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

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**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**BEACH ADVISORY**

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) announces that the Beach Water Quality Monitoring Program, which evaluates weekly water quality at popular swimming beaches throughout the Territory by sampling for Enterococci Bacteria and Turbidity, which is a measure of water clarity, advises the public of the following:

DPNR performed water quality analysis at 34 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of January 6-10, 2020. The following beaches meet water quality standards and are safe for swimming or fishing:

<b>St. Croix</b>		
Shoy's	Rainbow	Cane Bay
New Fort (Ft. Louise Augusta)	Protestant Cay	Cramer's Park
Princess (Condo Row)	Grapetree Bay	Dorsch Beach
Buccaneer	Pelican Cove (Cormorant)	
Halfpenny	Chenay Bay	

<b>St. Thomas</b>		
Hull Bay	Lindquist	Sapphire
Brewer's Bay	Coki Point	Lindbergh Bay
Bluebeard's	Magen's Bay	Water Bay
Frenchman's Bay	Secret Harbor	
Bolongo	Vessup Bay	

<b>St. John</b>
Cruz Bay
Oppenheimer
Frank Bay

The following beaches do not meet water quality standards because they exceed the established Enterococci Bacteria threshold and therefore are not considered to be safe for swimming or fishing:

<b>St. Croix</b>
Frederiksted Public Beach
Stony Ground

<b>St. Thomas</b>
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<b>St. John</b>
Frank Bay
Great Cruz Bay
Johnson Bay

**Please Note:** *Samples were not collected at the following beaches:*

- *Sprat Hall, Gentle Winds and Columbus landing on St. Croix;*
- *Limetree Bay and Morningstar on St. Thomas;*

*Therefore, the water quality of these beaches is unknown.*

All persons should also be aware that storm water runoff may also contain contaminants or pollutants harmful to human health and therefore all persons should avoid areas of storm water runoff (i.e. guts, puddles, and drainage basins) or if any area appears discolored or has foul odors. DPNR will continue to monitor the impacted areas and waters.

For additional information regarding water quality call the Division of Environmental Protection at 773-1082 in St. Croix or 774-3320 in St. Thomas.