



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

QUEEN CONCH REOPENS TO FISHING

AS PER V.I. CODE TITLE 12, CHAPTER 9A, SECTIONS 304 and 316

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources announces to the public that the annual queen conch season commenced on **November 1, 2021**, for both the St. Croix and St. Thomas/St. John Districts.

Harvesting of queen conch is allowed from November 1, 2021, and will remain open until midnight, **May 31, 2022**, or until the 50,000 lb. quota per district is reached, whichever comes first.

In addition, no harvest or possession of Vermilion, Black, Silk, or Blackfin Snapper is permitted from October 1 to December 31 in the St. Thomas/St. John district. St. Croix is exempt from the seasonal closure for these species in territorial waters.

The Commissioner asks for everyone's cooperation to protect Virgin Islands resources for the present and future benefit of the people of the Virgin Islands.

For more information about queen conch or other fishing regulations, please contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife at 773-1082 in St. Croix and 775-6762 in St. Thomas or the Division of Environmental Enforcement at 773-5774 in St. Croix and 775-6762 in St. Thomas.