



**GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES**



**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DPNR DEPLOYS FADS IN ST. THOMAS**

Commissioner Dawn L. Henry, Esq., of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources, announces that the Division of Fish and Wildlife has deployed two fish aggregating devices (FADs) around St. Thomas on Wednesday, June 15, 2016.

The two new FADs are located 11 miles northwest of Cricket Rock and 13 miles north of Outer Brass Island, St. Thomas. Both FAD buoys are submerged about 50 feet below the water's surface.

The GPS coordinates are as follows:

FAD #	Latitude	Longitude	Reference
T2	18° 33.839' N	65° 08.889' W	11 mi NW of Cricket Rock
T5	18° 36.816' N	64° 59.138' W	13 mi N of Outer Brass Island

This is in addition to the two previously deployed submerged FADs which are located south of St. Croix. The GPS coordinates for the two St. Croix FADs are as follows:

FAD #	Latitude	Longitude	Reference
X10	17° 37.867' N	64° 47.725' W	4 mi SE of Long Point
X15	17° 37.675' N	64° 54.981' W	3 mi S of Sandy Point

Deployment of the FADs will benefit the Territory by shifting fishing pressure from heavily fished inshore areas to offshore areas with more abundant populations of pelagic sport fish species such as tuna, dolphin, and wahoo. The FAD program will also provide enhanced and improved fishing opportunities to recreational anglers in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The Division of Fish and Wildlife anticipates deploying additional FADs around the territory within the next few months. The GPS coordinates of these FADs will be announced upon deployment.

**This project is 100% funded by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Sport Fish Restoration funds. For more information, contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife at (340) 775-6762 on St. Thomas or (340) 773-1082 on St. Croix.**