

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPNR PRESENTS SOLUTIONS TO FLOODING ISSUES ON ST CROIX & ST THOMAS

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources invites the public to an upcoming series of meetings to share updates on the Watershed Management Plans project, including highlights of flood-reduction and water storage designs.

The project, funded by FEMA-HMGP and executed by a team of scientists, engineers, researchers, and stormwater experts at Watershed Consulting Associates, LLC is to develop watershed management plans in eight (8) high priority watersheds of concern, with input from community members.

On St. Thomas, the specific watersheds include the Bolongo Bay, St. Thomas Harbor, and Cyril E. King Airport watersheds. On St. Croix, these include the Salt River Bay, Hovensa, Bethlehem, Diamond, and Long Point Bay watersheds. The watersheds of focus encompass areas with critical infrastructure including the airport and major roadways; commercial, government and residential investments; and agricultural activity.



Hilary Lohmann, Coastal Resilience Coordinator with DPNR-CZM, explains that “The upcoming series of Watershed meetings is an exciting opportunity to update the community on specific solutions in each of the subject watersheds and more broadly across the Territory to mitigate the impacts of stormwater runoff and flooding. These watershed-specific meetings will provide an overview of the project, the specific solutions identified, and a summary of next steps needed to implement the action plans.”

The meetings are open to the public and will be held electronically via Zoom. To request access to this electronic meeting, please register at the links below prior to the meeting. Connection information will then be provided to you by email.

Bethlehem Watershed – February 7 @ 6:30pm Local Time

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_C4KPwaWiTNCvxiy1mhxo0A? x zm rtaid=knE4Z802RwycfP-Mc0yDsg.1643640402231.0af1ce25ab4e14998d139f559358f993& x zm rhtaid=375

Bolongo Watershed – February 8 @ 6:30pm Local Time

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_n2RxTI9_QRSyPvPGQLeiDQ? x zm rtaid=knE4Z802RwycfP-Mc0yDsg.1643640402231.0af1ce25ab4e14998d139f559358f993& x zm rhtaid=375

St. Thomas Harbor Watershed – February 9 @ 6:30pm Local Time

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cf8-oJ2mQBSRVlZd1P88Pg? x zm rtaid=knE4Z802RwycfP-Mc0yDsg.1643640402231.0af1ce25ab4e14998d139f559358f993& x zm rhtaid=375

Diamond Watershed – February 10 @ 6:30pm

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GggSMivDQBmApQa9-YphDw? x zm rtaid=knE4Z802RwycfP-Mc0yDsg.1643640402231.0af1ce25ab4e14998d139f559358f993& x zm rhtaid=375

Hovensa Watershed – February 14 @ 6:30pm

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CqVWAtqAQUqdZiiEtC5LDA? x zm rtaid=knE4Z802RwycfP-Mc0yDsg.1643640402231.0af1ce25ab4e14998d139f559358f993& x zm rhtaid=375

Long Point Watershed – February 15 @ 6:30pm

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cFSmL1NTS0Kncw s-CGhMg? x zm rtaid=knE4Z802RwycfP-Mc0yDsg.1643640402231.0af1ce25ab4e14998d139f559358f993& x zm rhtaid=375

Salt River Watershed – February 16 @ 6:30pm

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OyI_YJMTByxZcJq77CauQ? x zm rtaid=knE4Z802RwycfP-Mc0yDsg.1643640402231.0af1ce25ab4e14998d139f559358f993& x zm rhtaid=375

Cyril E. King Airport Watershed – February 17 @ 6:30pm

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vXeYtObKSI-WlIOyDucyyQ? x zm rtaid=knE4Z802RwycfP-Mc0yDsg.1643640402231.0af1ce25ab4e14998d139f559358f993& x zm rtaid=375](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vXeYtObKSI-WlIOyDucyyQ?xzm_rtaid=knE4Z802RwycfP-Mc0yDsg.1643640402231.0af1ce25ab4e14998d139f559358f993&xzm_rtaid=375)

If you would like to watch the proceedings, but not participate, you can connect to the project [Facebook.com/stormwaterUSVI](https://www.facebook.com/stormwaterUSVI) page. The livestream of the meetings will begin a few minutes prior to scheduled times.

For more information on this project, please visit our website tinyurl.com/stormwaterUSVI