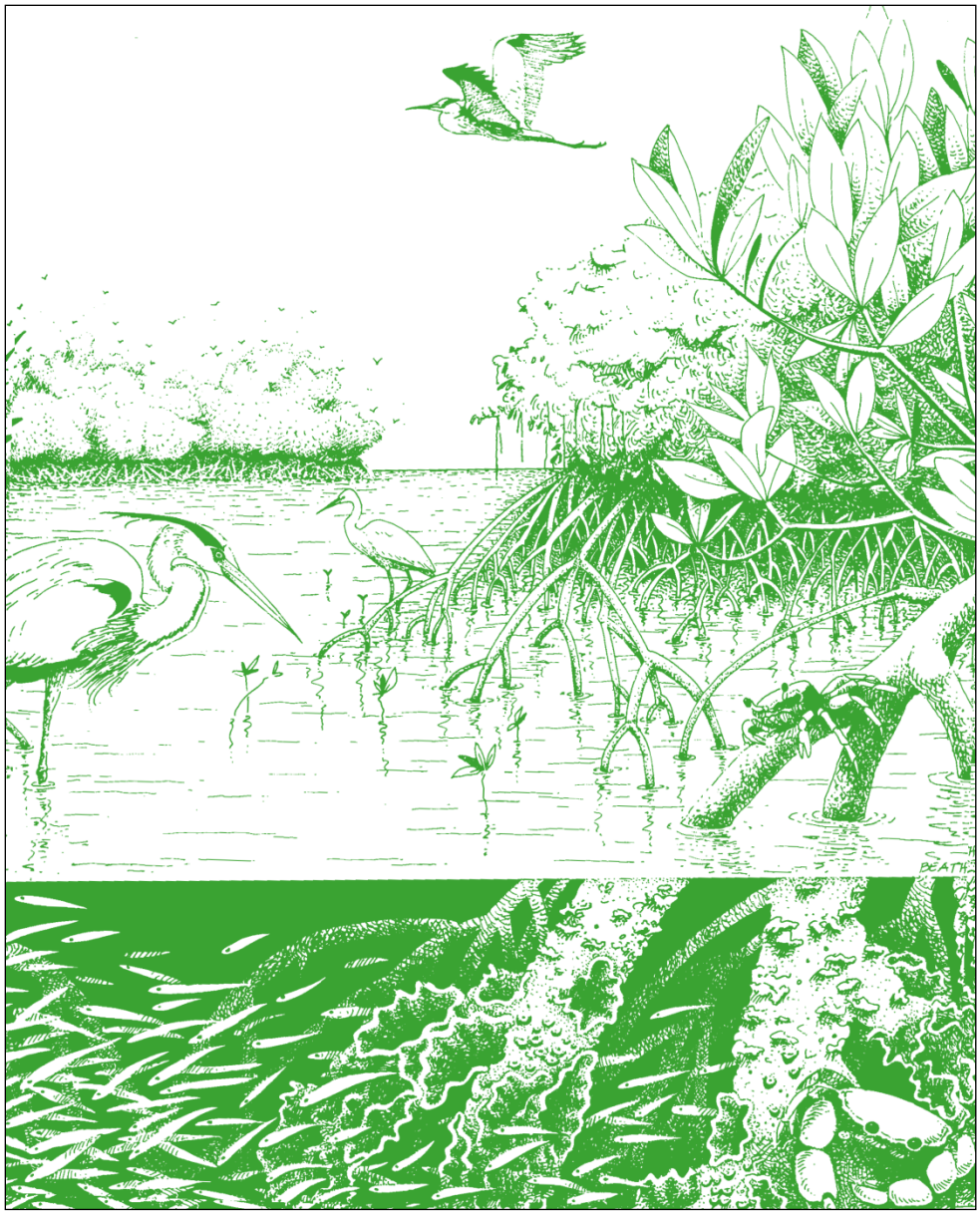
STT/STJ	340-714-2851
STX	340-772-5557
Emergencies	787-289-2040, or 787-279-7778
Seatow	340-777-4869

Port Authority

STX	340-778-1012
STT	340-774-1629
STJ	340-776-6297

VITEMA

STT	340-774-2244
STX	340-773-2244
STJ	340-776-6444



DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

6291 Estate Nazareth
St. Thomas, VI 00802
(340) 775-6762

45 Mars Hill Complex
Frederiksted, St. Croix, VI 00840
(340) 773-1082

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

Cyril E. King Airport
Terminal Building, 2nd Floor
St. Thomas, VI 00802
(340) 774-3320 ext. 5106

6003 Anna's Hope
Christiansted
St. Croix, VI 00821
(340) 773-5774