

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

-----0-----

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

4611 Tutu Park Mall Suite 300 St. Thomas, VI 00802 (340) 774-**3320**

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



Office of the Commissioner

CONTACT: Jamal Nielsen, Media Relations Coordinator jamal.nielsen@dpnr.vi.gov

Thursday, April 18, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPNR'S FISH AND WILDLIFE RELEASES 2ND EDITION OF GO WILD, GO FISH VI MAGAZINE

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) announces the publication and release of the second edition of "Go WILD, Go FISH VI," a magazine created by the Division of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) to highlight its work and accomplishments.

"We want to increase awareness of the variety of things that we do," Commissioner Oriol said. "From our work with community partners on the territory's first artificial reef, to the first habitat corridor, to receiving our first competitive state wildlife grant. With each magazine we plan to showcase ongoing projects and explore topics of interest to the public," Oriol continued.

In this issue, readers will meet DPNR's 2024 St. Thomas-St. John Employee of the Year Julia Plotkin, an Environmental Specialist with the Division of Fish and Wildlife, as well DFW's 2024 St. Croix Employee of the Year, attorney Maureen Madera Garcia, along with DFW's port samplers and recent interns.

The first issue of Go Wild, Go Fish was released last July and cast a spotlight on the endangered VI tree boa, the invasive red-tailed boa, the division's sea mapping program, scientific bird work, exotic pet amnesty program, and scientific papers.

"Our work spans the gamut, from issuing permits for research and endangered species, to mentoring students, to maintaining recreational moorings, to funding kayak tours and providing archery lessons. We also manage 32 offshore cays, respond to wildlife incidents, conduct scientific sea-life surveys, and register commercial and recreational fishers," DFW director Nicole Angeli, Ph.D. said. "The magazine is one of the tools at our disposal to keep the public informed."

To view Go Wild, Go Fish VI, Issue 2, visit <u>tiny.cc/gowildgofishvi2</u>; and for Issue 1, go to <u>Go Wild, Go Fish</u>.